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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Coast to Coast

The future of CJC will be on the agenda when CJF Canada meets later this month. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Jonathan Pollard defends legitimacy of his marriage. *Page 5*

Perspectives: A look back 10 years at the Deschenes Commission. *Page 9*

Mazon Canada reaches an historic milestone in 1996. *Page 17*

Israel & the Jewish World

Netanyahu's first six months in office leaves much to be desired. *Analysis.* *Page 27*

Business Profile

There's nothing childish about Groundling Marsh's $10,000 puppets. *Page 32*

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Wildcat strikes hit Israel

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Histadrut escalated its concerted campaign of scheduled selective strikes in different sectors of the economy on Monday, after throwing the country into chaos the previous afternoon with wildcat strikes.

The actions were said to cause considerable losses both in financial terms and in terms of the country's economic prestige, as numerous sectors of the economy were affected, including ports, Bezek, banks, post offices, government health services, government offices, the Israel Broadcasting Authority except for news broadcasts, WIZO and Na'amat day care centres, trains, the Histadrut, Magen David Adom, fire and rescue services and buses. However airports were spared, although 60 scheduled flights were disrupted due to Sunday's sudden walkout. On Monday Histadrut leaders met to decide where strike action will hit next.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor lashed out at the Histadrut and accused it of sponsoring a political campaign against the government. The employers urged Netanyahu to seek back-to-work orders and threatened to withhold deductions from employees' wages, which constitute the chief source of income for the Histadrut.

The spark which ostensibly led to the wildcat action at midday on Sunday was the detention of Histadrut Trade Union Department chair Shlomo Shani, who had gone underground over the weekend after the Tel Aviv Labor Court ruled

Continued on page 26

A returning Israeli tourist rests on the baggage carousel Dec. 29 as he passes the time waiting for his suitcases to catch up with him after airport workers shut down Ben-Gurion airport. *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Hebron talks down to the wire

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
AND JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. Special Middle East peace talks envoy Dennis Ross was scheduled to lead the final stages of the protracted Hebron talks this week.

Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat said he hoped the agreement would be initialled this Wednesday. One U.S. official said Washington is heartened by what they call Egypt's "support for the Palestinians wrapping up the talks," in contrast to past opposition.

Arafat returned from Cairo for talks with Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to finalize Hebron security issues.

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met in Jerusalem to draft a protocol that will allow the Jewish settlers in Hebron some control over building in their area and will limit the height of Arab building in the immediate vicinity.

Palestinians went out of their way to say nothing had yet been finalized, and Arafat said in Cairo that all issues were still open. But he has used this as a tactic to add weight to the Palestinians' demands in the past. PA officials have privately admitted this, and no major changes are expected between now and the signing of the final agreement.

Officials in Jerusalem sharply deny reports of unnamed Palestinian officials suggesting that Israel will give dates on all three further pull backs. One official said that Israel would only be providing a definite date for the first pull back.

Please see page 25

A U.S. official said that if the past is a guide, an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement would not be complete without a ritualistic last minute crisis, so each side can convince skeptical colleagues that everything has been tried.

The one issue on which Israelis and Palestinians have not found a joint formula concerns a Palestinian official presence at the Machpela Cave.

For security reasons, the previous government demanded exclusive control there, fearing that divided control could only encourage rather than discourage incidents. A joint mobile patrol based at the cave may resolve the difficulty.

Arafat is now trying to secure a Palestinian presence at the Machpela Cave in direct talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, since it is not to be found in the Hebron guidelines of the Oslo 2 agreement.

A U.S. document spelling out the readiness of the two sides to continue the process will be attached to the agreement.

Meanwhile, officials in the Prime Minister's Office say Netanyahu does not want a big peace ceremony as part of the signing of the Hebron accord. As one U.S. official put it, "The image this government wants to create is one of anguish and not celebration."

An aide to Netanyahu said, "We want something low-key. This prime minister doesn't want balloons. The last government believed ceremonies had a favorable psychological impact on the population. We don't subscribe to this point of view."

INSIDE

The CJN introduces a new Literary Supplement. See page 6 for information on submissions.

Red Cross aware of Nazi atrocities — please see page 26

The News in Brief

CANADA

Holiday Spirit

MONTREAL – Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC), spearheaded an initiative which saw thousands of Christmas presents delivered to school children in the Saguenay region ravaged by floods last summer.

Participating in this program along with CJC have been the Hellenic Congress of Quebec, the Federation of Jewish Community Services, the Jewish Educational Council, the Association of Principals of Jewish Schools and Enterprises Dico-Robert. The students from the Jewish schools provided gifts.

ISRAEL

Weizman Angers Gays

JERUSALEM – Israel's president has agreed to meet with representatives of the homosexual community after anti-gay remarks he made to Israeli students sparked a public controversy.

Speaking at Haifa's Reali High School, Weizman said he considered homosexuality abnormal.

Frozen Mom?

JERUSALEM – A Tel Aviv court has rejected the request of two adult siblings to freeze the body of their deceased mother so that they could someday bring her back to life.

The Tel Aviv magistrates court also ordered that a funeral be held for Miriam Be'eri, who died last month.

The court added that the family's proposal to fly the body abroad to be frozen in ice was not possible.

Siblings Moshe and Rachel Be'eri then suggested to the court that the corpse be stored in wax until a way to freeze her is found.

Palestinian Industrial Park

JERUSALEM – The first Palestinian industrial park is to begin operating at the Karni junction, on the border between Israel and Gaza, early this year. The park, one of nine planned for the autonomous areas that will be financed by western countries, will be provided with water and electricity by Israel.

Israeli-Tunisian Ties

JERUSALEM – Tunisia's prime minister said that his country was slowing normalization of ties with Israel to protest the lack of progress in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Israel's MiA

JERUSALEM – Senior Iranian officials have charged that hard-line positions taken by the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have blocked progress in efforts to secure information about missing Israeli airman Ron Arad.

Stolen Song

JERUSALEM – An aspiring Israeli singer has accused Britain's top pop group, the Spice Girls, of stealing one of her songs.

Idit Shechtman, 19, who lives in Beersheba, said the group's hit, *Say You'll Be There* is similar to a song she wrote two years ago, *Come to Me*.

Shechtman, who was interviewed by BBC and Sky Television, said a copy of the song could have been purchased in Israel and taken to England, where it could have been played in a few clubs and heard by the group.

WORLD

UN Chief Welcomed

UNITED NATIONS – Israel has welcomed the appointment of Kofi Annan of Ghana as the next secretary general of the United Nations. Of all the candidates considered, "Annan is the best for Israel," said Yitzhak Lior, deputy director general for international organizations at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

Siyum HaShas Tickets

NEW YORK – Tickets for the 10th Siyum HaShas (Talmud Completion celebration) of the Daf Yomi will begin on Feb. 3, Agudath Israel's national office recently announced.

The Siyum will take place at Madison Square Garden on Sept. 28, 1997. Over 50,000 – including those linked via satellite hook-ups – are expected to take part in the ceremony.

Daf Yomi is a page-a-day Talmud study program through which the same folio of the Talmud is studied each day by participants the world over.

Bonds to Honor Kimel

PALM BEACH, Fla. – Manuel Kimel, an avid supporter of State of Israel Bonds and Israel Bonds, will be honored for decades of dedication, along with 15 other leaders of Israel Bonds from communities throughout Canada and the United States, at the organization's gala Prime Minister's Club Dinner on Jan. 19.

Kimel, a resident of Toronto, is on the boards of Baycrest Geriatric Centre, Canada-Israel Tennis, and the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University.

Judaic Studies Chair

BALTIMORE, Md. – Johns Hopkins University has received a $1-million endowment to establish a visiting professorship in Judaic studies. Beginning this spring, scholars from around the world will visit the campus for as long as one academic year, according to Dennis O'Shea, the university's director of communications and public affairs.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday December 31, 1971

BAR-LEV WARNS EGYPT NOT TO RENEW HOSTILITIES

Israel's retiring Chief of Staff Gen. Haim Bar-Lev served notice on Cairo that any renewal of warfare would bring swift and destructive retaliation against Egypt. "If the Egyptians attempt to hit any civilian targets in Israel we can retaliate in kind with such force that they would quickly drop whatever plans they have," Bar-Lev said.

******

PROPOSED TAX ON BAR MITZVAS SUPPORTED

Reaction to outgoing UJWF president Donald Carr's statement suggesting a levy on Bar Mitzvas and weddings to combat huge education deficits has been generally enthusiastic.

All of the rabbis polled are in favor of smaller banquets. Several noted that lavish Bar Mitzvas are not part of Jewish tradition.

"Caterers should be taxed for every simcha and part of it should go to tzedaka," Rabbi Hershe Nussbaum of Agudath Israel said.

The lone dissenter among several persons interviewed by *The CJN* was Max Zuchter, a Toronto caterer.

"In the majority of cases," he said, "the ones who make the large simchas are the ones who donated heavily to charity anyway."

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E-MAIL: 102574.1304@compuserve.com
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CJC's future role on agenda of CJF Canada

Proposals a starting point for discussions

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Moving the national office of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to Ottawa, selling its Montreal headquarters and absorbing CJC regional offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver into the federation structures will be among the important issues to be discussed between CJC and the Council of Jewish Federations Canada (CJF Canada) leaders when they meet Jan. 18 to 20 in Toronto.

These subjects were among several controversial proposals to CJC leadership in a Nov. 21 memo sent by Richard Vineberg, president of CJF Canada, Canadian-Jewish federations' umbrella body and CJC's funder.

The proposals sparked concern among CJC leaders, who fear that implementing them would be tantamount to eviscerating Congress and having it taken over by the federations.

But Vineberg, in an interview with *The CJN*, stressed that the "proposals" contained in the memo should be seen as nothing other than a starting point for vital discussions between equal partners.

"As responsible organizations we have to be talking to one another," he said.

Vineberg emphasized that nothing has been decided "in any way, shape, or form" despite the recommendation that a joint FEDERATION CJA-CJC committee be "immediately appointed to arrange the sale or transfer of responsibility for this site [CJC headquarters] to another Jewish or non-Jewish organization."

"I'm not saying [moving Congress] is necessarily the right thing to do," he said. "We are constantly holding internal discussions [with CJC] as responsible Jewish community leaders. There is a constant dialogue going on. But it's healthy to question each other about it."

Frank Schlesinger, CJC's national secretary, told *The CJN* he was prepared to give Vineberg the benefit of the doubt, hoping CJC and CJF Canada could work things out in a spirit of goodwill.

But there was no arguing that the wording of the Nov. 21 memo set off shock waves within Congress. As a result, about 10 days later, on Dec. 2, Vineberg wrote a second memo to president Goldie Hershon saying the original memo was "misconstrued" and regretting the "misinterpretation of our intent by certain people within your organization to inhibit the close working relationship we are building..."

In the second memo he wrote, the proposals were intended to aid CJC in its own "strategic planning process; they neither represent our [CJF Canada's] views on the full gamut of CJC activities, nor are [they] intended to be the only possible option you have to address the issues."

Still, while seeking to assuage concern over the proposals, Vineberg did not rule any of them out. All the options have to be discussed out of the "collective concern to be as efficient as possible" in terms of the use of human and financial resources.

Vineberg could not say whether it was necessary to merge the three CJC regional offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver into the respective federation structure. He did note however, that, "in seven out of 10 regions, the federations and the [CJC] regional offices are the same."

Similarly, as a Quebecer, Vineberg was reticent about discussing what the perception in the province would be were the CJC-national office to move to Ottawa to become the "national advocacy office" for CJC, CIC, and, possibly, JIAS. But he suggested that such a consideration would be secondary to the overall priority of CJC "fulfilling its mandate."

Other proposals in the original Nov. 21 memo include:

- Introducing "joint planning initiatives" between CJF Canada and its "member partners...in order to serve the whole Jewish community in Canada."
- Transferring all but CJC's political, CRC (community relations committee)-related responsibilities in small, unfederated communities to the "proposed, merged entity of UIA and CJF Canada"
- Reviewing the need for CJC's Youth Services portfolio in light of CJF Canada's national campus services committee and the possible duplication of efforts with and competition between other Jewish organizations' initiatives.
- Ensuring the "optimal use" of federation funding to prevent "duplication" or "overlap" in terms of the Israel-related advocacy activities of CJC's Israel affairs committee, the Canada-Israel Committee and UIA Canada.
- Discussing the "scope and function" of CJC's international affairs activities.

In the first memo, Vineberg says that while CJF Canada "recognize(s) the independent status of CJC, we must ensure that communal resources are applied to initiatives that reflect out mutually agreed upon priorities."

He also asked CJC to prepare a "draft discussion paper" in response to the memo, as the starting point for a six-month review process to be completed by July 1, 1997, when the next fiscal year begins.

By that time, any budgeting changes related to organizational restructuring would have to be finalized.

CHANUKAH IN KELOWNA
Hundreds of latkes were served at the Chanukah party at Kelowna, B.C., staged by the Okanagan Jewish community.

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Separatists losing unity fight: Galganov

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Federalist forces in Quebec will do everything in their power to make sure distinct society status for the province doesn't happen, Montreal anglo rights activist Howard Galganov pledged here recently.

"If they [separatists] can do to us what they've been doing without distinct society [status], imagine what they'd do with it," Galganov told a small audience at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Federalists are "not just beating [separatists], we're creaming them. It's a rout. And now, we're back to distinct society. We will use every ounce of energy to make sure [distinct society status] never gets off the ground.

"For the first time in 20 years, the fight is now. The separatists are losing miserably."

Galganov, who has won wide support as well as condemnation for his opposition to Quebec nationalism and separatism, said he has received death threats and there has been a kidnapping attempt against his wife.

He said his home and business are guarded around the clock.

Last spring, Galganov led a boycott of some big-name merchants at a west-end mall in Montreal because their signs were in French only. Quebec law says signs may be bilingual as long as French is twice as predominant.

The stores relented after demonstrations were held against them, which attracted wide media coverage.

Howard Galganov

Since then, Galganov has been at the centre of an often rancorous fight between federalist and nationalist forces in Quebec. He says he's been vilified in the French press as "a Jewish terrorist" because he once belonged to the Jewish Defence League.

Galganov founded the grassroots Quebec Political Action Committee, and recently opened a store posting bilingual signs with English and French equally displayed, in defiance of the language law.

He's openly dared Quebec language inspectors to cite him in violation of the law.

Galganov's Toronto audience consisted of about 25 people, most of them, by a show of hands, former Montrealers. But their response was enthusiastic, given that at evening's end, almost everyone made donations to Galganov's organization.

It's time Jews especially stood up to Quebec nationalism, he said, "because our history has shown that when we did nothing, we lost six million people. We never seem to learn."

Instead of staying and fighting, many Montreal Jews "packed up and left. It's been great for Toronto but bad for Canada."

As a Jew, Galganov said he feels "substantially more vulnerable" living in Quebec. But he vowed to press on because "no one is going to negotiate my rights. They're non-negotiable. Either we all share equal rights or none of us have rights."

Galganov predicted there will not be a third referendum because separatists "can't win it."

will return next week.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5715

DATE		EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
JANUARY 97					
Wed	8	Japanese Punch Needle Art Embroidery	Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles	8:00 pm	National Council of Jewish Women
Wed	8	Lecture: "Uncovering the Mystery of the Breath & the Dust"	Aish Hatorah	8:00 pm	Aish Hatorah
Thurs	9	CJC Regional Meeting	Canadian Jewish Congress	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sat	11	"Sacred Stories of the Ordinary" with Rabbi Lawrence Kushner	Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Sun	12	"Individual Spirituality Meets Communal Responsibility" w/ Rabbi Elyse Goldstein	Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning	3:00 pm	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Sun	12	"Yiddishland Cafe"	Workman's Circle	8:00 pm	Workman's Circle
Sun	19	Du Maurier Concert with Valerie Siren, Soprano	Koffler Centre for the Arts	3:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Mon	20	Welcome for New Israeli Ambassador David Sultan	Beth Tzedec Synagogue	8:00 pm	Beth Tzedec
Wed	22	Campaign Closing	UJA Federation	7:00 pm	Beth Tzedec
FEBRUARY 97					
Sun	2	Parenting Fair: "Some Of What You Wanted To Know About"	Aish Hatorah	9:00 am	Aish Hatorah, Thornhill
Mon	3	Lecture: Professors Sergio Dellapergola, Zeev Mankowitz, Yair Zakovitch	Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Toronto Chapter	8:00 pm	York University
Mon	3	Lecture: Professor David Newman	Canada Israel Committee	8:00 pm	Holy Blossom Temple
Tues	4	Maccabi Hockey Celebrity Night	Maccabi Canada	7:30 pm	Hockey Hall of Fame
Wed	5	Lecture: Professor David Hartman	Canada Israel Committee	8:00 pm	Holy Blossom Temple
Wed	12	Stained Glass Fabric Art	Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles	8:00 pm	National Council of Jewish Women
Wed	12, 19, 26	Parenting Series with Sarah Hanna Radcliffe	Aish Hatorah	8:30 pm	Aish Hatorah, Thornhill
Wed	19	Board of Directors Meeting	Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary	9:45 am	Mount Sinai Hospital
Thurs	20	CJC Ontario Region	Canadian Jewish Congress	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sun	23	Du Maurier Concert: Lachan Choir	Koffler Centre for the Arts	3:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre

Community Calendar is published as a community service by UJA Federation which reserves the right to include/exclude listings.

UJA FEDERATION

Pollards respond to 'attacks' from their critics

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Jonathan Pollard has denied a *Toronto Star* story that both questioned the legitimacy of his mariage and blamed his Toronto-based wife, Esther, for an estrangement between him and his family.

In a statement given to his wife, which she delivered to *The CJN*, Pollard declared: "It is untrue that Jewish marriages are registered by a civil authority in Granville, N.C. The rabbi who married us did not need authorization from any civil authority, nor was he obliged to register the marriage with any civil authority."

Esther Pollard said the *Star* story is aimed not at her, but at Pollard himself and is a continuing effort by some of the media to deflect attention from the severity of the life sentence meted out to her husband for handing over secret documents to Israel while in the employ of the United States navy.

The attacks on her and her husband have intensified since Pollard applied for Israeli citizenship, she said.

"I know that prison officials were contacted by *Ha'aretz* [an Israeli daily] and the *Toronto Star*, and in both cases, they refused to be interviewed and made none of the statements attributed to them," Pollard said in his statement.

"Can you tell me how it is supposed to further my case when my own sister insists that I am unbalanced and have lost touch with reality, and that I am unrepentant and unremorseful. Is it any wonder that I asked her to remove herself from the case?"

Esther Pollard also released an updated version of an earlier statement by her husband responding to attacks on their marriage.

It read: "Over the past six years my wife, Esther, has been subjected to a well-coordinated and unrelenting stream of abuse. It is critical for people to understand though, she is not the intended target of this attack. I am.

"I am shocked and deeply saddened by the fact that this attack has been largely directed by members of my own family, certain so-called 'friends' and the Public Committee for Pollard in Israel.

"The villification of my wife has now escalated to the point where I can no longer remain silent. To remove any lingering doubt on this score, I wish to make it very clear that, as far as I am concerned, Esther speaks for me on all matters pertaining to my case. I also fully intend to defend myself from any attacks directed at me through her, regardless as to their origins."

Hadassah-WIZO welcomes new president

TORONTO — Canadian Hadassah-WIZO pledged the support of its entire membership to ensure the "continued well-being, viability and commitment to the people of Israel" at its recent 35th national convention held at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto.

The convention, which drew hundreds of delegates from 28 Canadian centres, honored outgoing national president, Judy Mandleman and welcomed newly elected national president Patricia Joy Alpert.

At the opening brunch, 11 Women of Achievement, among them Judge Rosalie Abella, Justice Court of Appeals, Ontario; Diane Frances, editor, *Financial Post* and Sheila Finestone, Liberal MP, were honored. The ceremonies included welcoming remarks from Mandleman, David Sultan, ambassador of Israel to Canada; and Michal Modai, president of World WIZO. Keynote speaker was Yuli Edestein, minister of immigration and absorption, Israel.

The Canadian Award, given to Canadians who have displayed exemplary humanitarian qualities and who have made a significant contribution to Canada, was presented to Mme. Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, Supreme Court Justice, who expressed her "deep appreciation of the intense commitment and involvement of the organization to the well-being of humanity."

The Rebecca Sieff Award given to those who have made significant contribution to the welfare and well-being of Israel, was presented to Edgar Brofman, president, World Jewish Congress, for his "dedication to the cause of the Jewish people in Israel and throughout the world."

Speakers included Yehiel Leket, head, Youth Aliyah Unit of the Jewish Agency; John Loftus, author and former prosecutor with the United States Justice Department's Nazi War Crimes Unit; Bernie Farber, national director of community relations, Canadian Jewish Congress; Deborah B. Kaplan, coordinator, Hadassah International.

CHERNOBYL SISTERS REUNITED
Among the 24 children who arrived on Chabad's latest Children of Chernobyl flight from Kiev to Israel, was 11-year-old Valerie (left) who was greeted at Ben Gurion airport by her older sister Sasha, aged 13. This was the 26th flight of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl and brought the total number of children rescued by the program to 1, 380.

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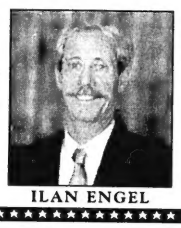

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Greater Toronto Area

Blood drive planned to aid Crohn's patient

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Randi Spiegel knows she needs blood when the mere act of standing up leaves her feeling that she is about to pass out.

At the age of 29, Spiegel has lived with Crohn's disease for the past 15 years. Complications of the chronic inflammatory bowel condition cause her frequent internal bleeding; for the past two years she has had weekly blood tests and received at least two units of packed red blood cells once a month.

On Jan. 9, she hopes to attend a Red Cross blood drive at the Promenade Mall in Thornhill sponsored by two chapters of Jewish Women International: Golda Meir, of which her mother Carol Spiegel is a member, and Northern Lights.

"The Red Cross is desperate for blood," said Carol in a recent interview at her Thornhill home.

Carol Spiegel, left, and her daughter Randi hope for a good turnout at the Jan. 9 blood drive co-sponsored by Carol's JWI chapter. [Frances Kraft photo]

Randi moved back into her parents' house two years ago following surgery and an extended hospitalization. She has undergone a total of seven operations and was facing a possible eighth one at press time, having been admitted to hospital again shortly after being interviewed for this article.

Although she has been unable to work for the past two years, the graduate of Ryerson Polytechnic University's Radio and Television Arts program has been writing a book for children with Crohn's.

Until recently Carol was reticent about going public regarding her daughter's need for blood, but it was at her initiative that her chapter decided to volunteer for the upcoming clinic.

A wish to repay the Red Cross and a desire to increase public awareness prompted her suggestion.

"As soon as she said the word, we jumped on it," said Sylvia Wein, chapter president. The group had been weighing their desire to help against their respect for Carol's privacy, she explained.

Carol has been gratified by the response of the three dozen women in her chapter. They are doing advance publicity and recruiting friends and family to donate; some will also be on hand to help at the clinic.

"They are doing it out of the goodness of their hearts. They're doing it for me, for Randi, and for the community," said Carol.

Although the women are asking donors to tell clinic staff they are there for Randi, donors are not allowed to designate a recipient for their blood, Carol and Randi stressed. "It will help a lot of people," said Carol.

"None of it will go to waste," Randi added.

The 61 area hospitals served by the Red Cross's Toronto Blood Centre need 650 units of blood a day, mostly for surgical and cancer patients, said Deborah Kuiper, the centre's clinic coordinator for York Region.

A well publicized shortage in December – traditionally a "crunch time" – resulted in some patients receiving less than the optimal amount of blood. Kuiper expects it will be February or possibly March before the Red Cross makes up the shortfall.

For Randi, donated blood makes a dramatic difference. "It could mean I wouldn't have to go in the hospital. My blood was so low last time they had to give me oxygen. It's too stressful on the body. I had heart pains and my arm was numb." When the symptoms are alleviated, Randi wishes she could thank the donor.

There are a lot of misconceptions about who can donate blood, Kuiper said. "People have a feeling that they have to be beyond average [good] health, like an extreme jock."

With certain restrictions, such as pregnancy within the last six months or the use of certain medications, healthy individuals from age 17 to 60 can be first-time donors; regular donors can continue to give blood until age 71.

Hesitant would-be donors are encouraged to visit the clinic. "Come have a coffee and ask questions, even if you don't feel ready to donate," said Kuiper.

The clinic will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m., Jan. 9, on the lower level of the Promenade just outside Eaton's.

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Artists & Poets

With the arrival of Passover in the spring, *The CJN* will be introducing a new Literary Supplement. We therefore invite the authors and poets among our readers to submit original and previously unpublished works of fiction, memoir, biography or poetry to us. The works must explore Jewish themes. The fiction cannot be longer than 1,500 words.

You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. ***The editor.***

Greater Toronto Area

BJCC chapel dedicated in soldier's memory

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Among the rows of crosses at the Canadian Forces Cemetery in Villanova, Italy, are two stars of David that mark the graves of two Jewish soldiers who died in combat 52 years ago.

David Devor and Michael Bernstein were killed during an attack on enemy positions on the Lamore River in Italy. They were recently remembered at a service to officially name the Michael Bernstein Chapel at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, in memory of the Toronto-born soldier who died on Dec. 20, 1944.

Some 75 people crowded into the tiny chapel to join Bernstein's family for the dedication ceremony. Among the congregants was a veteran of the Irish Regiment, Charles Drubich of Toronto, who served alongside Devor and Bernstein in Italy. It was Drubich who found them and said Kaddish over the bodies before they were buried.

David Devore's brother, Lou, was also at the service, as were Jewish veterans from the Irish Regiment and a regiment representative.

The late Leonard Bernstein, chapel president for many years, and his brother Coleman refurbished the chapel in 1975 and dedicated it to the memory of their brother Michael, but there was no formal dedication ceremony. The recent service was planned to coincide with Michael's *yahrzeit.*

Plaque includes medals

After Leonard's death this summer, his family decided to have a plaque made for the chapel. The plaque, which includes Michael's picture, his medals, and information about the battles he fought, was unveiled as part of the chapel dedication ceremony.

"While the chapel bears his [Mike's] name, it is also dedicated to the memory of the Jewish men and women who made the supreme sacrifice," Coleman Bernstein said during the service.

Leonard's son Jeffrey recalled that his father was not interested in retrieving the medals awarded to him and his brother after the war. But Jeffrey, who was 6 years old at the time, picked up the medals and presented them to his father as a surprise. He noted that the sight of the medals upset his father, who, he said, believed that "there was no glory in war."

Michael Bernstein enlisted in 1940 at the age of 17, serving as a sergeant with the Royal Canadian Air Force and as a cadet in the Irish Regiment. He went overseas in 1941 and was in one of the first squadrons of amphibious tanks to hit the beach on D-Day. He was wounded in July 1944 and although he had a right to return home, he proceeded to Italy for a second tour of duty after his convalescence in England.

He was posthumously awarded the 1939-1945 Star, the War Medal, the Defence Medal, the Canada Volunteer Service Medal (with bar), as well as the France and German Stars.

"My uncle was a real hero," said Leonard's son Michael Bernstein, who is named for his uncle. "He died so young. He was only 21 when he died, but my father and my uncle have kept his memory alive for more than 50 years."

Artists & Poets

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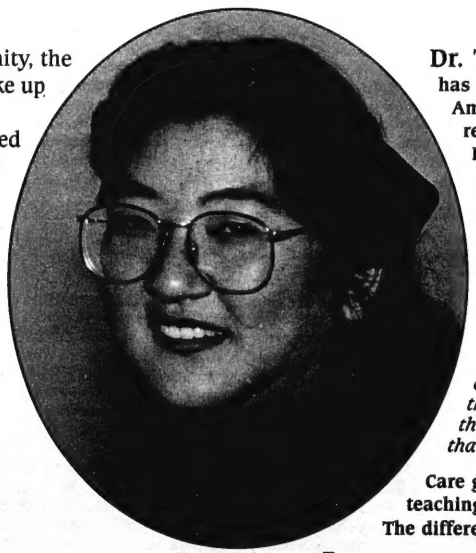

Dr. Terumi Izukawa
has been the Medical Program Director of Ambulatory Services, since 1990, and has recently been promoted to Deputy Head of the Department of Geriatrics and Internal Medicine. She joined Baycrest, she explains, because of the respect for Baycrest programs and the inspiring leadership of Dr. Michael Gordon.

"The real value of what we accomplish comes through listening to our patients and their families. That's a key lesson I teach the students studying here. As a fourth generation Japanese Canadian, I understand and appreciate the similar cultural values that we have; a reverence, respect and caring for the elderly. I love working here, because I feel that, as a team, we really make a difference."

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One hundred years ago

As with all things that are precious and little noticed day to day, we occasionally fall into a complacency about them which obscures their true dimension. Such is the case with the movement, the dream, the vision, the Hope – Zionism – the modern, sovereign embodiment of which is the state we love and call Israel.

Of all the "isms" and political ideologies which soared across the skyline of the 20th century, only Zionism altered heaven. The others, like comets that blaze momentarily before our eyes but leave nothing long-lasting, had their days, but now are gone.

Zionism though, restored a people to its land and a land to its people. Zionism was the sanctuary, the rallying cry that proclaimed after World War II to an indifferent world: "We shall not die but live." Israel is the home that gathers in its exiles. It is the millennial yearning to redeem Jerusalem "not by might but by My spirit." It is the state which defends itself by "purity of arms."

One hundred years ago, in the hot summer days of late August, in the Swiss mountain resort of Basel, the first Zionist Congress was convened under the guiding hand and undaunted initiative of Theodor Herzl. Hundreds of Jewish dreamers met, debated, argued and eventually propounded the Basel Program, the first sentence of which is printed elsewhere on this page. This program was and is still the driving force for collective Jewish responsibility around the world.

Two full generations have grown up since World War II. What our parents and grandparents saw with their eyes and felt with their hands and on their backs, we and our children will see and feel only in the pages of history. We must therefore try to remember to cast aside our all-too-human complacency lest we fail even momentarily to see and appreciate how precious and restorative and life-sustaining the dream of Zionism is.

The CJN begins its commemoration of the 100-year anniversary of this epoch-making event in this issue of the paper, the first of 1997. Each week we shall publish an excerpt from the first Congress. From time to time throughout the year, we shall publish other features connected with the anniversary.

When this anniversary draws to a close one year from now, we shall move seamlessly, please God, into another significant commemoration – the 50th anniversary of the fulfilment of Zionism's dream – the founding of the State of Israel.

Urgent matters

As the new year dawns, one wonders whether a number of urgent matters can be resolved in 1997:

When will the Canadian government stop dragging its feet and adopt a credible approach to the issue of alleged war criminals in this country? Canada's performance often leaves the impression that Ottawa prefers a biological solution.

When will the Swiss government do the right thing and finally come clean with regard to Switzerland's war record and its handling of bank accounts opened by Jews who perished in the Holocaust?

When will Argentina get to the bottom of the most dasdardly crime committed against the Jewish people since the Nazi era – the 1995 bombing of the Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires?

When will trust, the essential component of any relationship, be restored between Israel and the Palestinian Authority? **– S.K.**

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1896

"Zionism seeks to establish a home for the Jewish people in Palestine secured under public law."

(The objective of the Zionist movement, excerpted from the Basel program.)

FIFTY YEARS AFTER THE HOLOCAUST...
AND THE WORLD SEEMS TO HAVE LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON.
A SWISS BANK ACCOUNT IS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST ANY THREAT, EXCEPT ONE... ?
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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

As she disembarked in Halifax on Jan. 3, 1949, 11 year-old Ruth Miller, was the 1000th war orphan brought to Canada by the Canadian Jewish Congress. (Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Welcomes stories on Sephardi culture

I commend *The CJN* for publishing the excellent essay by Cantor Aviv Ouanounou. "Rabbi David Buzaglo: great poet and scholar" (Dec. 12).

As an admirer and lover of Sephardi-Jewish culture and tradition, I am grateful to Ouanounou for sharing with us the story of Rabbi Buzaglo.

The *piyut* published is a pearl of Sephardi poetry and stands up high on Sephardi *piyutim* tradition along with Samuel Ha-Nagid, Judah Halevi, Judah Al-Harizi, Dunash Ha-Levi, Ben Labrat – the finest flowering of Spanish Hebrew poetry.

I hope that *The CJN* will continue publishing articles on Sephardi Jewish culture and tradition, encouraging a closer relationship and better understanding between the Sephardi and Ashkenazi communities.

Baruch Cohen
Montreal

Poet Louis Dudek not a Jew

Sheldon Kirshner was so overwhelmed by William Weintraub's new book, *City Unique*, that in his review of the book (*CJN*, Dec. 12), he converted renowned Canadian poet Louis Dudek to Judaism. Dudek has been a Catholic since birth.

Eiran Harris
Montreal

Reading Hebron valid comment on Israel

What a curious letter you published from Lorne Katz Dec. 12. If I read the letter correctly, what he says is that "because Jason Sherman has never been to Israel and I have not seen *Reading Hebron*, then this gives me the licence to say anything I like, which makes Jason Sherman look like an idiot."

But, of course, the comparison does not work. Israel is a text, provided for us openly on TV, radio and film, and in the shul, newspapers and 6,000 years of recorded history. We who have patience to do so read it, carefully. Going to Israel helps a bit, but the reading is what matters.

Katz may have read some of his Israel, but obviously not his Sherman, whose text is a mere 1½ hours long in performance. But, of course, he doesn't want to, nor really to "read" Israel. His "my country right or wrong" does not echo Jeremiah's or the Isaiah's, but sounds more like an old English Colonel Blimp.

At least Jason Sherman knows his prophets and the role of the true Rebbe. Does Katz know the Talmud at all?

Ioan Davies
Toronto

Objects to interpretation of poem

Gidi Koren, Hebrew columnist of *The CJN*, in his review of Dalia Revikowitz's poem, *Two Islands* from New Zealand, misinterprets, in my opinion, her intention.

She writes: "I will not journey to Africa/ Nor to Asia/ I will not travel at all."

These lines implicitly indicate that in spite of all the difficulties living in Israel encompasses, she will *not* leave. Koren's interpretation of the New Zealand reference does not seem to me to be correct at all.

Nahum Ravel
Montreal

Come to Israel with us!

Many of our Jewish friends and acquaintances admit that they are afraid to travel to Israel.Some have never been there! Yet I have never heard anyone cancel their trips to London because of the subway and theatre district bombing. Now a Canadian woman was killed by a bomb in the Paris subway. Do Canadian Jews cancel their planned trip there?

Come to Israel with us! There have been atrocities, and knowing the human values of the perpetrators, we know that there will be others in the future. But with all that, nowhere do we feel as safe as in Israel. Cancel your trip to London and Paris and come to Israel with us!

Andrew Sanders
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Canada ignored war criminals for 27 years

Ten years ago, Jules Deschênes delivered his report on the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals. In a two-part article, the first of which we publish today, Arnold Fradkin examines where the judge's report has led us. Part II will appear next week.

By ARNOLD FRADKIN

Many of the individuals who actively took part in the scheme to destroy European Jewry are now in Canada. In an article in the *Globe and Mail* on May 26, 1987, Irving Abella (former president of the Canadian Jewish Congress and a well respected historian), pointed out that for a time, Canadian immigration policy was such "that a United Nations official in a displaced persons camp remarked that it was 'easier' for Nazis to come to Canada than for survivors of the death camps. The Nazis could provide proof of their anti-communist credentials — at that time the *sine qua non* for immigration into Canada." Abella went on to say that Canada "became an attractive haven for Nazis when, at the behest of the British Government in 1948, we agreed not to undertake any war crime prosecutions. This was the price former West German chancellor Konrad Adenauer demanded from the Western allies for agreeing to re-arm his nation and turn it into an anti-Soviet bastion."

Few of these criminals and their major collaborators have been brought before the bar of justice. In Canada, there has been only one successful proceeding — the case against Jacob Luitjens, who, after a long trial in the Federal Court of Canada, was stripped of his citizenship and then summarily deported to Holland, and placed in jail. Proceedings against Luitjens were initiated in January 1988 and the trial began eight months later (September 1988) in Vancouver. To date that is Canada's only successful action against Nazi war criminals or collaborators since the special project began as a result of the Deschênes Commission Report.

Keith Spicer wrote in a 1987 article in Southam News: "The very least that decency requires is that justice follow its course until all the actors in the murderous play, have died." Unless we deal with the suspected war criminals living unhindered, unrepentant and unpunished in Canada, what moral authority is there for us as a nation to participate in bringing more recent war criminals in Bosnia, Somalia, Rawanda or elsewhere to justice?

Justice does not mean vengence. It means redress according to principles of law, as imposed by courts of law after a fair and impartial trial according to law. Jurists have often defined justice by pointing out what it is not. It is not justice for Nazi war criminals and collaborators to find a safe haven in Canada. Justice demands the removal of such a haven — either by ejecting such persons from our society by revoking their citizenship (denaturalization) and/or by sending them from Canada (deportation), or by incarcerating them in Canadian jails — if and when they are found culpable after an expeditious, fair and impartial trial. The need for dispatch in these cases is manifest, otherwise justice delayed will most certainly result in justice denied.

The Canadian government, said present attorney general, Allan Rock (*Globe & Mail* July 10, 1996), "is committed to ensuring that justice is done and that our country does not become a safe haven for alleged war criminals." Similar statements were made by previous attorneys general such as Ray Hnatyshyn, under whom the special project to deal with suspected Nazi war criminals in Canada was established almost 10 years ago.

So what has been done to bring suspected Nazi war criminals and collaborators who are residing in Canada before the courts of justice? For purposes of analysis, we can divide the time from the end of World War II to the present into roughly five periods: 1945 to 1948; 1948 to 1985; Feb. 7, 1985 to Dec. 30, 1986; January 1987 to January 1995; and January 1995 to the present.

1945 to 1948: After the end of the World War II, an International Court at Nuremburg was established by the United States, England, France and Russia. Twenty-two major war criminals were charged. The Allies also established Allied central committees where trials were held by individual Allied countries with respect to crimes against their soldiers. Crimes against civilians were not normally part of these trials. Then, in July 1948, a secret memorandum from the United Kingdom was sent to Commonwealth countries that no more war crimes trials were to be held. Canada agreed. Thereafter, said the Deschênes Commission, in its report: "Whether by coincidence or by design, in the third of a century which followed, Canada devoted not the slightest energy to the search and prosecution of war criminals."

Justice Jules Deschênes

1948 to Feb. 7, 1985: After 1948, although there were occasional reports of alleged war criminals or collaborators living in Canada, no action was taken to investigate or pursue legal remedies against them for roughly 30 years! The Deschênes Commission described how from 1945 to 1962 the RCMP had no official policy respecting war crimes and from 1962 to 1982 frowned upon private complaints. In the early 1960s, pressure from the Jewish community in Canada to deal with two suspected Nazi war criminals was characterized as a "witch hunt." In 1966, the RCMP confirmed that 11 suspects identified by Simon Wiesenthal had been Canadian citizens since 1956 but no action was taken.

By the early 1970s, reports that Nazi war criminals and collaborators had been admitted into Canada in large numbers were increasingly appearing in the regular media. Estimates varied from a "handful" according to the Justice Department, to the 6,000 cited by Simon Wiesenthal. After 1983, estimates from non-governmental organizations never fell below 1,000. As a result of increasing criticism and cries for action, the suspected existence of war criminals became a major issue in the 1980s. The Government of Canada referred the matter to a Royal Commission of Inquiry chaired by Chief Justice Deschênes of Quebec by Order-in-Council approved Feb. 7, 1985. The commission conducted hearings across Canada.

Feb. 7, 1985 to Dec. 30, 1986: The Deschênes Commission delivered its report on Dec. 30, 1986, acknowledging that suspected Nazi war criminals were indeed in Canada. Part I was published and amounted to 900 pages; Part II was confidential. The commission recommended the further investigation of approximately 224 cases. With respect to the 20 other cases where it had recommended in Part II that steps be taken toward either denaturalization and deportation or criminal prosecution, it said that urgent attention should be given to implementing those recommendations.

In the public part of the report, the commission explained how it had put together from various sources a master list of 774 persons, an addendum of 38 additional names and a list of 71 German scientists. To each it assigned a number and provided, in the public part of the report, a brief summary of its investigations linked to each number.

A review of these summaries reveals a dependence upon what it characterized as "external checks," namely inquiries made at German archives that specialized in German nationals and membership of the German Nazi party, the German police and military organizations. Often the commission recommended closing a suspect's file if his name was not located in these archives. This approach may well have foreclosed further consideration of other war criminals or collaborators in Canada since, as the commission explained elsewhere in the public part of report, "a substantial proportion" of its master list was comprised of "Russians, Ukrainians or Balts." Persons of these nationalities, being Eastern European rather than German, might therefore not have been recorded in the German Archives upon which the commission relied, although they may have participated or collaborated in war crimes.

Contrary to previous legal views from various sources, Deschênes and his commission were of the opinion that legal action could indeed be taken against suspected Nazi perpetrators living in Canada. It recommended the following methods in order of preference: extradition; criminal prosecution in Canada after amending the Criminal Code; and denaturalization and deportation.

The third method has been used with great success in the United States. In the last 16 years, about 52 Nazi persecutors have had their citizenship removed and 44 have been deported. A further 300 people are under investigation. And in 1993, notwithstanding the fact that almost 50 years had elapsed, the Office of Special Investigations filed more cases that year than any other year in its history because the fall of the Soviet Union opened up archives that had been closed since World War II.

Jan. 1, 1987 to 1994: The Deschênes Commission had recommended in the public part of its report that the denaturalization and/or deportation option be adopted in 10 of the 20 cases it had identified in its confidential report for "urgent attention."

A special litigation unit was established within the Department of Justice in the Spring of 1987 under the leadership of Bill Hobson, who was at that time assistant deputy general of Canada (Criminal Law), and an investigation unit was organized within the RCMP. About six months later, the first two cases were launched in the courts — one following the criminal route and the other the path of denaturalization — namely, criminal charges against Imre Finta in December 1987 and denaturalization proceedings against Jacob Luitiens in January 1988. The next year, the third case was initiated against Michael Pawlawski (December 1989) and the following year, the fourth case against Stephen Reisteter (January 1990). Then about three years went by before the fifth case was initiated against Radan Grujicic (December 1992). Only the Luitjens and Finta cases actually went to trial. The charges against the other three were subsequently dropped or stayed by the court for reasons including ill health and the death of key witnesses or suspects.

October 1991, Luitjens had his citizenship revoked. His subsequent appeals were not successful and in November 1992, he was summarily deported to Holland where he faced a life sentence for collaboration with the Nazis. Upon arrival he was immediately placed in jail. After serving about 2½ years, he was released. Finta, on the other hand, was acquitted of all charges in May 1990 and the Crown's appeal to the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada were unsuccessful.

Thus, of the five proceedings instituted in the six year period from the recommendations of the Deschênes Commission Report in December 1986 to the institution of proceedings against Grujicic in December 1992, only the denaturalization proceeding was successful. Not unexpectedly, a growing momentum advocating that more denaturalization proceedings be instituted was increasingly reflected in the media. By the end of 1993, public officials were reported in the media to the effect that further denaturalization proceedings could be instituted shortly.

On July 8, 1993, the *Toronto Star* reported that although a representative of the War Crimes Section had stated in December 1992 that by March 1994 action would be taken against as many as 20 alleged Nazi war criminals, the halfway mark had come and gone and no proceedings had as yet been initiated.

In December 1993 both the *Toronto Star* and the *Ottawa Citizen* reported that the War Crimes Unit was completing 18 priority investigations and expected to make recommendations regarding more denaturalization proceedings shortly.

In March 1994, the Supreme Court of Canada delivered its judgment upholding Finta's acquittal. Statements in the judgment appeared to uphold a defence that relied upon publicly stated beliefs that Jews were subversive and detrimental to the war effort in Hungary, and also the defence of following orders.

On Aug. 19, 1994, the *Ottawa Citizen* reported that the War Crimes Unit was on the verge of recommending denaturalization and/or deportation proceedings against eight suspected Nazi collaborators. Subsequent newspaper articles reported that eight cases had been sent to the minister of Citizenship and Immigration with recommendations to institute such proceedings.

On Aug. 25, 1994, *The Canadian Jewish News* reported that a war crimes spokesperson said it was expected that 20 cases and possibly more would eventually be forwarded to the Citizenship and Immigration Department for action.

Arnold Fradkin was one of the founding members of the War Crimes Litigation Unit in the Deprtment of Justice. The unit was formed in 1987 after the Deschênes Commission released its report on the existence of Nazi War criminals in Canada. He was lead counsel in the case against Jacob Luitjens.

Opinions

Gush residents boast high quality of life

ISRAEL DIARY PART III

On stony hills of Judea south of Jerusalem, ancient terraces march down the hillsides where farmers created fields of precious earth sprouting olive trees and grape vines, fig trees and other fruit-bearing varieties.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

During the War of Independence settlers of the Etzion Bloc held out against Arab armies for a long time. Finally the settlement was overrun, the surviving defenders taken prisoner to Jordan and the settlement uprooted. After 1967, the rebuilding of Gush Etzion began.

Today "the Gush" is comprised of many settlements such as Neve Danielle, Elazar, Bat Ayn, Carmei Tzur, Tekoah, Alon Shvut, and Kibbutzim Rosh Tzurim, Kfar Etzion, and Migdal Oz. A further 1,000 or more families live in Efrat.

Bumper stickers are the fastest way to test the political waters here. They read MAFDAL (the National Religious Party), or "Hebron now and forever" or "*ze lo shalom chaver*" based on the alternate sticker "*Shalom Haver*", quoting President Bill Clinton at Yitzhak Rabin's funeral.

We visited the Gush guided by a family living in one of the settlements. Their home is a lovely spacious one-family residence, built of golden stone, surrounded by a burgeoning garden and housing five energetic children. Aside from the sometimes vicious political debate over the fate of the settlements in the territories, what has daily life been like for them in the years they have lived there?

First of all, there is the incredible growth. In 1990, residents lived in ramshackle mobile homes affording little defence during the Gulf War. (My daughter spent the war with this family.) Today hundreds, maybe thousands of homes share hillside space with the ancient terraces. Settlements now are connected to Jerusalem by three roads: the old road through Bethlehem, a temporary road and the new road that will bypass Bethlehem entirely and allow travel from Hebron to Jerusalem with ease.

Second, security. Our friend went to Kiryat Arba early in the morning in a bus with bullet-proof windows and an army escort. His pistol, which so far he has never fired in defence, was stuck in his belt.

Every household head is required to do once monthly, three-hour night-time guard duty and once, every two months, a full day guard duty. The children travel to school on a bus with no special guard, but children from areas further away have a guard on each bus.

All cars are equipped with shatter-proof glass and most have a security hook-up attached to the army base that notifies drivers of road blocks or allows drivers to contact the army if they encounter trouble. Soldiers stationed along the route stop all cars entering or leaving the Green Line, which separates the pre-1967 Israel from the territories.

Children run free within the settlements. But you don't go hiking in the hills without a weapon (although when we explored a Byzantine winepress, we left the gun in the car). On Shabbat, teens walk from one settlement to another.

Gush settlers come in many guises. There are no black-coated Haredim here (they live in a separate settlement), but knitted kippahs abound. Rabbi Shlomo Riskin leads his flock through the still waters of a scrubbed-clean Efrat, the cleanest place I saw in Israel, with luxurious American-style living. The Gush itself tolerates a wide spectrum of practice. So why did our friends move here, past the Green Line in the danger zone?

"We visited friends here. It was quiet and peaceful and we felt drawn to the area. We had to come before the Absorption committee of the settlement. They had to see if we fitted them and we had to decide it was the right place for us. It had to be mutual," they said.

"Yes, the guns are here, but it's such a part of our lives we don't think about it."

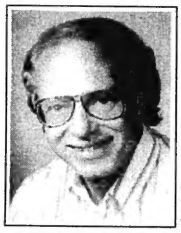
On the other hand, "the cemetery has very few old people in it. We've buried many good friends, young husbands, sons, and mothers and daughters who died in terrorist attacks.

"Certainly there was a feeling that we wanted to settle the land. But apart from that, the standards here are very high. Not just standards of education, but moral standards, a feeling of community. When we take our children for a walk, we can tell them that Abraham walked here. When they dig the foundations for a new house and find a winepress from the time of Abraham, you can feel the history around you. And our view reaches from Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea.

"We don't feel as if it is past the Green Line. We feel it is part of Eretz Israel."

'A High Modernist with Jewish humility'

Cynthia Ozick is the queen (and king!) of the parenthetical statement. One of the foremost writers of this or any other age, Ozick never takes the short or easy route as she examines life (sometimes her own), literature, Judaism, culture and history with a pen that can skewer, ascend, detour, plunge and vault — all in any given sentence.



By Shel Krakofsky in London, Ont.

In her third and newest essay collection, *Fame & Folly* (Knopf) when she writes about Henry James she declares, "The sacred terror is, in fact, the sensation — not simply fright, but a kind of revulsion — that comes when glimpse perilously lengthens into gaze."

Ozick can glimpse with insightful brevity or gaze with a lens that is both microscope and telescope. The language and ideas are panoramic, bold and breathless (and breath giving) in her essays, short fiction and novels. She is also a playwright and poet who has masterfully and lovingly translated works from Yiddish into English.

In *Fame & Folly*, she writes about such literary luminaries as Saul Bellow, T.S. Eliot, Henry James, Mark Twain, Salman Rushdie and Isaac Babel and about the constant conflict and skirmishes between life and art.

In Ozick's hands, this conflict is more meditation than mediation as she is unwilling to be handcuffed by T.S. Eliot's injunction about the objective correlative. When it has a literary purpose, Ozick injects herself into the fray as she does in the pieces, *Alfred Chester's Wig* and *The Break* even at the expense of self-deprecating irony.

As serious as she is, her distinctive humor is always hovering. In her essay on Isaac Babel, for example, she includes a sketch about her cousin who stayed with Ozick just before the breakup of the Soviet Union (a stay Ozick transformed into a *New Yorker* story): "At home she was a *Sportsdoktor*: she travelled with the Soviet teams, roughneck country boys and daily tested their urine for steroids. (Was this to make sure her athletes were properly dosed?)"

A stylist with an extraordinary range, these essays, like her others, are as informed, fluid, intricate, intense and delicious as the best of her fiction. She loves a good fight and is fearless about criticizing even those she admires for their misdeeds (T.S. Eliot and Salman Rushdie) or for their misreadings (Lionel Trilling and George Steiner).

Like A.M. Klein, she is passionate, unflinching and innovative in creating and maintaining Jewish culture in the English language. Without resorting to stereotypes, her artistic vision is expressed in and on Jewish terms. Born and living in the United States, Ozick has carried forward the weight and burden of Jewish scholarship, religion and history so it can enter the larger literary and cultural milieu.

Literary scholar and critic Michael Greenstein has called her, "a High Modernist with Jewish humility" and in the *New York Times Book Review*, Edmund White applauded in the past, "Precisely on account of her life, Miss Ozick strikes me as the best American writer to have emerged in recent years."

There are even Canadian connections in her novella, *Puttermeser and Xanthippe*, a modern and female version of the golem legend, one character is a professional fundraiser in Toronto and in the novel *The Cannibal Galaxy*, one individual moves to Hamilton and gets a job in an automotive garage.

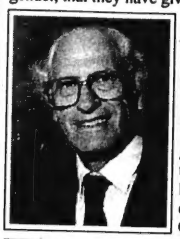
As English-speaking Jewish writers continue to exhibit fewer distinguishing characteristics, except for superficial vestiges of a Jewish past, this diluted culture has some critics predicting the end of any significant Jewish content in English letters. The majority of today's Jewish writers are unwilling and even worse, are incapable of acknowledging their Jewishness — or what's left of it — except with mere nods or sophomoric posturing.

Cynthia Ozick stands alone as the most gifted, knowledgeable and compelling Jewish writer of this generation. Remove the word Jewish and for this reader, the statement still holds. She is either the manifestation of a renewed Jewish literature in English-speaking diaspora or a solitary star marking the beginning of its end.

When it comes to survival and truth, like Cynthia Ozick, there is no in between or middle ground.

Understanding Quebec

A lot of people outside Quebec are so fed up with the recurrent problems the French province seems to engender, that they have given up and say, "Let them go. We won't have peace until they do." I do not belong to them; I value the unity of Canada as essential to fulfilling the great potential of the nation. But I have long supported the notion that Quebecers have a legitimate need that has to be met and that, unless it is done soon and willingly, Quebec will separate. In this respect I diverge from the opinion of most federalists. Many, if not most of them are worried about the effects of Quebec's secession on the rest of Canada. Of course that is a concern, but we will never reach a resolution of the conflict if we are worried about ourselves only, and not also about the underlying aspirations of the Québecois.



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

It is my conviction that Canadians, and Jews especially, should understand that accommodation rather than threats will determine the shape of Canada, leading to a federated nation to which Quebec belongs, while exhibiting unmistakable aspects of cultural and social sovereignty.

To a significant degree I have been led to these conclusions because of my perception that the French factor resembles the Jewish factor in the population, in that both minorities have one essential need in common, which is to protect their own cultural inheritance. I spoke of this during my conversations with René Lévesque some twenty-five years ago, when I stressed that Jews know (or should know) what independence means to a people. To be sure, our histories differ radically, for the dream of Zion is unlike the desire of the Québecois to maintain their culture, but there is a convergence in that both peoples see sovereignty as the only viable solution. For two thousand years we Jews were a minority wherever we lived, and that status engendered bitter experiences whose elimination depended largely on others. The core group of French Quebecers are in this respect no different. They live as a small minority among more than 275 million English speakers in North America, and face the daily need of warding off the all-enveloping American presence.

Perception is a powerful shaper of reality. The separatists deem themselves to be shackled, while in fact they already have many of the trappings of independence. In those matters that will assure Quebec's cultural identity the province already is essentially sovereign – though absolute sovereignty is no longer possible for any people. The challenge therefore is to have both Quebec and the rest of us realize this fact. This understanding by a majority of Canadians would go a long way toward establishing a greater sense of mutual trust .

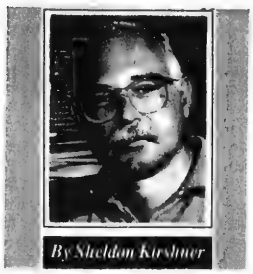
I am a staunch federalist and I believe with Stéphane Dion (who has the daunting task of keeping Canadians together) that the recognition of Quebec's distinct society is a necessary ingredient of Canadian unity.

(The above has been excerpted from the rabbi's forthcoming More Unfinished Business *(volume 2 of his autobiography).)*

The Kirshner File

Bad Reichenhall revisited

The clerk in Bad Reichenhall's municipal building pulled out a ledger from a bookshelf, flipped through the pages



By Sheldon Kirshner

until he got to the letter K and, letting his forefinger guide him, reached my surname.

Within seconds, he found my birth certificate. It was a precious moment, though just another routine inquiry for him.

As I glanced at the almost indecipherable Gothic script, my thoughts turned to my parents, both of whom were born and raised in Lodz, Poland, and whom fate brought to Bad Reichenhall.

Genya, my mother, survived the deprivations of the Lodz ghetto and the horrors of Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, Dachau, Gross Rosen and Mauthausen.

David, my father, a soldier in the Polish army, was hit by shrapnel as the Wehrmacht advanced inexorably into Poland. After recovering from his wounds in a German hospital, he was sent back to Lodz. There, until the liquidation of the ghetto in August 1944, he was a forced laborer. Then, having no further use for him, the Nazis consigned him to the black hole of the concentration camp system.

When the war finally ended, he found himself in Bergen-Belsen, where he met my mother, whom he had known in Lodz. For the next few months, they wandered around Germany and Austria, looking for relatives and friends who may have survived the Holocaust.

They were married in 1945, in a displaced persons camp in Ainring, a drab village 12 kilometres north of Bad Reichenhall, an elegant spa in the Bavarian Alps where I was born about a year later.

At the invitation of the German National Tourist Office, Bad Reichenhall's tourism board and Lufthansa Airlines, I returned to Bad Reichenhall in November. Call it, if you will, a desire to plumb my roots. I made my way there from Frankfurt by plane and from Munich by train, a sentimental journey of about three hours

As I discovered, Bad Reichenhall is a neat and attractive town of 17,000 in the Chiemgau Valley. It lies 470 metres above sea level, in a peninsular pocket jutting into Austria.

It is in close proximity to Thumsee, a pint-sized lake with a walking path and a stunning view of misty snow-clad mountains; Salzburg, the home of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; Berchtesgaden, which is indelibly linked with the Eagles' Nest, Adolf Hitler's posh mountain retreat in Obersalzberg; and Konigsee, a tranquil alpine lake whose mirror-like surface is often compared to Canada's Lake Louise.

Framed by the rugged outline of the crystalline Alps, Bad Reichenhall is a popular destination. Attracting more than one million tourists annually, it draws mountain climbers, nature buffs, skiers, ice skaters and curlers. Many of the visitors head for the Mount Predigtstuhl cable car, reportedly the oldest in Europe.

But above all else, due to the healing qualities of its saline springs, Bad Reichenhall enjoys a reputation for the treatment of respiratory ailments.

Sentimental journey to spa

With its squeaky clean sanitariums, it is virtually like one big health club. Walk into one, such as the Rupertusbad, and you see people taking the cure: reposing mummy-like in mud baths, submitting to body messages, lolling in Jacuzzis, exercising limbs in indoor and outdoor swimming pools.

The town's historic salt works, the *Alte Saline* – the source of the brine essential to the curative powers of its spas – is an atonal symphony of whirling machinery, clanging bells and gushing water.

Being neither a gambler nor a shopper, I did not visit Bad Reichenhall's casino or its stylish shops and boutiques. But I stopped in its glass factory, explored its sedate gardens and ruminated in its concert halls, which usually resound to orchestral classical music.

At the suggestion of my guide, Herta Maier, I dropped in at the renowned Cafe Reber, a Viennese-style coffee house that exudes a genuine *gemutlichkeit* ambience so typical of Germany. It was not far from my hotel, the Steingenberger Axelmannstein, which is under the stewardship of Klaus Kartmann, the former manager of Montreal's Chateau Champlain.

The Axelmannstein, said to be one of the finest hotels in the region, is within easy walking distance of a special address, 8 Maximilianstrasse.

There, in an appealing residential neighborhood, stands an ornate three-storey beige apartment building set off by white trim, balconies on each floor, a black cupola and a red tile roof. Called the Villa Luxenbourg, it is fenced in by a white wrought iron gate.

I was born in this building, once a hospital, exactly a day after my mother arrived from Ainring, whose undistinguished appearance is belied by the astonishing beauty of its alpine surroundings.

The DP camp in which my parents lived for 1½ years, before their departure by train and by ship to Canada, was in Mitterfelden, an appendage of Ainring.

The barracks they and about 5,000 other Jewish refugees were housed in adjoined a former German air force base, currently used by the Bavarian police.

Fredric Muller-Romminger, a local historian who resides in neighboring Schwarzbach, told me that the base was constructed in 1933 for Hitler's convenience when he was flying to his Eagles' Nest redoubt high in the Alps. In 1938, the base became a training centre for Luftwaffe pilots in the reserves. And two years later, it was converted into an aviation research institute.

On May 4, 1945, the facility was captured by the U.S. Third Army, and shortly afterward, it was turned into a camp for displaced persons like my parents.

Bad Reichenhall, as I learned from Muller-Romminger, emerged almost unscathed from the ravages of the war. But on April 25, 1945, it tasted its bitter fruits .

At 10:51 a.m. on that day, waves of B-24 Liberation bombers of the Eighth U.S. Air Force hit the train station off Wittelsbacherstrasse. It was strategically important because its rail line linked Munich with Vienna.

The raid claimed the lives of nearly 200 soldiers and civilians, some of whom were kilometres away from the station.

The planes also blasted neighboring Rosenheim and Traunstein, bombing factories judged to be vital to Germany's war machine. Before flying back to their bases, the aircraft homed in on the Eagles' Nest, obliterating Hitler's idyllic compound.

Today, Bad Reichenhall, a world-class resort, sparkles in the sun. It no longer bears the marks of war, the smoldering ruins of the Eighth Air Forces' bombing run having been removed decades ago.

But for my parents, who passed through Germany in the raw aftermath of the Holocaust, this small town evokes exceedingly ambivalent feelings.

Here, in the heart of a supposedly civilized continent, the scourge of Nazism festered. But here, in a verdant valley brimming with wild flowers under clear blue skies, their first child was born, signifying joy and hope for a better tomorrow.

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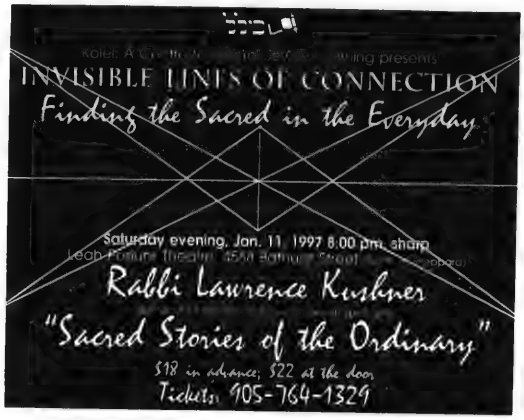
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We are so proud of you
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As a Bubbie and Zaidee
you are so loving, generous and kind.
Better grandparents
one could never find.

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary
Mom and Dad,
your children and grandchildren
are so very glad.

We wish you good health,
much happiness and mazel too.
And we look forward to celebrating
the next fifty years with you.

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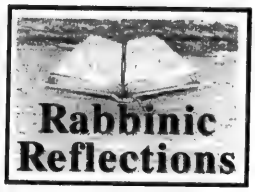

By RABBI MOSHE STERN

Parents' integrity key to children's values

Countless confused parents are posing the bitter question – *Why?* – as they are confronted daily with a rising tide of impossible situations – all affecting the welfare, health and even the sanity of their children. Frustrated educators, social thinkers and national and religious leaders add their voices in the search for basic reasons for the lawlessness, violence, degradation and drug abuse afflicting us socially and morally.

Why? What has brought us to a state of affairs in which crimes of violence spread like wildfire in the midst of the most affluent society, in which crimes of every category against property, homes and possessions spiral daily. Having achieved supremacy in the technological world, man seems to have lost control of the basic rudiments of social and moral order. Finding a quick and healthy solution before society becomes unsalvageable is urgently necessary. Solutions, to be effective, must be based on the why, on the primary causes of our troubles.

I submit that one of the basic reasons for the state of our world is the growing disillusionment of our children with their parents. Parents are, after all, the very first rung in the ladder of "establishment." They are the very first dispensers of rules and regulations. When rebellion is the battle cry of the hour, parents are perforce the first victims. Before youth can destroy the establishment (the law-enforcement agencies, the schools and the judicial system), they must immobolize and destroy the effectiveness of the first symbol of authority – respect for parents.

But why are they so successful? Why do these children literally run away from parents who provide every comfort and pleasure imaginable for the privation and squalor of a sub-human existence?

Parents, intentionally or not, are the primary conveyors of honesty, decency and religion. If they expect to be effective teachers, should they not attempt to be living examples of virtue to their children?

What is more hollow and meaningless, indeed hypocritical, than parents who pronounce rules regarding children's conduct which are flagrantly flouted by the parents themselves? What value can a request to a sensitive boy or girl to pray on Shabbat, wear t'fillin or eat kosher have, when the one who is doing the asking is personally indifferent to these very precepts?

What pain and anguish must an innocent teenager feel when he discovers that the parents who exhort him to remain chaste and pure are guilty of practising double and triple standards of morality? How often do we hear of the shrewd businessperson who boasts of his/her skill in defrauding the government or customers? Can such a parent berate his/her child for any transgressions of the civil, political or moral code?

The Talmud relates that when a judge would tell a person to remove a toothpick from his teeth (refrain from a minor crime or infraction of the law), the accused would respond, "First remove the beam from

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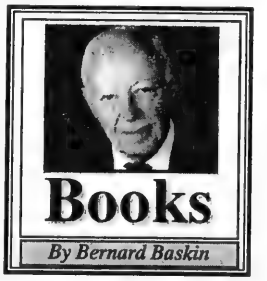

Israel's warrior diplomat

***Living History*, by Chaim Herzog, (Random House, $42).**

In 1983, Chaim Herzog was elected president of Israel, a position he held for 10 years. This was a popular and wise choice for he had served his country well as warrior, diplomat and statesman.

In his younger years, as an officer in the British Army during World War II, he helped to liberate German concentration camps and was one of the first Allied witnesses to Nazi atrocities. He relates in this absorbing, lucid and elegantly written memoir, that "for Germans to say, then or today, that they knew nothing of what had transpired — as nearly every German claimed — was a desperate lie ... the German people had to have known — the truth was ominpresent and inescapable." When he told some of the survivors that he was a Jewish officer from Palestine, they all burst into tears. Viewing the living, emaciated skeletons, "It was all that I could do to keep from doing the same."

In the tumultuous 1970s, he was appointed ambassador to the United Nations. It was a difficult and frustrating time when he seemed almost alone in his battle on behalf of Israel against a phalanx of opposing nations. He rejoices that "In December 1991, the U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism was revoked by the General Assembly by a surprisingly large majority ... Sixteen years earlier, we had been subjected to attack, diatribe, condemnation and calumny. The world had changed considerably."

The author's exciting life paralleled almost all of the great and tragic events of Israeli history. He fought in many of its wars and his high position brought him into close contact with such personalities as Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger, Margaret Thatcher and the royalty of many countries. He provides brief but telling portraits of these movers and shakers and has amusing anecdotes to relate about them.

Herzog is outspoken in his condemnation of the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He writes that it was an unfortunate chapter in Israel's military history. "It cost many lives, diminished our self-confidence, wasted years which could have been devoted to developing the new peace with Egypt and, most serious of all, broke a heretofore national consensus on our ability to wage war and the moral basis for doing so."

The son of Israel's one-time chief rabbi deplores the extremism that in recent years has entered Israeli religious and social life. At a memorial service at the graveside of Yigal Allon, he castigated those who had attacked the kibbutzim as irreligious and removed from traditional Judaism. He said that the nation as a whole should go to the gravesides of the boys who had fallen and asked their forgiveness. "Men who had led our forces to victory were being labelled as traitors by those who had never heard the sound of war; underground leaders were being maligned by those who never knew what they did; and people who had served the nation were being vilified by those who had never done anything in their lives."

On the thorny questions of Palestinian independence and the status of Jerusalem, Herzog suggests that "facts must be faced: in all probability there will ultimately be a Palestinian state linked in the federation or confederation with Jordan." Jerusalem, he indicates will never be relinquished as Israel's capital, "But accommodation for the city's Moslem holy places (not to mention Christian sites) will have to be agreed upon ... once that is settled, a rational and likely solution is to set up a Palestinian capital in either Gaza or in Ramallah, just north of Jerusalem."

This passionate, autobiography by a wise, experienced and courageous leader ends with the plea for unity. Israel, he insists must deal with fundamentalism and extremism ... "If we cannot bring about peace within our borders, how can we expect to achieve it outside them? If we learned anything at all from Rabin's assassination, it is that reason and understanding must prevail over irrationality and fear."

Jewish Life

Young people search for honesty

[Cont'd. from page 12]

between your eyes." (What about the major crimes of which the judge is guilty?)

We parents and rabbis are the judges of our children – the guides and teachers, those who pass final judgment on them. The same yardstick that applied to our ancient judges must be applied to us as parents.

Youth is searching, almost begging, for a bit of honesty, sincerity and meaningful experiences to give them a sense of fulfilment and direction in life. The young people who "turn off" and "cop out" are not really stupid or crazy; some are quite intelligent and even brilliant. They are using their familiar "show and tell" to proclaim their complete disgust with the prevailing false values.

Their bitterness and rebellion are directed against parents, because in their children's eyes, parents bear a major share of the guilt for the unhappy world situation, for the corruption of the leaders of government and society, if not for approving and being part of the hypocrisy, than for their silence in the face of all the wrongs. By their long hair, their strange clothes, their drugs, and their earrings, these unfortunate youngsters honestly believe they will pierce the armor of self-righteousness of the establishment.

I see but one course for humanity: parents must face reality. They must take stock of their spiritual and moral values. To draw their children back to reality, parents must be the fountainheads of integrity. They must practise what they preach and erase double standards from their conduct in business, religion and social relationships. There must be a wholehearted return to our Father in Heaven, with a commitment to real Torah observance, and in turn the Almighty will surely repay by returning your children to you.

Rabbi Stern is the spiritual leader of the Shaarei Tefillah Congregation in Toronto.

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UJA FEDERATION

Internet a vast repository of summer programs in Israel

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Winter is barely a week old and the days are still dark and gloomy, so what better time to think about...summer. If you are a high school or university student looking for a summer program in Israel, then start your hunt on the Jewish Highway. Today, we'll look at programs where you can hone your Hebrew, live the kibbutz experience, rediscover Judaism and dig back thousands of years into Jewish history.

Probably the granddaddy of all Israel programs is summer on kibbutz. To see what is available take a look at the Kibbutz Programs Centre's Summer Program page **[http://www.webflex.com/kibbutz/page9.htm]**.

The various programs range from three to eight weeks in length and emphasize sightseeing, Hebrew studies or just plain hard work. You can find links to other kibbutzim at **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx150.htm]**.

If you were intrigued after reading James Michener's *The Source* or inspired by the work done by Yigal Yadin at Masada, then you may want to spend the summer at an archeological dig. The Israel Foreign Ministry has prepared a comprehensive Web site at **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/archdigs.html]**. You'll find information about the main season for excavations, previous experience needed and the hours (long.)

If work on a dig isn't for you, then maybe you should be a Volunteer for Israel **[http://members.aol.com/vol4israel/index.html]**. This organization will place you at an IDF army base filling duffel bags, washing dishes or building bunkers. At a hospital, you might deliver meals or transport and feed patients. Or maybe you'll even find yourself transplanting seedlings and saplings at the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens.

If you want to stimulate your mind and soul this summer, there are many yeshivot and other educational institutions that offer courses guaranteed to give you a good workout. Many organizations such as Ohr Somayach International **[http://virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/web/jle/geninfo.htm]**, Aish Hatorah **[http://www.aish.edu/index.htm#Vacation]** and Neve Yerushalayim College **[http://www.torah.org/neve/]** offer summer programs. You can find links to other yeshivot at **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/yeshivot.htm]** and **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/6.htm]**.

Halfway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the Gezer Seminar Centre offers a series of stimulating programs **[http://www.gezer-net.co.il/seminarcenter.html]**. The centre, located on Kibbutz Gezer, offers groups programs which explore such thought-provoking topics as Who is a Jew, Kibbutz in Crisis, Jewish State in an Arab World and Eco-Zionism. If you shy away from controversy, there are always courses on pita baking and storytelling.

Also worth a look is Livnot U'Lehibanot — To Build, and to Be Built **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/livnot]**. These three-week and three-month programs based in Jerusalem and Tzvat are offered "to English-speaking Jews committed to sharing an intense group experience while cultivating personal growth."

Still searching? Then don't miss The Israel Experience **[http://www.teenisrael.org]**. This massive site acts as a clearing house for over 130 North American organizations that run youth programs in Israel, many in association with Israel's Youth and Hechalutz Department **[http://www.youth.org.il]**.

Once you've found your ideal program and are over in Israel, you'll probably come across your greatest challenge. Finding time to write home. Why not just send an electronic postcard? The Israel Experience has designed nine Israeli picture postcards that you can e-mail home via the World Wide Web **[http://www.teenisrael.org/postcard/postcard.html]**.

Yes, you will need an Internet connection to send off these cards. But then, you'll never have to worry about stamps again.

* * *

If you're not yet connected to the Jewish Highway but have been looking for an economical on ramp, this may be a very good opportunity. Aish HaTorah has formed an association with an Internet provider to offer the Jewish community in Toronto an affordable connection to the Internet.

For only $12.95 a month, users will have unlimited Internet access. And at the same time you will also be doing a good deed since Aish HaTorah will receive a monthly donation for each Aish user. For more information, call 225-3030.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

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בתחילת שנות השבעים זעזע חנוך לוין את ישראל במחזה "מלכת האמבטיה" שעסק בכיבוש השטחים,בניצול הערבים, ובכל מה שאז נחשב לטאבו. המחזה הורד על ידי קהל הימין שהפריע בו באופן קבוע. עבורי, צעיר בן עשרים וחמש, זו היתה הפעם הראשונה שראיתי אמנות פוליטית במיטבה. במדינה ששולחת את כולם לצבא והם יוצאים ממוסדים לגמרי, זה היה בהחלט בלתי רגיל לראות אנשים צועקים בתיאטרון, או על השחקנים או זה על זה. מאז עזב חנוך לוין את הנושא הפוליטי ועסק בעולמם הפרטי של האנשים הפשוטים, האנטי גיבורים, תוך שהוא מדגיש את העלוב, את הנלעג ואת הנבזי שבחוויה האנושית כפי שהיא קורית בישראל. "הג'יגולו מקונגו" הוא אוסף של סיפורים,פזמונים,מערכונים ותסריטים, כולם בסיגנון האבסורד. כולם מצחיקים/מהממים/מעציבים. אך אחד לא משאיר אותך ניטראלי, הכל בשחור ולבן, בוטה, בדיוק כראוי לחוויה הישראלית. הינה דוגמא, אבל כדאי לקרוא את כל הספר, לאט, בלגימות קטנות:

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נער: לא אוכל, לצערי.

נערה: איזה תירוץ הפעם?

(פאוזה)

נער: יש לי פתק.

נערה: ממי?

נער: מסבי.

נערה: לפני חודש אמרת שסבך מת.

נער: מצד אבי. זה-מצד אמי.

(פאוזה. מוציא פתק מכיסו.)

הנה הפתק: "לכבוד כל המעוניין. חנני לאשר כי נכדי אשר חייצ'ק לא יוכל להשתתף במשך השנה הקרובה בשום פעילות משמחת מפאת האבל על מות סבתו ז"ל. בתודה, שמעון סרדינס..."

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מתי כספי - המופע 1996:

ורה מדווחת מהקונצרט של מתי כספי שרבים מאיתנו החמיצו:

מתי כספי חזר לטורונטו. להופעה אחת אבל בגדול. שינוי מדהים חל בהופעתו מאז הפעם האחרונה לפני שנים ספורות. היה זה דבר ידוע שמתי כספי לא נע בהופעותיו לפני קהל . הפעם הוא נע וזז והיה פעיל מאוד. שנה• בהחלט לטובה . גם שיריו הידועים , המוכרים (מישהוא, מה זאת אהבה, נחליאלי ועוד) קיבלו תנופה מחודשת על הבמה , שנוצרה על ידי ליווי תזמורתי מעולה . 5 נגנים מכל קצוות תבל ניגנו במקצועיות עם מתי שבעצמו ניגן בקלידים ובגיטרה לסרוגין. שירים חדשים שכתב לאחרונה במקום מושבו לוס אנג'לס, שונים מאוד ממה שהיכרנו עד כה, זכו לתגובות נלהבות מצד הקהל. כמובטח במודעות שנתפרסמו היו שם גם שירים בקצב הסבמה ושירים בפורטוגזית כשלצידו של מתי שרה זוגתו רחל. את המילים אולי לא כולם הבינו, אבל הקצב היה כצפוי סוחף. למתי יש חוש הומור מיוחד מאוד והדבר התבטא היטב בהופעתו על הבמה, בדרך בה הגיש את שיריו, בהבעות הפנים שלו ובאילתגרים המוסיקאלים שחלק עם הקהל. חבל שמכירת הכרטיסים היתה חלשה מאוד בטורונטו, כי הוא מוסיקאי מעולה . הדבר נבע כנראה מהפירסומים והשערוריות שגרמו דבר עזיבתו של מתי את ישראל, והשמועה שהמיר את דתו. תוך כדי הופעתו, בצניעות,כדי להשתיק את המלחשים התייחס מתי במשפט אחד לדברים: "עזבתי את הארץ כי נעשה לי עוול, אני ישראלי! ותמיד אשאר יהודי." כך אמר מתי כספי והמשיך בהופעה שהיתה חוויה אמיתית לשוחרי מוסיקה טובה כדאי לכם לזכור זאת לפעם הבאה!

SHMOOZIN

"Our rabbi's employment contract requires the synagogue to provide him each year with a new Tallis – I guess you could call it a fringe benefit!"

Greater Toronto Area

Canadian helps special needs kids in Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Canadian woman living on an Israeli moshav just north of Tel Aviv has turned a room of her home into a central clearing house to help parents of children with special needs.

Toronto-born Audrey Jagoda (known in Israel as Chaya) is the mother of four grown children, two of whom were born with fragile x syndrome, a genetic condition associated with mental retardation.

Her 2-year-old organization, known by the Hebrew acronym *Tzachi* (*Tzachanei Chinuch Yechudi*, or customers of special education) brings together parents representing about 20 special interest organizations.

Its main goal is to help parents get the best education for each child, including the physically handicapped and the gifted, Jagoda said.

With the exception of a two-year stint in Toronto in the 1970s, Jagoda (née Mandell) and her sabra husband have lived in Israel for the past 33 years.

Ilan, their oldest son, is considered high functioning. He works in a small hardware store on the moshav and enjoys contact with "regular people."

As a child, he had attended a special education school in Israel,

Audrey Jagoda

but on moving to Toronto, he was placed in a special class within a regular public elementary school, Jagoda recalled during a recent visit.

When they returned to Israel, Ilan refused to go to his former school. Although his mother fought to have him placed within a regular school, at the time "it just wasn't done," she said.

Over the years, more options have become available in Israel for kids with special needs, and Jagoda has been involved in a number of the changes.

Although her youngest child finished school two years ago, Jagoda felt she still had much to offer younger parents of children with special needs, and they encouraged her to remain involved.

Jagoda was among a group of parents who successfully lobbied for Israeli law reform in the 1980s so that all education-related needs would come under one authority. They were also instrumental in having parents become involved on placement committees.

"My job was to find parents all over the country," said Jagoda. "There are over 200 placement committees in Israel."

Jagoda was also active in advocating that the system give credence to parental expertise. "You have to listen to the parent."

If parents insist that their child be placed in a regular classroom setting, perhaps with extra support, 30 to 50 percent will be proven right if given the opportunity, Jagoda said. The rest will find it easier to accept their child's limitations and move on, she added.

Although Jagoda's son Ilan had no such options and her third child, Oren, was "fine" in a school for the mentally retarded, Jagoda has worked to ensure that children today have more options.

While recent budget cuts within the public education system in Israel have caused some concerns, Jagoda noted that physically handicapped children are being well served. She is not convinced, however, that plans to integrate an increasing number of kids with special needs into regular classes is the optimum solution.

In the past few years, a number of new private schools for children with hyperactivity or dyslexia or other learning disabilities have opened in Israel, Jagoda said.

With contacts across the country, she gets about four phone calls a day from parents seeking schools, programs or organizations for their children

Jagoda can be reached at Tzachi, P.O. Box 80, Moshav Udim, Israel 42905, by e-mail at [avir__rom@netvision.net.il], or by phone at 011-972-9-8655203.

Books on Jewish surnames honor Chinsky's memory

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two volumes on the history of Jewish surnames in Poland and Russia were presented to the Jewish Public Library recently by the Savoy Club to honor the memory of Joe Chinsky, an active volunteer for many community agencies.

"He will have a share in the world to come because he knew how to make people laugh," said Rabbi Zigmund Wolkenstein in accepting the two large volumes for the library's shelves, where they will be available to the public.

The Savoy Club is comprised of Jewish men who were involved in the Jewish Boys Club and other social groups in the 1930s, many of whom served in World War II overseas, as Chinsky did in the RCAF.

"He didn't have an enemy in the world and in this day and age that's saying quite a bit," said Bill Stern, a Savoy Cub member, who along with Solly Cantor, organized the event.

In accepting a special plaque from the Savoy Club, Miriam Chinsky, his wife, a writer for *The CJN*, said the volumes were a fitting memorial for her late husband, whose second home was a neighborhood public library in Cabbagetown, where he grew up.

Among those attending were three of Chinsky's sisters, Rene Shapiro, Dorothy Teplinsky and Vivian Hornfeld.

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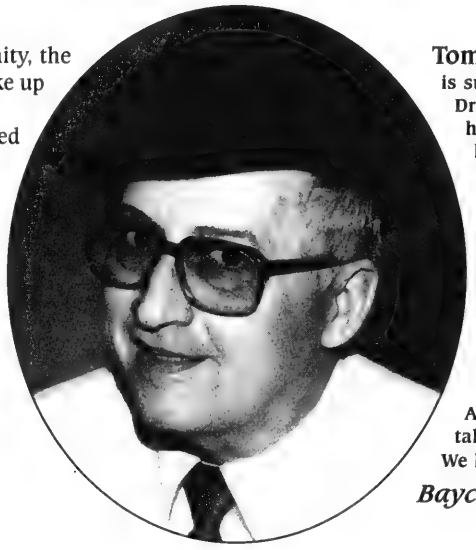

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Greater Toronto Area

Disability fails to stop Boles from helping others

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — When a touch football accident in 1967 left Lewis Boles paralyzed below the shoulders, he was determined that his disability would not prevent him from enjoying life.

"My parents made me realize that there is more to life than moping. They encouraged me to look beyond my limitations and reach my potential," he says.

Boles, 47, recently received one of seven awards given by the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry Foundation at its fourth annual Courage to Come Back dinner. The awards honor individuals throughout Ontario who have triumphed over illness, injury or addiction and have used the experience gained during their recovery to help others in the community.

Two years after his accident, Boles, previously a pre-med student, returned to university to study computer science and computers. In 1980, he worked with students at Queen's University and with technicians at Kingston General Hospital to develop programming for personal computers to help improve the lives of people with disabilities.

"I owed a lot to the community and knew that there were many people with disabilities or limitations who could benefit from my knowledge and skill," he says. "I wanted others to develop their potential."

Now a resident of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Boles works part-time as a computer programmer in an office partly furnished by his employer and set up in the hospital. The rest of his time is spent helping individuals and groups use current and emerging technologies to enhance the quality of their lives.

"I want to continue to help people with disabilities gain independence, choice and control so they can make their own decisions and decide their own directions," Boles says.

A pet project is his work on the Shared Accommodations committee which is studying the possibility of moving some of the hospital's residents to homes in a co-op community specially designed for people with disabilities.

"Queen Elizabeth has tentatively offered us a house and we are now planning the necessary renovations in order to make the house accessible," he says.

"Chronic care is changing. People with disabilities would like to be out in the community where there is more choice in their lifestyle. I know it is a risk to leave the hospital, but it is a responsible risk."

At the hospital, Boles has served on the personal computers for patients committee and the quality improvement initiative committee. He is also past president and treasurer of the patients council. As well, he has advised the Toronto public library on adaptive technology to improve access for people with disabilities and serves on the Interface Advisory Committee Panel, made up of a group of consumers who advise Bloorview MacMillan Hospital on policies, procedures and future directions.

Silken Laumann, Lewis Boles and Andy Barrie.

Preparing for his bar mitzvah at Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, Mel Kirzner, 54, with his father, Ben, 81, and Beth Porter, of L'Arche Daybreak community, where Kirzner lives.

A bar mitzvah at 54

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Mel Kirzner was recently bar mitzvahed at the age of 54, it was another example of the cooperation and good feeling that exists between a synagogue and L'Arche Daybreak, a Christian community that is open to people of all faiths with disabilities.

"We feel privileged when Mel and others join our services, we get more from them than we give," said Gary Farb, chair of Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, an egalitarian congregation that meets in rented quarters on Marlee Avenue.

Kirzner lives in one of the 11 homes in Toronto and Richmond Hill run by Daybreak, a community founded by Jean Vanier, son of a former governor general of Canada.

She was there along with Mel's family, some of whom had come from Vancouver, when he was called before the Torah and recited the *brachot*.

The first one to rush up and hug him exclaiming, "You did it, Mel," was his friend Ellen Weinstein, a resident of the Richmond Hill L'Arche house, who celebrated her bat mitzvah in the same synagogue two years earlier. It was Ellen's father, Harold, who, along with members of Kehillat, was one of Mel's coaches. For more than a year, they used tapes to prepare him for the ceremony.

Dr. Leba Lesk, a member of the shul, said Ellen often opens the ark at services.

"When Mel was 13 I knew a bar mitzvah was not a possibility," said his father, Ben, 81. "When I first heard about this, it was beyond me, something I never expected."

When he first went to Daybreak 23 years ago, after the death of his mother, Kirzner was in a shell, his father said. "But at Daybreak he started to talk."

"Mel is an incredible guy," said Bernie Farber, a Canadian Jewish Congress officer, who knew him from his social worker days in Ottawa. "When I first met him again in Toronto he could recall in the most fascinating detail little events that brought us together."

Though legally blind, Mel is able to negotiate the subway, memorizing the order of the stops and travels from his East York home to his work at the Daily Harvest Food Bank.

'Mel's an incredible guy'

"It was Mel who decided on his own that he wanted a bar mitzvah," said Beth Porter, chair of Daybreak's ecumenical and interfaith committee, who often attends services at Kehillat Ahavat Hesed on her own or with members of the L'Arche community. She is a member of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Christian-Jewish Dialogue.

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Greater Toronto Area

Mazon Canada reports record in '96

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Perhaps it was the Cranbrook Food Bank Society in British Columbia. Maybe it was the Jewish Family Services agency in Calgary. Or perhaps its was one of 86 other recipient organizations that helped Mazon Canada reach a historic milestone when its total allocations since 1987 reached the $1 million mark.

Mazon Canada distributed $228,980 in 1996, its best year ever and $74,330 more than its previous high water mark in 1995.

For most organizations, increased figures herald good times and feelings of satisfaction, but in the case of Mazon Canada, it's an indication of greater need and hunger across Canada.

"We're getting more organizations calling and more organizations that are desperate," said Lori Burke, Mazon's executive director.

Some food banks that have seen their government funding dry up completely have been forced to seek other sources of income, she said. She pointed to the Victoria Park Breakfast Club in Toronto as an example of an organization that approached Mazon Canada for the first time, with "a desperate plea." Victoria Park received $4,000 in 1996 from Mazon Canada.

Although Mazon Canada has experienced a steady growth in allocations every year, it saw a jump of approximately 50 percent in its fall 1996 allocation, from $70,050 in 1995 to $138,500 in 1996.

Burke said much of that is attributable to money raised at kosher food fests in Montreal in the last two years, with some of the funds raised in 1995 finally allocated in '96. In addition, Mazon Canada has received larger donations during its High Holy Day drive and its donor base across Canada has increased.

Described as "a Jewish response to hunger," Mazon Canada raises funds through voluntary contributions and distributes them twice yearly to grassroots organizations like food banks. The funds are allocated to a variety of groups across Canada on a non-denominational basis. Tomchai Shabbos in Toronto received the largest single amount, $4,500, while $500 was the smallest contribution.

Mazon Canada employs a number of fundraising techniques, including solicitation through synagogues and sale of place cards and greeting cards.

Professor describes control of matter with lasers

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Paul Brum

TORONTO — How does one get nature to do what you want it to do instead of what it wants to do?

That was the question posed by Paul Brumer, University of Toronto chemistry professor and project leader of the Ontario Laser and Lightwave Research Centre, at the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science's recent national and Toronto chapter annual meeting held at the Sutton Place Hotel.

Brumer, who received his PhD in Chemical Physics at Harvard University, spoke on Controlling Matter with Lasers: A Major New Technology for the 21st Century.

Brumer has a long association with the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, where he has spent a total of 2½ years over the past 24 years. During that time he has collaborated on an ongoing basis with the institute's Prof. Moshe Shapiro of the Chemical Physics department.

In his keynote speech, Brumer explained that the "matter" referred to in the title is "comprised of molecules and atoms. There are a billion billion trillion atoms in each little piece of material."

More importantly, he added, matter can undergo chemical change, in which it breaks apart into different pieces. "A commonplace situation is that one of the things is something you want, and one is something you don't, so it's been chemistry's goal forever to make more of what you want and less of what you don't want."

There now exists an effective means of controlling molecular motion with lasers, said Brumer. Proposed technological directions have implications in the pharmaceutical industry, the communications industry and in the production of fine chemicals. "It creates a myriad of applications," he said.

* * *

Sharon Zuckerman and Jay Alan Smith continue as president of the national society and president of the Toronto chapter respectively.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan 2, is deadline for Jan. 16 issue and Thursday, Jan. 9, is deadline for Jan. 23. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829

Saturday, Jan. 4

LUNCH AND LEARN

Lunch and Learn at Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz guest speaker **Dr. Eddy Breuer** speaks on Orthodoxy Confronts Modernity: A Variety of Traditional Responses. Services at 9 a.m., preceded at 8:30 by weekly parshah by **Rabbi Jay Kelman**. Lunch follows services. Reservations **Marlene Markus** 635-9287.

Sunday, Jan. 5

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

Yiddishland Cafe, highlighting the songs of folk poet **Mordecai Gebirtig** who perished in the Holocaust, features **Batsheva, Martin Van de Ven** and **Sasha Luminsky**, 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $10 in advance, $12 at door. 488-0106 or 783-5819.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Habonim Breakfast Club presents **Sarah Taibe-Carlen,** professor of sociology York University, who talks about Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jews in Our Community, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Older Women's Network, North York chapter, book discussion group share views and ideas about *Cracking the Armour* by **Michael Kaufman**,1:45 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling 7:30 p.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Jan. 6

ABOUT DIABETES

Jewish Diabetes chapter, Canadian Diabetes Association, (CDA) meeting, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Topic: Diabetes and Stress Management, guest speaker Public Health nurse **Nancy Rogers** CDA members $1, non-members $2. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Screening of Chapter IV of Israeli documentary *Pillar of Fire*, introduction and commentary by **David Goldberg** of the Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7:30 p.m, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am.

Tuesday, Jan. 7

LA FRATERNITE BB LODGE

B'nai Brith's French lodge La Fraternité monthly meeting, 8 p.m., 15 Hove St. , B'nai Brith Building. Topic in French: The Jewish Question,To Be and Not To Be – That is the Answer. 255-6086.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

HOMELESS IN TORONTO

Holy Blossom Temple social action committee program, Homeless in Toronto, features **Rabbi Dow Marmur, George Chester** of Out of the Cold Coalition, **Susan Bacque** from City of Toronto Housing Department and a former shelter resident. 7:30 p.m.

AISH HATORAH

The Revealed Soul series, Uncovering the Mystery of the Breath and Dust, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel,** 8-9:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clarke Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Shvat celebration, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 7:45 p.m. followed by shiur with **Reena Zeidman**, chiar, Jewish Studies, Queen's University. Topic Kol Isha – A Voice of Ascent.

EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP

Kathy Haney leads a workshop on Japanese punch needle art embroidery (bunka) at Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. **Janet** 225-2002 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

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[Cont'd. on page 19]

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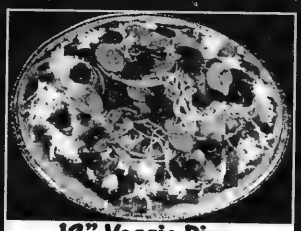

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

attend the Association of Jewish Libraries meeting, 8 p.m., Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto library, 200 Wilmington Ave. 635-1749.

MESSIANIC IDEA

Rabbi Joseph Kelman speaks on How the Messianic Idea Can Make for a Better World, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

And What Else Is New

PHILOSOPHERS & TORAH

The adult study committees of Adath Israel and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am congregations present Philosphers and Torah Commentators, **Prof. Martin Lockshin,** six sessions, Mondays 8 p.m. At Adath Israel, Jan. 27 (Rashi, 1040-1105); Feb. 3 (Rambam, 1135-1204); Feb. 19 (Rashbam, 1085-1175). At Beth David, Feb. 17 (Abraham ibn Ezra, 1092-1167); Feb. 24 (S.R. Hirsch, 1808-1888); March 3 (Nahum Sarna, contemporary).

TINY TREASURES

Programs at Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Information/registration **Shterni Rosler** 905-731-5347 or 905-731-7000.

Morning Mom and Tot program, ages 14-30 months, Mondays or Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., second session Jan. 6-April 10. $75/session.

New afternoon drop-off program. ages 3-5, 12:15-2:15 p.m. Monday, Creative Movement; Tuesday, Creative Music; Wednesday, Acrobics. $74 per month.

DANCING WITH ANGELS

Shabbat experience, Dancing With Angels, **Rabbi Mordechai Becher** at Ohr Somayach/Thornhill, Jan. 17-18. Friday, Jan. 17, 9 p.m., Look Homeward Angel – Insights Into Living in Today's Israel and What It's Like "Going Home Again." Saturday, Jan. 18, Shabbat kiddush and lunch at noon followed by Not By Angel, Not By Demon, But I Myself – Understanding the Metaphysics of the Exodus from Egypt; during Shalosh Seudos, 4:30 p.m., An Angel on My Shoulder – Understanding Good Luck, Bad Omens and Signs from Above. All events free. Registration/prepayment for lunch program, $12 adult, $8 child. 905-886-5730.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

At Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast program past president of brotherhood **Michael Cole,** reviews **A.B. Yehoshua's** latest book, *Open Heart.* Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

YAD BEYAD

Yad beYad is a unique adult volunteer program in Israel. Teach conversational English to new immigrant during July. For orientation evening, call **Sheila** 445-4554 or **Katy** 221-7384.

SINGLES EVENT

Adath Israel Synagogue singles group, 35-55, single's event Thursday, Jan. 16, 8 p.m. Guest speaker **Judge Morley Wolfe's** topic is Farrakhan: Friend to Some, Foe to Others. $5 pre-paid reservations, synagogue office 635-5340 until Wednesday, Jan. 15. $7 at door.

TODDLER TIME

Drop-in for toddlers and caregivers at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, Wednesdays beginning Jan. 8, for 10 weeks, 9:10-10:25 a.m. for ages 1-2; 10:35 a.m.-12:05 p.m. ages 2-3. Jewish festivals and customs through arts and crafts, songs, stories, creative movement and play. $50. Minimum number of participants required. **Debbie Dash** 633-5500.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services, Shacharit 8:30 a.m., Minchah, Maariv 4:45 p.m., Shabbat 9 a.m. preceded by Torah study with **Reb Gershon Samonovitz** Call **David** 256-1600.

SHABBATON

Chabad Lubavitch presents Intimacy and Ecstasy, The Art of Relationships, **Rabbi Manis Friedman** Jan. 24-26, Maple Lake Resort, Muskoka.Topics: The Sanity and Sanctity of Marriage; Intimacy with G-d: Is He Really With Me?; Interacting With Society: Where Do I Fit In? Winter sports, children's programs. $150/adult, children under 5 free, ages 5-15 $50. 905-731-7000.

SJA ONEG SHABBAT

Secular Jewish Association Oneg Shabbat, Friday, Jan. 10, 7:30 p.m., Don Mills Foundation, 1 Overland Dr. Non-members $8/adult. 364-7002.

DIVORCE

Jewish Family & Child Service group, Divorce, It's Not My Idea – leaving behind feelings of loss and grief, responding to anger/depression in new ways, building new relationships with children and friends, begins Tuesday, Jan. 14, Promenade branch, Suite 318. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT

Colleen Friedman, specialist in creative movement and modern contemporary dance at Koffler Centre School of Dance, offers a fun and learning class for children (boys and girls) ages 6-8, beginning Sunday, Jan. 12, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Studio 201. Children create a theatrical presentation for school's annual showcase at Leah Posluns Theatre. 636-1880, ext. 358.

SUNDAY YIDDISH CLASS

Yiddish beginners class Sundays 9:30-11:30 a.m., Associated Hebrew School, 250 Finch Ave. W. **Richard Basset** teaches Yiddish conversation, grammar, culture through songs, poetry, humor. **Sam Blatt** 651-8500. Call about other daytime and evening classes as well.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups – Single Again: Building a New Life begins Jan. 22; Parenting the Difficult Teens begins Jan. 16. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

AND CANADA

AND Canada (Association for the Neurologically Disabled) provides in-home stimulation and rehabilitation therapy programs for disabled children and adults. 1-800-561-1497.

For Seniors

If you like to sing, make people happy, play the piano to accompany singers, then The Entertainers of the **Wagman Centre** is for you. 785-2500, ext. 2267.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Jan. 2 is the movie *Justine* and Jan. 9 is bingo. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for the March 5-26 vacation trip to Israel which includes 10½ days of touring. Orientation to be announced shortly. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Senior Chaverim meeting Monday, Jan. 6, 1:30 p.m. **Cantor Tobias Gabriel** speaks on Bagels and Tequila, an overview of our Latin-American Jewish Community.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: *Ragtime* Wednesday, Feb. 12. Membership open $12 for 1997. *395-7881.*

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Prevention and Early Detection of Cancers in Women, with nurse **Judy Macphail** from Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, Thursday, Jan. 2, 1:30 p.m.

Fitness class, **Hanna Weil,** Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m., Jan. 7-March 10. 10 sessions $10 members, $30 non-members.

Working Together for Change group for women over 55 who have been or are in relationships that hurt. New 10-week session begins in January. Offered by La'Briyut Wellness Centre, Awareness Project for Abuse of the Elderly, and Jewish Family & Child Service. **Sheila Zane** or **Sharon Zeiler**

Lifelong Learning Institute presents Political 'Isms: Concepts and Ideologies, **Sidney Soban,** Tuesdays 10-11:30 a.m., Jan. 7-Feb, 25. Members $1, non-members $3. **Bookie Kwart.**

Personal Economics in the '90s, financial advisor **Nick Dodds** Mondays, 1-3 p.m. Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27. Members $4, non-members $8. Register at Information Desk.

Courses offered in partnership with North York Board of Education Continuing Education beginning the week of Jan. 6 – Crafts (painting, pottery, sculpture); Ballroom Dancing; Intermediate Bridge; Hebrew Bible Study, Intermediate Hebrew; Discussion Group (Jewish Literature and Film in the 20th Century); Creative Choir.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m.Wednesdays. Jan 8 program is an Israeli movie. **Anna**

at the JCC/BJC

BJC Senior Adult Services courses co-sponsored by North York Board of Education, starting week of Jan. 6 - Bridge; Tai Chi; Needlecrafts; Ballroom; Yoga; Line Dancing. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

Bookings being taken for February and March for BJC "No Stress, No Mess Birthday Parties" 636-1880, ext. 248.

BJC Centre Camp early bird registration (10 percent discount on camp fees) continues until Jan. 31. 636-1880, ext. 378.

January preschool programs for ages 6 months to 5 years – Fun Centre Antics; Toddler Times; Science and many others. Register. 636-1880, ext. 248.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club meeting Thursday, Jan. 9, 2 p.m., features photographer **Janet Trost** discussing her photodocumentary on seniors. View her photos and if you like, pose for her. **Judy** 924-6211.\

About People

CANADIAN FRIENDS , TAU

Montrealer **Lawrence Bessner,** one of the co-founders of Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, was re-elected president of the organization at the 24th annual national meeting held in Montreal. **Albert J. Latner** of Toronto is honorary president and **Prof. Maxwell Cohen** of Ottawa is honorary solicitor.

Other officers on the slate included **Marcel Adams,** Montreal, chairman of the board; **Earl A. Agulnik,** Montreal, treasurer; **Marvin Fox,** Toronto, secretary; **Marty Goldberg** for Toronto, **Gerald Soiferman** for Montreal, and **Arnell Goldberg** for Ottawa, vice-presidents; **Barbara Seal** of Montreal, who chaired the nomination committee, was re-elected vice-president, administrative.

Three others named by the board are **Annie Adams** of Montreal, chair for international conferences; **Ralph Snow** of Toronto, as audit, and **David Hazan** of Montreal as interior auditor controller.

HIAS BOARD

Torontonian **Sandra Atlin** has been elected to the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) board of directors. Currently a member of the board of directors and executive committee chair at the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society of Canada, she is also actively involved at United Jewish Appeal/Federation, Holy Blossom Temple and National Council of Jewish Women.

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Teacher stresses importance of healthy eating habits

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Nancy Weisbrod teaches her students and her family to take responsibility for their own health.

A mother of five, Weisbrod has come up with the concept of Cooking for the Here and Now — Healthy Alternatives for the Whole Family.

"I look at health as not only physical but emotional and spiritual and the kind of cooking I practise and teach satisfies those needs," says Weisbrod.

With emphasis on high-fibre foods, she stresses the value of vegetarianism, although she does include a small amount of meat in her family's diet.

"On the emotional level, you are working with earthy, sensual ingredients that look beautiful when presented and you get the added bonus of knowing that you are preparing healthy meals," she says.

Spiritually, she adds, you are relating to a diet that your ancestors subsisted on. "Grains and beans are ancient and they are mentioned in the Torah."

On the physical level, she notes, you don't have to look further than what numerous nutritionists are telling us.

"Beans and grains have almost no fat and they are a high quality of protein when eaten together." This mutual supplementation or complementary proteins theory is seen in every culture with variations, she says. One example is the Jewish tradition of making kasha with bows.

Healthy living teacher, Nancy Weisbrod with her son.

Weisbrod, who received her bachelor of education at York University, graduated from the Cordon Bleu Cookery School in England and took a nutrition course through the University of Guelph. She taught at the Leo Baeck Day School and gave cooking classes in several community programs.

She owned and operated a catering business and created recipes and new food items for a number of companies.

Actively involved in the community, Weisbrod completed a Leadership Development Program at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and she is a founding president of the Village Shul and Learning Centre.

Over the past few years, a number of Weisbrod's friends have expressed concerns about their diet and come to her for advice.

"They were looking not only for a change in diet, but a change in the whole concept of what it means to nourish. If we must eat, then let's learn to eat in order to fulfil ourselves and our loved ones."

When her friends asked her to teach them her method of cooking and meal planning, she created classes that emphasize interesting, nutritious, meatless dishes.

"Many people feel intimidated about vegetarian meals, but many of our parents were brought up on kasha and millet. I am bringing it into the '90s," she says.

Weisbrod refers to the Canada Food Guide, which she says is a pyramid that has grain as the base, followed by beans, vegetables and fruits, with dairy products, meat, eggs, fish and nuts in small quantities.

"There is a marketing problem with healthy eating," she says. "We must change our habits. We must learn to enjoy the taste."

Working from her home, Weisbrod believes in small classes and a hands-on approach to meal preparation.

"You have to work with the ingredients. Your kitchen should be your laboratory, for that's where you develop your good health habits."

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Cucumber Salad	$2.75

Soups

Daily Soup (All Vegetable)	$3.25
Cabbage Borsht	$3.25
Chicken Soup with Kashe	$3.25

Main Courses

Chicken Breast Sandwich on a Kaiser Bun	$7.95
Chicken Breast Salad with Dijon Dressing	$9.95
Garden Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette	$6.25
Tuna Salad and Twister Bagel	$5.95
Lite Cream Cheese on a Twister Bagel	$3.75
Vegetable Loaf Platter with Carrots and Kashe	$9.95
Grilled Breast of Chicken Platter with Carrots and Kashe	$10.95
Cold Roast Turkey Sandwich	$5.95
Baby Beef Sandwich Lean	$5.95

Desserts

Fresh Fruit Salad with Mohn Cookie	$3.95

Nutritional Fact: The average woman should consume 70 grams of fat per day, and the average man, 95 grams

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POMEGRANATE GUILD

The Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles of Toronto recently presented a six-panel needlework mural as a gift to Baycrest Centre. Guild members and coordinators of the project Sarah Silver (foreground) and Sue Krivel stand beside one of the panels.

From coast to coast

CJC explores use of civil courts in war crimes

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) might use the civil courts against alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada, if Ottawa doesn't show more resolve to pursue them, according to CJC spokespersons.

The warning came after U.S. private investigator Steven Rambam met with CJC and RCMP officials here. Rambam handed over to them six audio tapes that he said constitute hard evidence of confessed participation in atrocities against Jews.

One of the tapes, played later that evening to an audience of 500 at the Beth Israel Beth Aaron Synagogue that included many Holocaust survivors, contains an admission by Antanas Kenstavicius of British Columbia that he helped round up 6,000 Jews in Lithuania before they were put in a pit and shot.

Kenstavicius, who is now 90 and lives in Hope, B.C., is facing a deportation hearing this month. CJC first gave the Canadian government information on him in 1949.

"If the RCMP and the Justice Department don't do something, we will go civilly," said CJC national community relations director Bernie Farber at a press conference earlier in the day.

Rambam, 39, added a warning at the synagogue: if the Canadian government does not act by March on his tapes, which the RCMP promised to analyse, he would publicly reveal all the names of the 60 suspected Nazi war criminals he surreptitiously taped over a two-year period in Canada, as was reported in a major story in the Nov. 22 *Jerusalem Post*.

Rambam said these 60 men admitted to him that they were members of units who murdered Jews. Seven of them told him they had personally killed Jews.

He said about 20 of his interviews (Rambam had 157 names in all supplied by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israel office) took place in Montreal.

Speaking to reporters including producers from *60 Minutes* and later at the synagogue, Rambam said he was sure he would have to expose the names, since he saw no sign that Canada yet had the "political will" or the moral backbone to act.

"I left that meeting knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt that nothing would be done with those tapes," Rambam said.

He was furious that Paul Vickery and Jean Dubé, respective heads of the federal government's and the RCMP's war crimes units, did not personally come to Congress to accept the tapes, as they had promised.

Irving Abella, a former CJC president who now chairs its war crimes committee, however, seemed more hopeful.

"I'm more sanguine," he said. "We hope Steve Rambam's information will embarrass the government into action," he said, "and put a little fire in their belly."

Rambam, as well, was critical of the Jewish community for not galvanizing itself into action.

"No one will do anything for the Jews but the Jews," Rambam told the synagogue audience. "If you don't do something, all these people will escape justice."

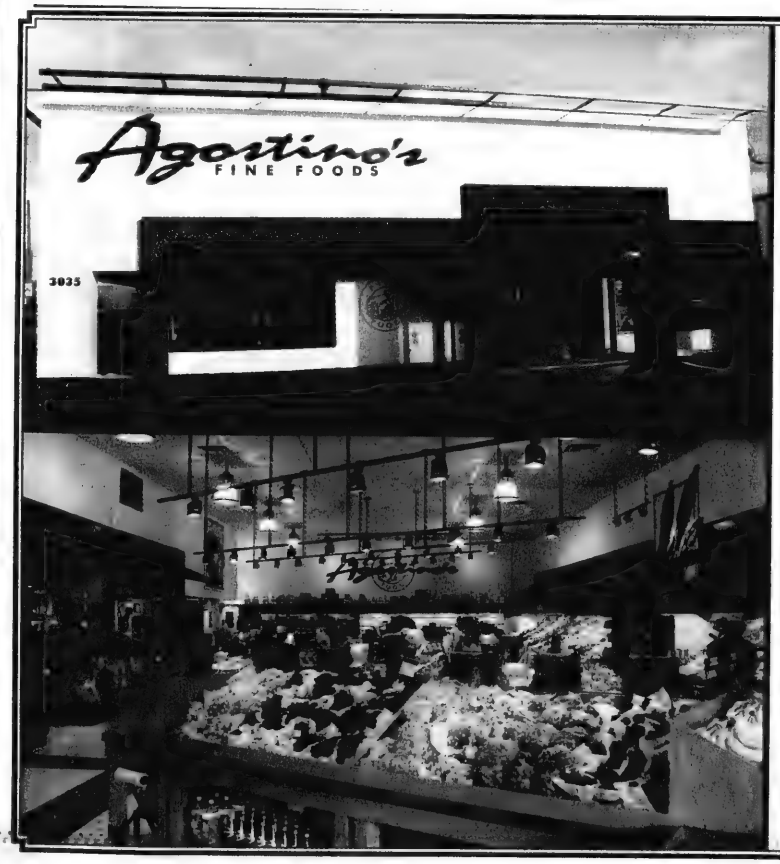
According to Rambam, Canada is harboring anywhere from 2,000 to 3,000 Nazi war criminals, 90 percent of them in the Toronto and Montreal areas.

Although Rambam told *The CJN* that Jewish organizations in Canada could have adopted his tactics 20 years ago, he also praised CJC for providing him with its "unequivocal support."

Rambam was accompanied during the day by the two *Post* reporters who broke the story – Steve Leibowitz and expatriot Montrealer Robert Sarner – and by the director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israeli office, Efraim Zuroff.

JWI HONORS GETTER

Jewish Women International of Toronto recently honored Dr. Ruth Getter, senior vice-president and chief economist of the Toronto Dominion Bank. Seen at the reception are (from left) Leah Shilling, Woman of the Year chair; Dr. Ruth Getter, Woman of the Year; Barbara Swimmer, president, JWI Toronto.



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From coast to coast

Jewish studies program

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — McMaster University has created a formula that will allow undergraduates to minor in Jewish studies, despite the absence of a formal department.

Prof. Adele Reinhartz, associate professor in the Department of Religious Studies, credits university president Peter George with developing the concept and arranging to have it implemented.

Until now, students with an interest in Jewish studies have been able to take courses only in the university's religious studies department. But with the minor program in Jewish studies, they will be able to choose courses from several other departments as well.

According to Reinhartz, the formula is a perfect way to capitalize on the university's strengths, as "it involves new things as well as drawing on what we've already been doing."

Another initiative recently put in place at the university provides an opportunity for graduate students and faculty to increase their knowledge of Jewish subjects.

Faculty members and graduate students from various departments have formed a monthly, informal study group on topics of Jewish interest, where a research paper is presented at each meeting by one of the participants.

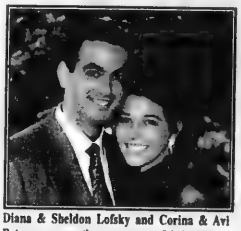
BBYO BEAUHEART CONVENTION

Over 150 youth from Ottawa, Kingston, Kitchener, Buffalo and Rochester converged in Toronto for BBYO's recent 1996 Beauheart convention. Seen here are (top row) Matthew Shulman, beau from Toronto, and Jill Brodsky, sweetheart from Buffalo; and (bottom row) Dahlia Katz, president, BBG N'siah; and Brian Wasserman, president, AZA Godol.

Photos are free for subscribers. A $10 processing fee will be charged to non-subscribers, but this can be applied towards a new paid subscription. We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.



Diana & Sheldon Lofsky and Corina & Avi Batner announce the engagement of their children Marnie to Yoram. Grandparents are Mary & Joe Pallman and Lucy & Joseph Markovits; siblings, Sarit Batner and Stacey & Ari Rosenblum.

Ashley Spegel, daughter of Jody & Marshall, granddaughter of Anne Spegel and the late Phil Spegel and Sookie Wiseman and the late Ben Wiseman, celebrated her bat mitzvah on Nov. 23.

Mazel tov to Saffire Hanna Kranc who turned one on Oct 31. Proud parents are Ben & Tina Kranc and grandparents Allan & Adrienne Young and Harry & Sarah Kranc.

Mazel tov to Noah Guttman on his 90th birthday. Love and best wishes from your children David & Marilyn, grandchildren Natali & Em and Jason, and from the rest of your family and friends.

Mazel tov to Rochelle & Haskell Zabitsky on their 40th wedding anniversary. Love from Sharon, Marty, Adina, Tamar and Leora, Ellen, Jeffrey, Alana, Andrew & Erika, Edward & Liza.

Mazel tov to Katie & Joe Klasner who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Dec 9. Love and best wishes for many more healthy, happy years from your children and grandchildren.

Morris & Elli Slivka celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on Dec. 27. All our love and best wishes for many more happy and healthy years together from your children and grandchildren.

Happy 86th birthday Zayde on Nov. 7. Love from your grandchildren Lisa, Mindy, Jessica, Aaron & Jason.

Mazel tov to Louis & Esther Spring who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 9. Love from your children and grandchildren, Marty & Paula, Karen & Stephen, Anne and Michelle, Shira, Elissa, Adam, Nicole and Melanie.

Mazel tov to Tola & Mel Gotfried on their 50th wedding anniversary from your children, grandchildren and the Ulrich families.

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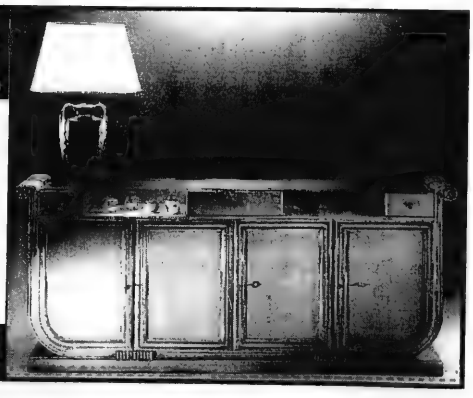


From coast to coast

Teens' drama festival entry focuses on Holocaust

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamilton Correspondent

DUNDAS, Ont. — *Everyone Has a Name*, a play about the Holocaust by two Dundas high school students, will be their school's entry in the Sear's High School Drama Festival in February.

Alana Vertlieb, who is Jewish, and Niduk Nijayasingha, from Sri Lanka, are both 17 and in Grade 12 at Parkside High School. Both had attended seminars on the Holocaust, as well as the drama classes of Emilio del Sordo, who has been teaching a course on the Holocaust for some years. Still, both felt that not enough was being taught about it at school.

"We did a lot of reading and heard stories," they told *The CJN* prior to a recent rehearsal. Polish-born survivor Saul Cohen, a friend of the Vertlieb family, had spoken to the students about his experiences.

The two students began writing the play last February, but it wasn't until Vertlieb returned from the March of the Living trip to Poland and Israel a couple of months later that they proceeded in earnest.

"I felt I really wanted to do something," Vertlieb said. Not just speak to Jewish groups, she said, "but something that was different."

The best way she could express her feelings, she said, was through a play. Also, she added, a play would reach a wider non-Jewish audience.

Vertlieb and Nijayasingha finished the play in October. They did everything themselves – auditioned the cast, produced the play and directed it. As del Sordo pointed out, "they created this entirely by themselves."

The central character of *Everyone Has a Name* is a survivor who recalls scenes from her happy childhood and contrasts them sharply with recollections from Auschwitz. The part is played by Grade 10 student Samantha Waxman, who is 15 years old. Her rendition of a song entitled *Zayde*, from the March of the Living song book, ending with the poignant line "Who will be the Zayde for my children?" is especially moving.

The cast of 20 is impressive and obviously serious about conveying the message of the Holocaust. Original photographs from the era and some by Vertlieb from the March of the Living will be shown on screens on either side of the stage.

The 30-minute play, which ends on a note of hope, lends itself to school productions. It will be performed at Parkside High School, Parkside Avenue, Dundas, Ont. on Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. and on Jan. 12 at 2 p.m. The Jan. 12 performance is by reservation only. Tickets are $4; students and seniors, $2.50. For reservations and tickets call Vertlieb, 905-628-6630.

The Sear's High School Drama Festival takes place Feb. 11 to 13 at Westdale Collegiate, Main Street West, Hamilton.

NEW IMMIGRANTS
Tanya Chernech and her three-year-old daughter Iana, was among 26 new immigrants who recently arrived in Israel from Moldova.

Israel fellowships available

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1997 Bronfman Youth Fellowship in Israel.

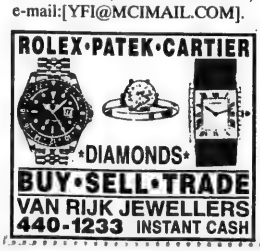
The fellowships, now in their 11th year, offer an opportunity for 26 students entering Grade 12 to spend five weeks in Israel this summer. Fellows will be chosen on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. Merit, not financial need, is the standard for selection.

While living in Jerusalem, the Bronfman fellows participate in seminars and dialogues with the rabbinic faculty, explore Jewish texts against the background of Israel's land, culture and customs; and meet with some of Israel's prominent political and literary figures.

The Bronfman Youth Fellowship in Israel, a program of the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, Inc., begins on June 30, with a two-day seminar in New York City. The students return from Israel on Aug. 5.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 31. Finalists will be notified March 2 and finalist interviews will be held during the week of March 16. Names of the 1997 fellowship recipients will be announced on March 31.

High school students who will be in Grade 12 in the fall of 1997, may obtain application forms and information at the Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur St., Albany, N.Y., 12202; telephone: 518-465-6575; fax: 518-432-8984; e-mail:[YFI@MCIMAIL.COM].



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From coast to coast

Gutkin leaves historical society

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — After nearly 30 years of involvement in the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada and 19 years as its president, Harry Gutkin has stepped down to make room "for new actors with fresh ideas."

"It was time to get off the stage," he says. "It was a good time to leave while the organization is at its height. Ours is Canada's major Jewish historical society. Through our exhibits, collections and books published, the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada has become known nationally and internationally."

The new president is not exactly a new face. Social historian Roz Usiskin has been a vital part of the organization for almost 20 years.

"We were faced with a leadership vacuum," she says. "There are few other people who have been around long enough to know the history of the JHS. I felt obligated to take this on."

The most immediate order of business for Usiskin will be managing the JHS' move into the new Jewish Museum of Western Canada which is opening with the Asper Jewish Community Campus next September. She describes the museum as unique in Canada.

"We also want to strengthen our relationship with the other Jewish historical societies in Western Canada," she says, "and we are preparing for our 30th anniversary in 1998."

As for Gutkin, he will continue to serve the society in an advisory capacity. He and his wife, Mildred, a former professor of English at the University of Manitoba, have a new book coming out in the spring. The 400-page *Profiles In Dissent: The Shaping of Radical thought in the West* is being published by NeWest Press. It was five years in the research and writing.

The Gutkins expect to be spending the next few months actively publicizing the book.

WJCC honors young leaders

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) Young Leadership Awards have special meaning for 1995/96 recipients Faith Kaplan and Jonathon Kroft.

Kroft, who won the Harry Silverberg Award, says his family had a close relationship with the Silverbergs, while Kaplan's Max Nathanson Award was named after her great-uncle.

The awards are given to those who have demonstrated leadership qualities within the community and have devoted time and energy to the WJCC or its beneficiaries.

Kaplan is vice-president of the Combined Jewish Appeal Women's Campaign and has served in several other capacities within CJA. She has also been a board member of the Jewish Historical Society and the local chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

Kroft, a lawyer, is senior vice-president of the WJCC and a member of the CJA cabinet. He is also on the national executive of Canadian Jewish Congress. He is a past-chair of the Manitoba branch of the Canada-Israel Committee.

Kaplan and Kroft, along with other Young Leadership Award recipients from around North America, attended the recent General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in Seattle.

Both say they are honored and delighted to be recognized with the Young Leadership Awards. "There is still a lot of work to be done," says Kroft.

The awards will be presented at the annual WJCC Awards event in June.

Artists & Poets

With the arrival of Passover in the spring, *The CJN* will be introducing a new Literary Supplement. We therefore invite the authors and poets among our readers to submit original and previously unpublished works of fiction, memoir, biography or poetry to us. The works must explore Jewish themes. The fiction cannot be longer than 1,500 words.

You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. *The editor.*

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Netanyahu's long journey to Oslo

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — During their meeting at the Erez junction this week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took a leaf out of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's book.

Analysis

In his meetings with Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, Arafat was fond of talking about the array of opposition forces he faced at home. During their 3½-hour meeting this week, Netanyahu candidly spoke about his own problems within his Likud coalition. He even told Arafat about his own brother-in-law, Hagi Ben-Artzi, who moved to Hebron as a sign of protest against the premier's support for the impending Hebron pullback deal.

Confiding in Arafat and lamenting about his own domestic problems certainly seems unimaginable for someone who earlier this year was denouncing Arafat as a "master terrorist," and who pledged never to meet him. Indeed, with the endless Hebron talks appearing to be on the verge of completion, it now seems evident that Netanyahu has travelled some distance on his own personal journey to Oslo, travelling by way of Hebron. Some officials believe he has done this because he realizes how much is at stake.

One way to look at the Hebron deal is to compare specific components of this deal and contrast it to the one reached by the Labor government. The fair question then becomes whether the differences are great enough to warrant a loss of a half-year and Israel's standing in the region. Such a comparative debate is legitimate. A senior Clinton administration official has put it this way: "Undoubtedly, the longer the delays, the more the costs went up."

However, the significance of a Hebron deal must also be analyzed beyond the contents of the deal itself, namely what it means for Netanyahu and the Likud. Specifically, this marks the first deal between enemies, the Likud and the PLO. No less critically, it signifies the Likud's first territorial concession in the West Bank. Moreover, it is occurring in the one city in the West Bank which resonates with biblical meaning. It also marks Netanyahu's affirmation of the entire Oslo framework — the same Oslo which the Likud railed so bitterly against while in opposition.

In view of these factors, cabinet confusion about this issue is understandable, since the Likud has never sorted out how its old ideas will mesh with the new reality of a post-Oslo world.

Since it is such a departure from the past, one can see that this agreement marks Netanyahu's "on-the-job" training. While one could legitimately ask whether it should occur at the state's expense, the fact is that, as opposed to Uri Savir, Labor's chief negotiator with the Palestinians from the 1993 secret talks in Norway until the middle of this year, who said that he tallied some 3,000 hours of meetings with Palestinian interlocutors, Netanyahu did not know any of the PLO leadership before taking office, and perhaps knew hardly any Palestinians at all. Hence, there was bound to be a learning curve which may not yet be complete, especially since the Likud has held more of an ideological bias against the PLO than Labor did.

Palestinian official Mahmoud Abbas (known by the patronym Abu Mazen) summed up the difficulties of these negotiations when he said recently: "Of course it is harder. We are now trying to make peace with the other part of Israel," which did not back Oslo.

As for settlement expansion, one Netanyahu adviser said, "We don't win when we talk about settlements and ideological issues, but rather when we talk about security."

It is important, he added, that National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who is leading the cabinet fight against a Hebron deal, is seeking to win adherents among his colleagues by making his argument on security rather than ideological grounds.

Settlers have also abandoned the ideological argument, realizing their only chance to win over the public is to speak in terms of personal safety.

Alluding to the Camp David accords, President Ezer Weizman suggested this week that the transition to pragmatism is not simple. "This is not easy for Netanyahu. When I was defence minister, I saw Menachem Begin undergo the same process."

One U.S. official seemed to reflect the view of many when he said he believes that Netanyahu has swung towards a Hebron deal because too much is at stake for Israel. "He's in the big league now," the official said of Netanyahu. "You can be an ideologue in the opposition. But when you are a prime minister, you have to adjust your ideological underpinnings. The world is putting tremendous stock in these talks. You cannot ignore this reality without a paying price in Israel's standing."

Indeed, the world is watching. Israel has much more to lose today than it did in the early '90s. In the wake of Oslo, it now has relations with a good portion of the Arab world, and therefore the risk of isolation and deterioration with unexpected consequences is much more evident. Israel's dependence upon the Pentagon is such that the chill in relations that would follow a halt in the peace process would adversely affect those crucial and increasingly intricate ties.

In addition to Israel's relations with the United States and the Arab world, there is a third set of pressures, neither foreign-related nor economic, but unstated. Specifically, in contradiction to what he believed when in opposition, Netanyahu now seems to believe that halting the peace process won't halt violence, but accelerate it. This is a crucial point.

It seems clear that these three sets of pressures that have brought Netanyahu to where he is now will be accompanying him throughout the rest of the peace process.

Critically, this does not mean that one should expect Netanyahu to always yield. On the contrary, no government can be expected to point out when Israel's vital interests are at risk, such as on issues of tanks, airspace and water.

Yet, short of those situations, having responsibility for a country – as opposed to hectoring from Knesset rostrums in the opposition – means that Netanyahu is finding out that he has to look at the broader picture instead of just the feelings of people closest to him. Vital interests rather than ideology, have brought a reluctant Netanyahu to accept Oslo.

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CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our third annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings about Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different students in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* on March 20. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a cheque for $25.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be too small. Please paint, draw or color bright, bold, colorful pictures. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.
Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 1997.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication as "winners". The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing and the way it tells an aspect of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, March 7, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The "winning" pictures will be published in *The CJN* of March 20, 1997. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Professor calls on rabbis to back political tolerance

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — In November 1995, Prof. Nissan Rubin published an anguished letter, holding the national religious camp partly responsible for the murder of Yitzhak Rabin. The observant Bar-Ilan University sociologist had hoped the open letter — written together with colleague, Prof. Menachem Friedman — would set off a bout of soul-searching in his own camp. But today Rubin is disappointed.

"I had hoped the murder would bring about deep change in the national religious camp. But the conditions for breeding fanaticism are still there.

"The danger of another political assassination exists," he says, noting the measures taken to protect Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "I don't want to believe that it can happen. But I can't rule out that there are other Amirs and Goldsteins out there," he says, referring to Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir and to Baruch Goldstein, who killed 29 Moslem worshippers in Hebron in 1994.

"Rabin's murder was a great shock for many in the religious community. But I don't know if any practical conclusions were drawn from it, particularly in the vital area of education."

In a recent interview with *The CJN*, Rubin blamed the religious educational system in Israel for producing youth with militant views. "Of course, religious education doesn't justify murder," Rubin noted. But he criticized the school system for discouraging pluralism, blurring the distinction between religion and politics, and engaging in political indoctrination of students. He cited state religious schools, yeshivot and ulpanot (Jewish seminaries for girls) and religious youth movements such as Bnai Akiva.

"It is no surprise that many militants come from the national religious camp. It is no coincidence that the demonstrations against the Labor government were attended mainly by Bnai Akiva students enrolled in yeshivot or ulpanot," he asserts. "The division between religion and politics became blurred in their eyes. The educational message they got was political. They were taught that there is an obligation to preserve a Greater Land of Israel — and that they must mobilize for that political goal."

Rubin maintains that opposition to that point of view was not tolerated. "Students were transported to anti-government rallies from school. I know of students who didn't want to attend, but were forced to do so by school authorities."

Rubin adds that not all religious youth hold extremist views. "There are many with moderate views. But this is despite their education — not because of it." He says that his own daughter and her friend stopped attending Bnai Akiva when they found that they were the only teenagers in their group who didn't hold strong right-wing views.

He acknowledges that the Education Ministry officials are discussing the need for more pluralistic education in state religious schools. But Rubin is not optimistic. "It would require a revolution to introduce pluralism into the religious school system," he maintains.

Rubin — who comes from an Orthodox Jerusalem family — identifies with Meimad, the dovish religious movement that broke away from the National Religious Party (NRP) in the eighties. He maintains that the NRP has become more extreme since its rabbis began issuing halachic edicts on political matters. "There is no conflict between democracy and Halachah, but halachic rulings on political matters are not healthy for democracy," he asserts. "That's because the bodies issuing the rulings are not elected, and because religion is absolute. Politics is the art of the compromise. You cannot compromise when you have a halachic edict.

"The NRP can't be flexible because it has to stick to halachic edicts," he argues, calling this an about face for a movement that was historically known for its ability to compromise.

Rubin does not object to rabbis examining political issues from a religious perspective. But he distinguishes between an opinion and an edict. "It is a mistake to give these rabbinical opinions the binding authority of a halachic edict," he maintains. He is especially critical of the 1995 halachic ruling issued by a group of rabbis — including leading members of the national religious camp — calling on soldiers to disobey orders to evacuate settlements. "This was a blatantly anti-democratic order which presented religious youth with a difficult dilemma."

If Rubin speaks harshly of his own camp, it is not because he absolves secular Israelis of all blame for the charged atmosphere in the country. "I live in the religious community so that is what I most care about," he explains. In fact, Rubin says that in the aftermath of Rabin's murder, the attacks by the secular left against the religious right "were all out of proportion. These attacks led members of the religious right to close ranks and justify themselves."

Rubin notes that there is goodwill and dialogue among small numbers of right and left-wing Israelis. But he is worried. "There is a feeling that we're heading too quickly towards a deep schism. I don't know whether these groups of people will succeed in bringing a halt to this process."

The professor hopes that Israel's rabbis will use their moral authority to stem the tide. "I would like to hear 200 leading rabbis issue a powerful, earth-shaking call for political tolerance. It should be a sharply-worded edict prohibiting verbal violence — something as powerful as the ruling against evacuation of settlements. If rabbis are going to issue halachic edicts on political matters, then let them issue one about this."

Wildcat strikes hit Israel

[Cont'd. from page 1]

him in contempt. This followed his violation of an order to limit the strikes in the ports and railroads system to three hours.

Shani was picked up by police after he showed up at a Haifa chemicals demonstration. Histadrut chair Amir Peretz immediately ordered employees in all sectors of the economy to walk out over what he charged was the first ever attempt in the country to infringe upon the right to strike. His call was heeded at Ben-Gurion Airport, banks, the train system, radio and TV, several private plants and, for 20 minutes at the close of the business day, even in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

This came on top of scheduled strikes by Electric Corporation employees, Bezek and the ports, where the work stoppage entered its second week and caused particularly great losses.

The wildcat side of the dispute ended some five hours after it began, when the Tel Aviv Labor Court agreed to let Shani go. Earlier, there were demonstrations in front of the Histadrut offices at Tel Aviv's Arlozoroff Street, complete with burning tires and the halting of traffic.

Netanyahu branded the strike "blatantly political, irresponsible and utterly without any grounds or justification." He added that the "country does not belong to the Histadrut, contrary to what it may think. The state is not its private property."

Representatives of employers' organizations from all sectors of the economy converged on Netanyahu's office on Sunday and urged him to take firm action against the Histadrut, so that foreign investors would not be deterred from dealing with Israel. Many stressed they were not of Netanyahu's political persuasion but that on this issue they sided with him.

The employers wanted the government to seek back-to-work orders from the courts and to enforce them. They said the deductions from employees' pay, which will not be turned over to the Histadrut, will be used as compensation for some of the losses caused by the strike. They also will initiate legal action to win further compensation, they said.

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Red Cross documents reveal knowledge of Nazi atrocities

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — The International Committee of the Red Cross has released a collection of World War II documents showing that the organization knew about the persecution of Jews in Nazi death camps, but felt powerless to speak out.

One of the most startling revelations contained in the records is that the Nazis agreed to let Red Cross workers into German concentration camps in March 1945 to try to ensure the prisoners' safety.

Relief workers took advantage of the disarray within the Nazi regime weeks before its defeat, pleading with concentration camp commanders to allow them access to Jewish inmates, according to the documents, which were given to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

But the arrangement prevented the Red Cross from removing prisoners.

After 18 months of prodding from Holocaust museum officials, the Red Cross recently agreed to change a long-standing policy and open up its wartime records to the public.

The 25,000 microfilmed pages turned over to the museum contain Red Cross workers' firsthand accounts of Nazi atrocities.

Red Cross workers "are the most credible witnesses to these crimes," Miles Lerman, chair of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, said at a ceremony marking release of the documents.

"Your representatives were permitted into the camps and you saw the unbelievable and recorded it and kept it in your files."

The Red Cross has long acknowledged that it knew about the Nazi persecution of Jews.

But the organization has maintained that if it had disclosed that knowledge during World War II, its ability to monitor prisoner-of-war camps on both sides would have been compromised.

"The International Committee of the Red Cross has shared responsibility for the silence of the world community," said Georges Willemin, the organization's archivist. "Could we have gone further? Could we have done more? I don't know."

Lerman said the documents would help answer that question, adding, "How can one be satisfied when a world perished while the other half of the world looked on?"

When asked why it took the Red Cross more than 50 years to make the records available, Willemin said, "It takes time to face your own history."

He added that the decision to release the records "was an important change for an organization that through its history has been inclined to protect the privacy of its records so as not to run any risk of impairing its humanitarian work and its reputation for impartiality and neutrality."

Museum officials have so far only superficially examined the Red Cross records, which are expected to provide details on rescue missions, visits to concentration camps and ghettos, deportation operations and Jewish emigration during and after the war.

The documents will be available at the Holocaust museum and on the World Wide Web early next year. Copies will also be kept at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and at the Centre for Jewish Documentation in Paris.

Netanyahu off to shaky start

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

By the skin of his teeth, Benjamin Netanyahu swept into office six months ago, nudging past the luckless Shimon Peres and making history as Israel's youngest and first directly elected prime minister.

Mideast Analysis

Netanyahu's spin doctors put out the word that he would be a different leader. He would honor the Oslo accords, but insist on "reciprocity." He would bring peace and security and nurture relations with the Palestinians and the Arab states. He would maintain good ties with the United States while expanding settlements in the territories. He would streamline the government and operate on the basis of collegiality and openness.

In retrospect, Netanyahu's record leaves much to be desired. Comparing his campaign statements with his actual deeds, the picture that emerges is that of a government which has fallen short of the mark.

Netanyahu claims that he is committed to the current peace process, despite his obvious disdain for the Oslo agreements. But exactly six months in power, Netanyahu had not advanced the process.

On Dec. 30, however, there were promising signs that Israel and the Palestinians would finally sign a long-delayed agreement on an Israeli deployment from Hebron.

Yet immense challenges lie ahead. Israel and the Palestinians have still not addressed far more complex and existential final status issues like borders, water resources, Palestinian refugees and the status of Jerusalem.

Whatever the reasons, the interminable delays in implementing the Hebron accord are symptomatic of a lamentable breakdown in trust between Israel and the Palestine Authority, led by PLO chieftain Yasser Arafat.

Netanyahu, inexplicably, waited three months before he deigned to meet Arafat in early September. And even after their strained encounter, Netanyahu did not succeed in forging a true partnership with him, as had Yitzhak Rabin and Peres.

Netanyahu's adversarial relationship with Arafat thawed somewhat at the tail end of last autumn's Washington summit, called by the United States to defuse tensions caused by three days of unprecedented Arab-Israeli violence in the territories.

But since then, Netanyahu and Arafat have met only once, and their relationship, such as it is, has been further strained by Israeli announcements that settlements will be expanded and partially subsidized and by Palestinian threats to resume the armed struggle if their goal of an independent state is blocked.

The heretofore lack of movement on the Palestinian front is matched by a dire sense of immobilism on the Syrian track. Efforts to achieve a peace treaty appear doomed by Netanyahu's opposition to the land-for-peace formula and by Syria's insistence on a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. And the sabre-rattling both sides have engaged in has not contributed to calm or regional stability.

The impasse spills over into southern Lebanon, where Israel is fighting a mini war with a Syrian proxy, Hezbollah. Netanyahu's attempt last August to extricate Israel from this morass was a non-starter because he did not seem to grasp the inextricable connection between southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights.

Israel's troubles with the Syrians, as well as with the Palestinians, have had adverse repercussions in the Arab world. Egypt and Jordan - the only Arab states which have signed peace treaties with Israel - have harshly criticized Netanyahu's policies. They do not believe Netanyahu is really serious about peace. And Morocco, Tunisia Oman and Qatar have effectively frozen links with Israel.

As relations with the Arab world unravel, Israel faces the daunting prospect of a renewal of strains with the United States, following a four-year honeymoon. Of late, President Bill Clinton has strongly suggested that the settlements are an obstacle in the path toward peace.

At home, Netanyahu has fared no better. He got off to a rocky start by initially failing to include Likud heavyweights Ariel Sharon and Dan Meridor in his cabinet. And he needlessly antagonized David Levy, the foreign minister, firstly by attempting to exclude Sharon and, secondly, by trying to circumscribe Levy's powers.

Netanyahu, too, has come under fire from frustrated cabinet ministers who've complained about his penchant for secrecy and from senior national security officials who maintain that he has been recklessly disregarding their advice.

And Netanyahu's nationalist credentials have been impugned by cabinet ministers who oppose a deployment from Hebron and by observers who claim that he has ignored Palestinian violations of the Oslo accords.

Finally, Netanyahu's grandiose plans of restructuring the government, through the formation of an American-style National Security Council and a Council of Economic Advisors, have fizzled.

Clearly, the first six months of the Netanyahu era have been inauspicious.

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Israel denies Jordanian proposal

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel denied this week that it had agreed to a Jordanian proposal to make Jerusalem a capital for the three great monotheistic religions.

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy said that King Hussein had not mentioned Jerusalem as a capital of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, in any recent discussions with Israeli officials. Nor had the king sent a specific letter on the matter, Levy said.

He said the king had suggested opening an interfaith dialogue on the future of Jerusalem as a religious centre..

King Hussein's idea "is that religious leaders should meet and have a measure of dialogue about the status of Jerusalem and the holy places," Levy told Israel Radio. "This is not a political statement."

NEW EMBASSY OPENS IN JORDAN

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy unveils plaque last month at the new Israeli embassy in Amman, Jordan. Levy also held talks with King Hussein on bilateral ties and heard Jordanian concerns about the settlement drive in the West Bank. [RNS photo]

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TAB news

Travel Arts & Business

Concert promoters bring Israeli artists to Canada

By LAUREN BLANKSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — On his recent mini-Canadian concert tour, Israeli singer/guitarist David Broza was crammed into a Honda Civic and put up at Best Western Hotels. But he did have a chauffeur, two in fact, and they doubled as his promoters.

The "tour" was the brainchild of Corey Ross, 24, and Dan Freeman, 25, of Corey Ross Productions Inc., a Toronto-based concert promotions company that specializes in bringing Israeli musicians to Canada.

"These guys really love the music," says Broza. "It's not just a business thing for them."

Broza's tour, which travelled to Montreal, Ottawa, London and Toronto, followed by Matti Caspi's concert in Toronto Dec. 14, were the latest of Ross and Freeman's projects.

They brought Noa to Toronto last May. Last winter, before Freeman – a part-time business student – joined the business, Ross brought Broza to Toronto for his first concert here since 1990.

Ross, who has a university degree in theater arts from York University, started CR Productions 1½ years ago.

"I was listening to David Broza [in '90] and decided to phone him at his home and asked him to come to Toronto to perform."

He then knocked on the door of every Jewish organization in Toronto hoping to get some financial support for his new venture but was repeatedly turned down.

"Now Jewish organizations are extremely interested in David Broza and Noa," he says, "but if I try to convince them to help me bring over Rami Kleinstein or someone else new who hasn't been proven in this market before, they're not interested."

Ethnic music scene thriving

The friends have won the support of their clients, however. "We're doing everything we can to help them," says Broza.

Over the winter holidays, the partners planned a show for Broza in Miami – a project Broza says he "threw at them to see what they could do with it."

According to Ross and Freeman, the live music industry in Toronto is in a bit of a slump, but the ethnic music scene is the one area of the industry that is thriving.

There is a heavy financial burden when working with international performers. "For the same amount of money you could do a dozen Holly Cole Trio concerts," says Ross. Not only do you have to fly in the musician and his/her crew, he says, but also "you are dealing with an artist who is a superstar elsewhere and charges prices like a superstar."

Although their hope is "to develop artists to the point where they're performing for thousands rather than a thousand," Ross and Freeman say they recognize that there is a ceiling on the Israeli/-Jewish market and they've started planning future initiatives that involve merging Canadian and Israeli talent.

"What we're trying to offer any large Canadian acts, who are relatively unheard of in Israel, is the option to perform a concert in Canada with either David Broza or whoever else we're working with at the time. Then [they would] go to Israel to perform a concert with the same person," says Ross.

"Someone who could attract 5,000 people here but no one in Israel, will expose David [Broza] to 5,000 new people and vice versa."

The team has pitched their idea to several Canadian performers including Joni Mitchell, the Barenaked Ladies and the Crash Test Dummies. "I'm fairly confident someone will say 'hey a free trip to Israel, some money' and it will happen."

CR Productions has a Web site located at [www.israelmusic.com].

Dan Freeman and Corey Ross

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PESACH on the MOUNTAIN

TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Woody Allen Sings In New Musical Comedy

Cinema

• **Woody Allen's** latest offering, *Everyone Says I Love You*, opens this month in New York. It's a musical comedy – Allen calls it an old-fashioned "champagne comedy" – starring **Goldie Hawn**, **Alan Alda**, **Julia Roberts**, **Drew Barrymore** and **Tim Roth**, and Allen himself in the first role in which he actually sings (a few bars of *Goodbye To Love*).

An in-depth profile in a recent edition of *New Yorker* gives high praise to the film, which is Allen's 26th; he has already started work on number 27, keeping to his Herculean pace of making one film a year since 1969.

"I am both deeply depressed and exhilarated by what he does," film director Sydney Pollack is quoted as saying. "It gives me a terrible headache. If I'm lucky, in my wildest dreams I can make a picture every three years. I don't know how he does it."

The article presents Allen's persuasive defence of his conduct in the scandal involving his continuing relationship with Soon-Yi, now 26, the adopted daughter of his ex-lover **Mia Farrow**. It also explores his historic relations with several women, including **Diane Keaton**. Saying that no human could make him laugh as Keaton does, he told a story about visiting her grannies – or rather, her "grammies" – with her.

"She would say, 'Friday night, it's Grammy Keaton, and then I have to see Grammy Hall on Tuesday night.' She had me over to her house for Thanksgiving. I was sitting around with these grammies. I almost died. After dinner, they bring out a deck of cards and everybody plays penny poker. I'm sitting there with this enormous table…playing penny poker. And they're all looking at me suspiciously, like I have a scheme to take them in the card game. It was a scene I eventually put into *Annie Hall*."

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• The Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture presents an advanced Klezmer music course with instructor **David Buchbinder**, director of the festival and leader of the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**. Eight sessions beginning Jan. 6, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Bloor JCC. Members $100, non-members $130.

As part of the same series, playwright-author **Michael Wex** teaches a course called Adventures in Yiddish – "a fun-filled frolic through the highways and byways of Yiddish words, phrases and expressions" – for four sessions beginning Feb. 6, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Members $45, non-members $65. 416-924-6211.

Drama, Television, Literature

• Stage Centre Productions presents *The School For Scandal*, by **Richard Sheridan**, Jan. 2 to 18 at Fairview Library Theatre, North York. Other plays in its current season are *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* and *Man of La Mancha*. 416-299-5557.

• **Professor E. Newton** lectures on **Michael Ondaatje's** novel *The English Patient* as part of the Cultured Getaways series. York University Senate Chamber, Ross N940, Jan 7, 8 p.m. $15 (in advance). 416-636-0316.

• **Visions of Eden:** *A Jewish Exploration of the Natural World* is an ABC-TV special set to air Jan. 12. The hour-long documentary focuses on the intersection of Judaism, the environment and justice, and offers "a fascinating journey through the Bible and along the Appalachian Trail."

• New York entertainer **Avi Hoffman**, whose two-person revue *Too Jewish?* had people nearly roaring with laughter in the aisles of the Leah Posluns Theatre last spring, is returning to Toronto in March. 416-324-9413.

Competitions & Awards

• Studio 8967, the animation division of Blye-Migicovsky Productions of Toronto, won a gold medal for its one-hour animated special *An Angel For Christmas* at the recent WorldFest Charleston International Film Festival. One of 12 classic family tales and five original stories that the company has produced, the special was based on an original screenplay by **Mark Shekter** and **Sherman Snukal**. Executive producers were **Garry Blye**, **John Migicovksy**, **Shekter** and **Charles Falzon**.

Israeli artist brings show to Toronto

By LAUREN BLANKSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Israeli musician Matti Caspi brought his show to Toronto recently after a 3½-year performing hiatus.

The tour marks Caspi's first return to the stage since he left Israel in a flurry of controversy in 1993. After leaving his native country, where he produced 11 platinum albums of his own as well as 20 albums for other Israeli artists, Caspi spent six months in Toronto before moving to the Los Angeles area where he lives with his new wife, Rachel.

In an interview before the concert, Caspi, a singer, composer, producer and arranger, said that for the past few years he has been preparing musical arrangements for the tour.

"I am influenced by music from all over the world," Caspi said.

He also spent the time assembling his band, which is made up of musicians from the United States, India and Africa, as well as Brazilian-born Rachel who sang with him during the second half of the show.

Caspi also attempted to set things straight about rumors that he had joined a cult and converted. "I will always be Israeli and I will always be Jewish," he said in Hebrew, a statement that was met with thunderous applause from the audience of approximately 600.

Caspi entertained with his wit and playful banter. He alternated between playing the guitar and keyboards and singing in Hebrew nostalgic tunes such as *Somebody, You Have Shown Me The Way, Ho Bi Di Bam Bam* and *What Is Love?*

He gave the crowd a sneak preview of two of his new songs, *Suyanna* and *Shawn*, which will be on his not-yet-released album. He also performed two songs in English – *How Insensitive* and *I've Got You Under My Skin* – as a duet with his wife.

Caspi said an album in English and one in Portuguese are in the works.

Caspi, wife perform in Hebrew, Portuguese

Caspi and his wife performed together in Hebrew and Portuguese, but the Portuguese melodies lacked the spirit of Caspi's Hebrew music.

Prior to the Toronto engagement at the Danforth Music Hall, the concert tour took in Washington, New York and Los Angeles. Over the next few months Caspi and his band will hit Europe and Brazil. In addition, he said he is planning to take the tour to Israel sometime next summer.

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Swept Away At Niagara Falls

The Niagara Falls Visitor and Convention Bureau gave me an envelope filled with complimentary admission tickets to local museums and fun houses, and for a couple of hours I was like a kid again as I visited them all in succession.

The Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Museum, the Guinness Book of World Records Museum, Louis Tussaud's Wax Museum, the JFK Assassination Institute, the Elvis Museum, the wonderfully oddball Niagara Falls Museum – all these were on my list. So was something called the Ripley's Moving Theatre and, prepared for a moving experience, I gave my ticket and waited to be admitted.

There were two shows to choose from, Jurassic Park and the Roller Coaster. I chose the Roller Coaster, having very little idea of what I was in for. "This isn't a real roller coaster, is it?" I asked. "Oh, no, sir, it's just a simulation." I had heard of these simulated rides where the seats tilt a quarter-inch this way or that, giving the occupant the remarkable illusion of great movement.

I should have become suspicious when I took my seat and the usher advised me to do up the seat belt. Likewise when I put my camera bag down on the platform at my feet and she said, "Oh, no, you can't put it there, it'll fly out once the ride starts." I also should have been tipped off by the large handlebar-type grips on each side of the strangely enclosed seat.

Lights out, and the huge movie screen showed the view one would have from a roller coaster just starting to climb up a steep track. Instantly I had an ominous feeling as the seat slowly tilted back. At the crest of the curve, there was a moment of perfect stasis – and then I was thrown violently this way and that, up and down and back and forth, as the roller coaster descended and raced around the devilish course at breakneck speeds.

I considered bailing out of my seat, a somewhat risky proposition given the intensity of the motion, when the scene suddenly shifted to a car rally in the desert. I felt every bump as I bounced over the dirt road at a subsonic clip. A few moments later I crashed into some rocks and was instantly transported to a narrow mountain canyon. The scenes kept shifting until I felt like I was churning in a giant mixmaster.

I turned away, unable to watch anymore, just holding on for dear life. Then I noticed that all the other screaming people in Ripley's Moving Theatre were 17 years old or younger. Blessedly, the ride stopped and I wandered out in a cold sweaty daze. Only then did I see the sign, warning that the ride is not for pregnant women or anyone with back, heart, neck and a variety of other physical and nervous conditions.

Would I go into the Ripley's Moving Theatre again? Sure – right after my next parachute-jumping lesson.

As for the high point of my visit to Niagara Falls, it was the pyramid-shaped IMAX theatre in which I watched an excellent documentary on Niagara in a comfortable seat that stayed put for the entire screening.

* * *

Hotel Happenings: Until March 31, guests staying three nights or more at the Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel (6 Wolfson St.) receive a US $18 credit voucher for each guest-night at the hotel. The accumulated spending money can be used for meals, phones, laundry and all other hotel charges other than the room. Usual all-inclusive rate at the Renaissance is US $65 per person sharing a double room. Phone 02-652-8111, fax 02-651-1824.

* * *

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Consultant helps entrepreneurs 'visualize' their future success

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — When management consultant David Talbot first thought about using visualization exercises with his clients, he was skeptical.

"It won't work," he said of the psychological tool that requires individuals to creatively visualize and describe their future success. "You can't get business people to close their eyes. They're not flower children."

But Talbot tested the tactic during a consultation with Aish HaTorah's board of directors and the results were surprisingly positive. "It was amazing," he says. "It blew me away!"

Ten years later, Talbot has created and developed Business Huddle, an approach to planning and problem-solving meetings that uses both psychology and computer technology. It is a unique system that provides clients with a fast-paced yet thorough brainstorming and strategic-planning session that takes only four to five hours.

To begin, Talbot, who acts as Business Huddle's facilitator, asks the group to pretend it's a year from today and to visualize the organization's success. Although the technique is different from those used in most business meetings, he says it has frequently been applied by sports instructors and drama teachers.

"The whole purpose behind visualizing success is to picture it as if it has already happened. So that's what we do," Talbot says.

Next, each person is required to describe the steps that he or she would take to arrive at this successful situation. What follows is an open exchange of ideas that members are forbidden to criticize or challenge.

Talbot discourages use of abstract terms like "corporate objectives" in order to obtain fresh ideas and immediate responses.

Why I Hate Meetings

Dr. Gordon Laurie, a senior consultant at Hatch Associates who has used Business Huddle on several occasions, said, Talbot "keeps away from the jargon. He doesn't try to define mission statements and cause consternation and confusion by people arguing about what one word means."

Talbot, who worked as a product manager for IBM Canada in the 1960s, incorporates state-of-the-art technology that includes a projection screen, computer system and digital projector. Present at every Business Huddle is a technographer who keys the comments made by all participants into a computer at 100 words a minute.

The computer is connected to a projection screen that displays these ideas almost simultaneously. This way, the group can objectively consider the ideas on the screen, rather than subjectively evaluating the individual who has voiced the opinion.

"Imagine you're sitting in a movie theatre with your sweetheart or your spouse and you whisper in his ear and everything that you say shows up on the screen. That's an attention grabber. Well, that's how the Huddle works," Talbot says.

After the ideas have been recorded, the group analyses the "hurdles" that might stand in the way of achieving the success they visualized. They then list possible solutions to these obstacles until they have designed an appropriate action plan.

This plan consists of tasks which are then delegated to particular employees along with corresponding deadlines.

Over 3,000 people have participated in more than 500 of Business Huddle's sessions. Its clients include Bank of Montreal, Life Network, Stelco and Sony (Canada).

The bottom line, Talbot says, is that with his system, companies can save money. He claims that in three to four hours, he can accomplish what normally requires 30 to 40 hours for conventional strategic planning. And that can mean a difference in cost of thousands of dollars for organizations.

Talbot says that Business Huddle "is the way most meetings will be conducted in the next 10 years." He's so weary of traditional board meetings, he's writing a book called *Why I Hate Meetings*.

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Business Profile

Duo reap benefits of growth of children's TV

Groundling Marsh an international success

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Galileo, Maggie and the other characters on children's television show *Groundling Marsh* may look like cuddly toys, but the $10,000 puppets are not made to stand up to children's play.

Every year they must be returned to their New York manufacturer for maintenance. Their dirty hands are replaced and repairs are made. When not in use, the Muppet-like puppets are stored in temperature- and humidity-controlled environments.

"They're very difficult to build and a long period of time in design," said Joy Rosen, 39, co-producer of *Groundling Marsh*, referring to the high cost of the puppets.

Rosen and Lisa Olfman, 41, her partner in Portfolio Film & Television Inc., the production and distribution company they formed in 1991, deliberated over every detail of the groundlings' appearance, including the exact shade of custom-dyed fur.

Each decision took on monumental importance. "We realized this [show] would be our calling card for a while," said Rosen in an interview at a west-end television studio the day the 65th — and possibly final — episode was filmed.

Thus far, *Groundling Marsh*, Rosen and Olfman's first independent production, has served them very well as a calling card on their frequent trips to broadcasting trade shows in North America and Europe.

Over the past two years, the number of children's cable channels has proliferated worldwide, and Rosen and Olfman have reaped the benefits. Their upbeat, environmentally oriented half-hour show, produced in partnership with J.A. Delmage Productions Ltd., is seen five days a week on YTV in Canada. It's also shown in 93 other territories including Iceland, Portugal, South Africa and a number of Arab countries.

In Israel, the series, which uses songs and gently humorous stories to promote environmental and human values, is known as *HaBotzanim* (The Mud People).

Named Best Children's Series at the 1995 New York Film Festival, it has received some half dozen industry awards. In October, the Disney Channel (which co-produced the last 26 episodes) purchased the series to air in the United States and Britain. Fox Broadcasting Co. runs the series on its children's networks in Australia and Latin America.

In 1995, Portfolio produced an interactive *Groundling Marsh* movie for the U.S.-based Greenwich Entertainment Group. *The Great Cave Adventure*, a half-hour choose-your-own-adventure-type video, has been featured for over a year at The Amazing Space, a family entertainment centre at the Mall of Americas in Bloomington, Minn. and 21 affiliated locations.

Joy Rosen, left and Lisa Olfman pose next to the hollow tree on the *Groundling Marsh* set with puppets Eco and Galileo.

The next step for Portfolio is a *Groundling Marsh* merchandising campaign. They plan to launch a home video in the United States in the third quarter of this year. They expect to have toys, puzzles, books and clothing on the market here and in the United States around the same time. A CD-ROM is also in the works.

The recent filming of the 65th episode enables *Groundling Marsh* to go into syndication. Cost per episode has been "at the high end, from a Canadian point of view," said Rosen. "We spend what we feel we need to spend to compete globally for this market."

The mammoth west-end industrial-area studio with its oversize fantasy wetland sets (most of which have now been donated because of high storage costs) was a far cry from the spare bedroom in Olfman's house where the partners originally set up shop. They started out with one telephone and an antiquated fax machine on which they spent hours hand-cranking proposals in the middle of the night to take advantage of low overseas phone rates.

Portfolio is about to move into its second office where they have a staff of five, including themselves. When the show was in production, their staff expanded to 65 people.

The two women are best friends as well as partners. Both former Montrealers, they met when Olfman hired Rosen in 1983 to work on Lorne Greene's *New Wilderness* television show.

Olfman had begun her television career at CFCF-TV in Montreal, becoming the first woman to sell her own game show series at a network level. Her background includes a stint in CITY-TV's news department in Toronto. Eventually she became vice-president and general manager of Venture Entertainment Group, where she put together a sixteen-picture Canada/France co-production deal.

Rosen first worked in children's television at Cambium Film & Video Productions. Later, as director of marketing at Sullivan Films Distribution, she handled world sales for the miniseries *Anne of Green Gables* and its sequel.

Their business partnership isn't a typical one, mused Olfman. "It's unique that we're such good friends."

With homes in the same area of the city and husbands who get along well with each other, they spend some of their off-hours together and even take turns doing each other's Sunday food shopping.

Both women agree that working with a best friend is an advantage. "You have a level of trust," said Olfman.

Business-wise, their backgrounds and skills complement each other. Rosen's expertise was in distribution; Olfman's in financing and production.

They had often talked about going into business together, but "reality kept getting in the way," said Rosen. "I moved out west. She got a fabulous job. I got a fabulous job."

By the time they set up Portfolio, both had married and started families. Rosen now has three children, ages 8, 6 and 6 months; Olfman has two, ages 10 and 2.

"We had enough stability in our lives to take the financial investments," said Rosen. "The banks were not prepared to lend us money. We were far enough along that we were both making healthy salaries."

It took a year and a half before they were able to draw salaries again and six months after that until they moved into a proper office.

To finance their own show, they began calling producers to acquire programs for distribution. *Groundling Marsh* got off the ground in 1993 with seed money from Telefilm Canada and YTV.

"It wasn't the best way to start [a business], because we were undercapitalized," said Rosen. "All your assets become the collateral. That's a fairly big stake. We learned how to be lean and mean. We never got into debt."

Although the salaries they drew initially were modest compared to their previous income, today Portfolio provides "a living." But it could be gone tomorrow, said a cautious Olfman.

That seems unlikely. Portfolio has several projects in the works, as well as about 200 hours of television – probably about 40 different shows – which it sells in addition to *Groundling Marsh*.

An animated Chanukah special,which is being written by Phoebe Gilman based on her book *Something from Nothing*, is expected to be released next year in conjunction with YTV here and PBS in the United States. Portfolio is also working on an animated series based on the British book *My Naughty Little Sister*, and a series for preteens called *Biz Kid*, about a 10-year-old who finds herself in charge of a major toy company.

Rosen and Olfman are happy that their children can be involved in their work; it was in fact one of their goals and a raison d'être when they began.

"The hours are long – 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. when we're in production. We travel a lot. There are negatives," said Rosen. "But we're doing work our children can participate in and relate to. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to hang around the set. This is partially theirs as well."

Rosen says she still gets excited for Monday morning. "The day I start dreading Mondays is the day I give it up."

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Hockey lore galore in book on Habs captains

Nine greats who wore the 'C'

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Let's start with an admission. I hates da Habs.

Sure, they've won more Stanley Cups than anyone else and some of the best players ever have worn the bleu, rouge et blanc. But how good would they be without the luck they get from that horseshoe at centre ice? When was the last time a ref's call went against them in a big game at the Forum or the Molson whatchamacallit?

And those Habs fans. They expect a cup parade every spring as if by divine right. Yup, I really hates da Habs.

Despite all that, there's a new hockey book out there that's worth a read. Michael Ulmer, a writer with *The Hockey News*, has recently penned *Canadiens Captains* (Macmillan Canada), profiles of nine Habs who've worn the "C."

Last year, Ulmer wrote a similar book on Maple Leafs captains and no doubt its success spawned this year's successor volume.

With colorful anecdotes, Ulmer digs into the players' backgrounds to find the elements that gave them the drive, determination and ambition to become top-shelf hockey players. Many, it turns out, grew up in small towns and came from (mostly blue collar) families of modest means.

The book pulls no punches in describing the failings of otherwise successful men, particularly Doug Harvey, whose battle with the bottle is described in detail.

Another interesting volume for hockey enthusiasts is *Pro Hockey Play by Play; The Ultimate NHL Guide* by Ted Montgomery, published by Macmillan Canada.

Each year Montgomery analyzes the teams in the NHL, provides capsule comments on players and reviews the previous year's playoffs. Mixing humor with some astute insights, Montgomery has hit on a formula that should make the book an entertaining read for any hockey fan.

Here's a Habs hockey quiz, based on *Canadiens Captains*, to get you primed for the rest of the season:

1. Jean Beliveau was the longest serving Habs captain, with 679 games played while wearing the "C." Who's number two?

2. Which Habs Hall of Famer holds the record for playing on the most Stanley Cup-winning teams? Who's number two/

3. Which Habs captain kept the puck in the Soviet zone to help set up Paul Henderson for his memorable series-winning goal in the 1972 hockey summit?

4. Which Habs captain earned Stanley Cup rings with both the Montreal Canadiens and the Montreal Maroons?

5. Which captain had a 2 points per game (ppg) average in the playoffs, a record that stood until Wayne Gretzky eclipsed it with 2.35 ppg in 1983?

6. Which goalie did Rocket Richard beat for his 50th goal in 50 games? When?

7. Which Habs line finished 1-2-3 in scoring and in which year?

8. This Habs captain retired as the all-time leader in playoff assists (97) and points (176). Who is he?

9. This Hall of Famer captained the Canadiens after Maurice Richard retired following the Habs' string of five consecutive Stanley Cups in the 1950s. Who is he?

ANSWERS:

1. Although he toiled in relative anonymity compared to the more colorful Habs captains who preceded him, Bob Gainey was second only to Beliveau in the number of games played as captain. Between 1981-89, he notched up 569 games wearing the "C."

A tremendous skater with modest offensive abilities, he was paid a tremendous compliment following the famous 1975 New Year's Eve game against the Soviet Red Army team. Army coach Viktor Tikhonov called him "technically, the best player in the world."

2. Jean Beliveau and Rocket Richard are perhaps the two best known Habs ever, renowned for their tremendous playoff performances. However, neither holds the honor of playing on the most cup-winning teams. That distinction belongs to Henri "The Pocket Rocket" Richard, who played on 11 cup-winners.

Beliveau is next with 10.

Henri Richard, the Rocket's kid brother, played 20 seasons in the NHL from 1955-75. During the Habs' run of five consecutive cups, Richard scored seven goals and 15 assists in 25 cup final games.

In 1966, he scored a controversial cup-winning goal against Detroit in overtime of Game 6 when, driving the net, he was checked and fell and had the puck lodge in his equipment. He and the puck ended up in the net and the Habs had another cup.

During the 1971 finals, rookie coach Al MacNeil benched Richard for two periods of Game 5 versus Chicago. Afterwards, Richard complained to the francophone media, saying MacNeil was the worst coach he'd ever played for.

In Game 7, he came off the bench to score the tying and winning goals as the Habs beat the Hawks. He won his last cup in 1973 as the Canadiens again beat the Blackhawks.

3. As one of the best teams of the early '70s, the Canadiens were well represented on the NHL team that faced the Soviets in the '72 series. Among them was rightwinger Yvan Cournoyer. He scored three goals during the eight-game series and in the final game in Moscow, he played a hunch to remain on the ice when he was supposed to come off on a line change.

With his centre and leftwinger already on the bench, "the puck went into their zone. 'I said ... one more time.' I had decided to go out and they didn't see me go back. That's where I intercepted the pass. Henderson came from the bench and Phil Esposito came from the bench.

"I tried to reach Paul but somebody tripped him. The puck went around and Phil picked up the puck. By that time, Paul got up and got in front and, bingo."

4. Although he's remembered more today for his tenure as a successful coach, Hector "Toe" Blake also served as captain of the Canadiens from 1941-47. But before that, he played on the old Montreal Maroons hockey club where he won one cup in 1935 as a rookie.

The next season, he was sent to the American League's Providence Reds and in February 1936 was traded to the Habs for goalie Lorne Chabot and centre Bill Miller.

Blake went on to win two more cups as player (over 13 seasons) and eight as a coach. In 1939 he won the Hart and Art Ross Trophies.

5. Before the Great One came along, Toe Blake held the playoff record of 2 ppg for 39 years. In the 1944 playoffs, Blake scored seven goals and 18 points in nine games. During his playing career, Blake scored the Stanley Cup-winning goals in 1944 and '46. He was a first team all-star three times and he made the second team twice.

6. Richard was the first NHLer to score 50 goals — and he did it in 50 games when, on March 18, 1945, he beat Boston's Harvey Bennett. The previous goal-scoring mark was set by Joe Malone (another Hab, what else?) in 1918, the NHL's inaugural season, when Malone bulged the twine 44 times.

Since Richard's remarkable feat, only Mike Bossy, Brett Hull, Gretzky and Mario Lemieux have scored 50 in 50 (or less).

7. There have been many great Habs lines who gave goaltenders fits. You can think of lines built around great scorers like Guy Lafleur and Peter Mahovlich, or Jean Beliveau and Boom Boom Geoffrion, but it was the Habs' famed "Punch Line" of Blake, Rocket Richard and Elmer Lach who finished 1-2-3 in league scoring in 1944-45.

Blake, the grinder, was third, and perhaps not that surprisingly, Lach, the centre, finished first. Rocket was second with 50 goals.

8. During the 1971 playoffs, 39-year-old Jean Beliveau scored six goals and added a record 16 assists, en route to his 10th cup win. Those points boosted his lifetime totals to 97 assists and 176 points overall.

Beliveau retired after the '71 season with 507 regular season goals, second only to the Rocket, and his playoff goal total was three behind the Rocket's. However, during the early 1950s, Beliveau played three seasons for the Quebec Aces even though the Habs actively sought his services. Had he joined them at age 18, his totals would probably have been higher.

9. Hall of Famer Doug Harvey succeeded Richard as captain in 1960. He held the position for only one season before being traded to New York.

Harvey was considered the premier defenceman of his era and Blake once called him the best ever, eclipsing even Bobby Orr.

Harvey was a seven-time Norris Trophy winner as best defenceman and Ulmer credits him with helping develop the firewagon style of hockey associated with the Canadiens. Harvey used to say he would never pass it to a winger unless he was moving, Ulmer notes.

Harvey quarterbacked Montreal's fearsome powerplay that was so good, it prompted the NHL to change the rule in 1956-57 so that a player could leave the penalty box when his team was scored upon (before that, he had to served the full two minutes regardless of the number of goals scored).

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Cognitive therapy may prevent depression relapse

Becoming aware of thought processes

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Major depression is one of the most prevalent health concerns among North American adults and those who recover are at significant risk for a relapse, says a psychologist with the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry.

A relapse may be prevented however, if the patient participates in cognitive therapy, a form of psychotherapy that teaches a person to become aware of their thought processes, Mark Lau told a recent meeting of the Mood Disorders Association of Metropolitan Toronto.

Lau, who is working on a pilot study on cognitive therapy at Clarke Institute, said that a depressed person typically responds to daily events in a negative way.

"These people have thoughts that centre around themselves. If, for example, they are confronted with a difficult task, they assume they will never be able to complete it and therefore do not attempt it at all. They begin to feel worthless and their thoughts take a vicious downward spiral," he said.

A depressed person often suffers from cognitive distortions, an all or nothing type of thinking, said Lau."They regard themselves as failures if they fall short of perfect, or else they see a single event as a never-ending pattern. To them, one poor exam may mean their entire career is on the line. Or, they may reject a positive experience as being insignificant. They did well in one exam, but the professor graded the paper far too easily."

In cognitive therapy, participants learn how to pull themselves away from negative thoughts and "instead of being caught in a whirlpool in the middle of a pond, they get on shore and go where they want to go," he said.

Treatment through cognitive therapy is short-term and goal oriented, said Lau. "In the 10 to 20 weeks that we meet with the patients, we are focused towards an end. If, for example, a person does not work and cannot motivate himself to leave his home in the morning, we teach him the skills to push through those obstacles that are blocking him. We set goals and build on them slowly.

"As well, by providing a patient with information about their disorder, we can often normalize their experience. They feel less unique. They step back and view themselves from a wider perspective," he said.

Patients who have recovered from an episode of depression have a high incidence of relapse, said Lau, because they have "easy access to negative thoughts. Cognitive therapy can still be used while they are well, to head off a future episode. We design an intervention for the person to use when they detect interference by negative thoughts.

"Our goal in the prevention of depression is to normalize states of sadness so they remain mild or transient and do not escalate. Being aware of their thoughts may be enough to pull them back from the spiral — bring their attention back to the here and now."

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am currently dieting to lose weight and I am always reading about drinking healthy juice. Is it a wise choice on a weight reduction diet, and how much is an appropriate amount?

B. Many people are not aware that although juices do contain a lot of valuable vitamins and minerals, they are usually quite high in calories. An eight ounce glass of cranberry juice can have 144 calories so if you drink just three glasses per day, you could be drinking 500 calories.

A better way to get the vitamins and minerals found in juice is to eat the whole fruit. That way, you consume fewer calories, feel fuller and also get a source of fibre.

***

Q. Last week a friend and I had a disagreement while out for lunch. She was in the mood for a hamburger but opted for a large caesar salad, claiming that she should eat something lighter. Did she really choose the lighter meal?

A. You were right to question her decision.Many people assume that salads are always a lighter choice, but in fact they can be very deceiving. While salads do have a lot of valuable nutrients, including fibre, they may also be loaded with added calories and fat. A caesar salad with creamy dressing makes it anything but a light choice. A large caesar salad can have up to 48 grams of fat and 456 calories from the dressing alone. If eggs, cheese, buttery croutons or meat are added, the calories and fat increase even further.

A 3-1/2 ounce hamburger with a bun has about 400 calories and 23 grams of fat. While the calories in the hamburger and salad are about equal, the fat in the hamburger is half that of the caesar salad.

Salad, however, can be a healthy, light choice if you watch out for the added fat.

***

As a dietician, I am always happy to see people trying to make healthy choices in their diet, but the choices are not always beneficial. These letters should help to dispel some common nutrition myths.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietition/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

Social worker Sorele Urman provides family counselling as part of a new Baycrest community service.

Baycrest counselling focuses on relationship with elderly

TORONTO — Whether you are 16 or 60, problems are bound to arise in family relationships. You may argue with your siblings or have trouble communicating with your parents. So what happens when your parents get older, their health declines and it is becoming difficult for them to manage on their own? What is your role in the care of your aging parents and how can you help them?

Finding the answers that are best for you and your parents is the goal of a new counselling service being offered at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care. Headed by Sorele Urman, a social worker with 32 years' experience in the field, the new service assists families who are having problems in their relationship with an elderly relative.

"This service is designed for families who want help but are not seeking admission to a Baycrest program or service," Urman explains. "They are looking for immediate direction from a reputable source."

By offering individualized counselling on a fee-for-service basis, Baycrest can accommodate the needs of families who don't know where to turn for help, Urman says.

"Other community agencies and social workers offer family counselling, but because this is a Baycrest service, we have a wealth of experience and resources behind us that are specific to the needs of the elderly."

Some of the goals of the counselling service are to strengthen individual coping skills, provide emotional support and guidance, help face loss associated with illness and disability, provide bereavement counselling, assist with planning for current and future care, provide information about community resources and deal with relationship challenges.

"We can provide tips on how to choose a paid caregiver, what to expect as your parents age, how to set up a house to accommodate a caregiver; and we will also do a home visit," says Urman.

Fees are charged on a sliding scale according to a person's ability to pay. They range from $30 to $75 per session. For families of an elderly relative waiting for admission to a Baycrest program, counselling is still available at no cost.

For more information, call Urman at 785-2379.

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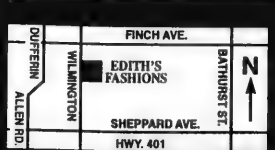

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Avenue Rd./Eglinton. Nearly complete. Buy now & customize to your needs. One of a kind home using premium materials & superior finishes. *Herman Wood

• • •

"HOUSE & GARDENS" — $422,000.
Main floor family room. 4 baths. Private l/lvl nanny's suite, 2 fireplaces, 3 skylights, w/o to deck & garden. Parking. *Barbara Kaplan

• • •

ARMOUR HEIGHTS — $425,000.
Outstanding value. Main floor family rm. Huge kitchen. 4 good bedrms. Deep south garden. *Heather Sherman

• • •

GLEN RUSH — $469,000.
Exceptional family home on large lot. Generous principal rms. Breakfast/sun room off kitchen. Great location. *Edith Weiss

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE EXCLUSIVE — $945,000.
Prime location. Wonderful principal rms. 7 bdrms., family rm., double garage. Loads of potential. *Barbara Kaplan/*Edith Weiss

• • •

GLENGROVE WEST — $549,000.
SOLD
Custom built. 5 BRs Main library + family rm. Eat-in kitchen. Marble foyer, CAC. Double garage. Fully fin. l/lvl. *Betty Cohen

• • •

"THORNHILL GREEN" – $319,000.
SOLD
Custom 4 BR., 4 bath home. w/family rm. Fin. l/lvl. with nanny's quarters. Quality fittings & designer decor. *Elaine & *Bernard Pike

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Yonge/Bath., 4 bdrms., 3 baths, many extras, no agents. 905-764-6961.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Aquarius-Hallandale, luxury 2 bdrm., 2 baths, newly furn. condo. with pkg., on ocean, exc. views, avail. Jan. 6th; 10 wks. min. 416-223-1606 (days only).

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Hollywood, oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, avail. Feb., Mar. & April, $2,000/mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358 or 954-920-2816- (Dec. 14 - Jan.7th).

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Companion to an elderly person, refs., exper. 245-7638.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish cleaning lady, avail. Mon. - Fri. Call after 4 pm, 503-1398.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

A mature caregiver wanted for lovely active lady with mild Alzheimers, full time, live-in for April 1st, Jewish/Polish/European pref., exper. & refs. req'd. Call 905-770-3394, evgs.

Housekeeper/Nanny/Driver to supervise 3 bright kids' homework, piano & Hebrew. Cooking & errands, live-in, excell. English, legal, good driving record, exper., refs. req'd. Reformed household, exceptional benefits for exceptional person, Bath./Steeles, 905-881-0368.

Woman req. for light housekeeping and Eastern European style cooking for elderly gentleman, Bath./Shepp. area. Call 398-3123 after 6 pm.

258 HEALTHCARE

Exper. HCA seeks job with elderly, any shift, home/facility, day/night, refs. 283-0199.

Exper. HCA seeks employment to look after elderly. 747-8900.

Exper. HCA seeks job, good refs. Sheila. 248-2948.

Exper. lady seeks job taking care of elderly, disabled, chronically ill. Day or weekends, also nights. Refs. avail. 421-9594.

Woman seeks job caring for elderly,3 yrs. exp.,refs. 744-7899

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Female, 37, brown eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male,n/smoker,between 38-42. CJN Box 6866.

Good hearted, good brain, good looks. Goodness, gracious. Too good to be true? Jewish male, 50, divorced, no kids. 638-6783.

Independent lively widow, early 60's, looking for companionship with intelligent & sophisticated gentleman to share many interests. CJN Box 6868.

The Grass is Greener - JM seeks dual Canadian-U.S. citizenship via relation with like-minded JF. Please Reply to P.O. Box 132, Grosvenordale, Connecticut, USA, 06246.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

330 OBITUARIES

SYLVIA ROSENBAUM. Passed away Monday, December 16, 1996, in Johannesburg, South Africa. She will be sadly missed by daughters Denise Gold & Linda Gordon, and her seven grandchildren.

LIPSKAR, CHAIM. We mourn the untimely death of our Chairman. He was a rare human being. A philosopher, a visionary, a business innovator. A lover of his people and of life itself. Chaim Lipskar will be missed. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife, his children, his family, and his friends.

HTT INTERNATIONAL-Irvington, New Jersey

Chaim's friends at HTT International.

BESSIE ROSE GUBERMAN
Passed away peacefully December 14, 1996, at her home, in her 99th year. Born in Austria, November 2, 1898. Bessie travelled to Winnipeg at the age of 12, where she lived her life.
Bessie was the second daughter of her loving parents, Rissel Chal and Aaron Cherashny. She was predeceased by her sister Esther Bremen. Bessie was predeceased by her husband Max Guberman, and was a devoted and loving wife for 73 years. Bessie was predeceased by her beloved daughter, Shirley Joy, and her loving son, Monty, as well as her son-in-law Henry.
To all who knew her, she represented love, inspiration and courage. Bessie was a woman of great valour and met any challenge that confronted her. Throughout her life, she transferred her own strength and dignity to her beloved family and friends. Always, she guided and served others and whether as President of her Eastern Star Chapter, or as a life member of Hadassah, she gave of herself to her community, her family and her friends.
Bessie was a dear and lifelong supporter of Israel, where she travelled for the first time in 1956.
She leaves to carry on, her beloved son Wally Guberman, her dear sister Sophie Shibou, her daughter-in-law Eleanor Bald and Peggy Guberman. She also leaves to cherish her memory, her grandchildren, Alan Guberman, William Hechter (Linda), Nancy Guberman (Joe), Joanne Lecker, Roberta Hechter (Bob), Charles Guberman (Cindy), Barbara Guberman (Alfred), Philip Guberman and Aviva Guberman. As well, she leaves her 13 beloved great-grandchildren, who brought her new joy to her life, Adam Lecker, Sloane Hechter, Karl Gowenlock, Danial Guberman, Brooke Hechter, Leanna Guberman, Aryanne Guberman, Jessica Linklater, Janna Guberman, Jonathan Linklater, Michael Guberman, Chelsea Linklater and Matthew Monty Guberman.Bessie leaves devoted nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.
The family expresses sincere appreciation to Dr. Marvin Slutchuck and her caregivers, Della Tagalo and Loretta Sto Domino.
Bessie Guberman graced our lives. She will always be missed and never forgotten.
A graveside service was held Monday, December 16, 1:00 pm at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, Winnipeg, Rabbi Louis Berkal presiding.
Pallbearers were Alan Guberman, William Hechter, Charles Guberman, Philip Guberman, Earl Shibou and Karl Gowenlock.
The family requests in lieu of flowers, friends if they so desire, may donate in her memory to a charity of their choice. A private Shiva will be at the home of her granddaughter, Roberta Hechter.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS **Amana** FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

ORIENTAL SALAD

1 Nappa cabbage sliced thinly
6 sliced green onions
1/2 cup sesame seeds
3/4 cup slivered almonds
1/4 cup light margarine
2 pkgs. ramen noodles

Saute onions in margarine. Add slivered almonds, sesame seeds and raw noodles. Cook until lightly browned. Mix in cabbage.

Dressing: 1/2 cup canola oil, 2 tbsp. soy sauce, 1/2 cup cider vinegar, 1/2 cup sugar. Combine ingredients.

Pour dressing over salad 1 hour before serving.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

330 OBITUARIES

SCHWARZKOPF, Olga - on December 5, 1996, late of 550 Cummer Avenue.
SHEINE, Zeke - on December 5, 1996, late of 555 Sheppard Ave. W., #201.
SCHNEIDER, Pauline - on December 5, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst St., #309.
HABER, Irvine - on December 6, 1996, late of 11 Fleetwell Court.
LIBAN, George - on December 6, 1996, late of 25 Morewood Cres.
GOLDGLAS, Celia - on December 7, 1996, late of 122 Hove Street.
BIRNBAUM, Miriam - on December 8, 1996, late of 2515 Bathurst St., #710.
POMOTOV, Bertha - on December 8, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Avenue East.
ACKERMAN, Elaine - on December 8, 1996, late of 75 Summerdale Drive.
WAGMAN, Rose - on December 9, 1996, late of 20 Fairleigh Crescent.
PLENER, Belle - on December 10, 1996, late of 1 Clark Avenue, #703.
GUDELMAN, Viktor - on December 10, 1996, late of 299 Mullen Drive. T.H. #131
HANNACH, Bertha - on December 10, 1996, late of 921 Millwood Road.
KOWALSKI, Liba - on December 11, 1996, late of 55 Ameer.
SKROW, Samuel - on December 12, 1996 late of 131 Torresdale Ave., #603.
ROSENBERG, Joseph - on December 12, 1996, late of 533 Blythwood Road.
BRANDES, David - on December 13, 1996, late of Cheltenham Nursing Home.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

WALTMAN, Sarah - on December 11, 1996.
KRAITMAN, Raisa Hala - on December 12, 1996, late of 5 Fisherville Rd.
YABROV, Marina - on December 12, 1996, late of 39 Collinson Blvd.
GIL, Simcha - on December 14, 1996, late of 5 Fisherville Rd.
WOLBURGH, William - on December 15, 1996, late of 10 Torresdale Ave.
PEARL, Sidney - on December 16, 1996.
SHLANGER, Edith - on December 18, 1996, late of 193 Wilson Ave.
BREWDA, Zelik - on December 18, 1996, late of 265 Brighton Ave.
SPIRO, Jura - on December 18, 1996, late of 99 Frontenac Ave.
MORDOCHOVICH, Eliyahu - on December 18, 1996, late of 5 Fisherville Rd.
SZER, Chil - on December 19, 1996, late of 91 Hove St.
ACKERMAN, Barbara - on December 19, 1996, late of 370 Ridelle Ave,

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 SHIVA CATERING

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About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I don't know where to turn. My grandparents (Bubbie and Zayde, 77 and 84 years old) have been married for 57 years and have taken good care of each other. Unfortunately, these past few years have gone downhill. My Zayde had two strokes, and was diagnosed with throat cancer and my Bubbie has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. They are really proud people who won't accept any outside help. How can I, as a caring granddaughter, help them as much as they have helped me?

S.E.

Dear S.E.,

Your concern is commendable. However, you have to accept them the way they are, remembering that they grew up in a different time with certain values that you might not understand. To them, accepting outside help might be a sign of weakness or lack of devotion to each other. Just continue to love them, visit them and be there for them when they want you.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY, JAN. 1

HIGHLAND FARMS

Happy New Year

ROASTING CHICKENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
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1.99 LB
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COCA-COLA, SPRITE & CANADA DRY
750 ml Bottle
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99
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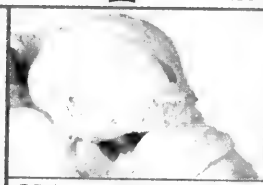
ALL BEEF SALAMI
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
11.00 kg
4.99 LB

HOSTESS
POTATO CHIPS
Assorted Varieties 170 g Package
99 EA

RIB STEAKS
Cut from Canada AA/AAA Grades Beef
Fresh
4.49 LB
9.90 kg



HEAD LETTUCE
Product of USA, California
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Fresh
Large Size
79 EA

GREEN ONIONS
Product of USA
California
Fresh
Bunched
3/1.00

MINUTE MAID PUNCH
Assorted Varieties
355 ml Tin
59 EA

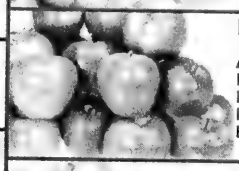
CONNOISSEUR
TURKEY BREAST
Cooked or Smoked
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
17.61 kg
7.99 LB

GREEN PEPPERS
Product of USA
Florida
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Extra Large Size
2.18 kg
99 LB

PRIMO
LASAGNE
•Regular, 500 g Box
•Oven Ready, 375 g Box
1.29 EA

OPEN WINDOW BAKERY
BREAD
•White
•Whole Wheat
Fresh
675 g Loaf
1.39 EA

KELLOGG'S
•RAISIN BRAN, 800 g Box
•FROOT LOOPS, 425 g Box
•CORN POPS, 375 g Box
2.99 EA



RED DELICIOUS APPLES
Product of Canada, B.C.
Extra Fancy Grade
Fresh
Extra Large Size
2.18 kg
99 LB

OPEN WINDOW BAKERY
SWISS SWIRLS MARBLE CAKE
Fresh
600 g Package
5.60 EA

TROPICANA, PURE PREMIUM
ORANGE JUICE
100% Pure
1.89 L Carton
2.99 EA

CERES
FRUIT JUICE
100% Pure
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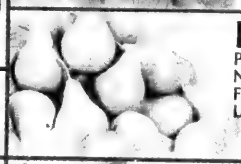

BOSC PEARS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
1.74 kg
79 LB

KELLOGG'S
EGGO WAFFLES
Assorted Varieties
Frozen
1087 g Box of 48
6.99 EA

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EGG NOODLES
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375 g Package
99 EA

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SHRIMP RING
Frozen
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ICE CREAM
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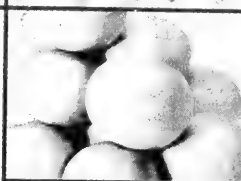
•1% •Yogourt
2 L Tub
2.99 EA



RED GRAPEFRUIT
Product of USA
Florida
Fresh
Size 56
5/1.00

KIWIFRUIT
Product of Italy
Fresh
Large Size
2.18 kg
99 LB

ATLANTIC PAPER TOWELS
2 Roll Package
79 EA

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Chabad Teen Club prepares to open its own clubhouse. *Page 5*

An Orthodox Jew brings some joy to hospitalized children during the holidays. *Page 7*

Coast to Coast

Montreal's ultra-Orthodox Jews get emergency medical response service. *Page 16*

Calgary's Jewish community experiences rapid growth. *Page 19*

TAB news

Israel passes 1997 budget voting along party lines. *Page 32*

Sports news

Ski enthusiasts turn passion into thriving business. *Page 35*

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Shabbat: Vaera
Candlelighting 4:40
Shevat 2, 5757
Havdalah: 5:45

WJC considers Swiss boycott

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Angered by what it termed "remarks bordering on anti-Semitism" made by the outgoing president of Switzerland, the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) has announced a series of retaliatory measures that would include a boycott of Swiss banks.

Two top officials of the WJRO held a news conference here last Sunday to unveil their proposals and to voice their impatience with the slow pace of negotiations regarding the return of Jewish assets deposited in Swiss banks during the Holocaust.

The officials sharply condemned the remarks of outgoing Swiss president Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, who last week dismissed as "blackmail" calls from Jewish groups for his nation to set up a $250 million fund to begin compensating Holocaust victims and their heirs who might be entitled to money deposited in Swiss banks in the World War II era.

"If we agreed now to a compensation fund, this would be taken as an admission of guilt," Delamuraz told the newspaper *Tribune de Genève* the day before he stepped down from the presidency.

"This is nothing less than extortion and blackmail," added Delamuraz, who occupied the largely ceremonial post of president until Jan. 1 under the rotating system. "This fund would make it much more difficult to establish the truth."

Delamuraz has since said he was sorry if he offended families of Holocaust victims, but repeated his view that it was not the right time to set up a compensation fund.

Instead, the Swiss government will wait until its newly appointed historical commission determines whether Switzerland misappropriated Jewish assets, said Delamuraz, who now serves as Swiss economics minister.

At the news conference, the WJRO said it might attempt to implement the series of punitive measures if Swiss authorities do not denounce Delamuraz' statements and accelerate their investigation into Swiss-held Jewish assets from the Holocaust.

Continued on page 26

AMID TENSION, HUMANITY
Mahmoud Ata al-Attrash (left) shakes hands with and thanks Avi Buskila. Buskila prevented a possible massacre last week when he overpowered Noam Friedman during a shooting rampage in Hebron's central market. al-Attrash's twin sons were among the wounded. ***[Reuters/RNS photo]***

Genetic link found among *kohanim*

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jews of the priestly tribe (*kohanim*) – both Ashkenazi and Sephardi – have been found to share a variation of the Y chromosome that links them with Aaron the High Priest, who lived 3,300 years ago.

Special Feature

This was the result of a study conducted by Prof. Karl Skorecki, a senior nephrologist at Rambam Hospital in Haifa and head of molecular medicine at the Technion's medical school, along with colleagues in Haifa, London and Arizona. Their finding was published yesterday in the British science journal *Nature*.

The researchers took samples of genetic material from unrelated Jewish men in the three countries, and asked them whether they were from the priestly tribe. Tissue was taken by swabbing the inside of their cheeks.

The phenotypes of 188 secular and religious Jews who said they were *kohanim* were found to be very different from those who said they were not. Skorecki said the researchers did not identify *kohanim* according to their names (such as Cohen or other names of *kohanim* such as Rappaport or Shapiro), but by asking them to state if they were *kohanim*.

Skorecki, who is himself a *kohen*, said that the idea for the study came to him when he was attending synagogue services and saw another *kohen* being called up to the Torah for the first aliyah.

"I looked at him and noted we didn't look alike, but that nevertheless, according to tradition, we both descended from the priestly tribe. I wanted to know if it were possible to find a genetic connection."

Based on surveys of Jewish gravestones, about five percent of the seven million male Jews around the world belong to the priestly tribe. This means 350,000 men, or about 100,000 to 120,000 in Israel alone.

The priesthood performed major Jewish rituals from the time of Aaron (Moses' brother, who headed the Levite tribe) and received fixed portions of the sacrifices in the First and Second Temples.

Continued on page 26

INSIDE

Part two of Arnold Fradkin's look at war criminal prosecutions in Canada. Please see page 11.

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Hebron deal remains elusive — please see page 25

The News in Brief

The Cosmos: Tracking Sagan's Jewish Feelings

By ERIC J. GREENBERG
The New York Jewish Week

Carl Sagan's love of science was well known throughout the cosmos. But his feelings about his own ethnicity were almost painfully private.

The Brooklyn-born astronomer died late last month from pneumonia, a complication of a bone marrow disease called myelodysplasia. He was 62.

Sagan, who attended P.S. 101 on Benson Avenue as a child, was Jewish, though it is not clear what he thought about Judaism.

"He thought of himself as a Jew," said longtime colleague Lawrence Slobodkin, a professor of ecology at the State University in Stony Brook.

But what that meant, Slobodkin could not say.

Rabbi Steve Shaw, director of community education at the Conservative Jewish Theological Seminary in Manhattan, said that in recent years, Sagan, best known as the host of the popular 1980s PBS series "Cosmos," came to see JTS Chancellor Ismar Schorsch as his rabbi.

"They had several conversations," Rabbi Shaw recalled. "[Schorsch] had the feeling that Sagan was open to changing his mind about religion, that somehow he identified with the kind of Judaism he saw personified at the seminary."

Rabbi Shaw several years ago sent the Pulitzer Prize-winning Sagan a copy of the critically acclaimed Bible edited by Reform Rabbi Gunther Plaut.

"He wrote me back a lovely letter. It was something he was not exposed to before."

In fact, Sagan is credited with helping found the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, which brings together scientists and theologians to fight for environmental protection.

Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center in Washington, D.C., said he knew Sagan for about 10 years, when they both worked on the nuclear arms issue.

"He believed that religious leaders and scientists had a great deal to say to each other," Rabbi Saperstein said.

When Sagan was working on his last book, *Demon Haunted World*, a treatise against New Age beliefs overpowering science, he sent a draft to Rabbi Saperstein.

Over the years Sagan remained mum about his own personal views on his Jewish heritage. "He was never comfortable talking about his own past," Rabbi Saperstein said.

It will remain another mystery in the universe.

ISRAEL

Hebron Arrests

JERUSALEM – Fifteen Kiryat Arba residents were arrested trying to move into an abandoned building in Hebron's casbah before dawn Dec. 31, in a last-ditch attempt to establish facts on the ground before most of the city is turned over to Palestinian control.

Ten people, carrying signs, were arrested in the casbah while trying to make their way to the building – which the settlers maintain is Jewish property– and were released from police custody later in the day.

Kurdish Rebel Attacks

JERUSALEM – Israeli officials have expressed concern about the possibility of coordinated attacks by Palestinian terrorists and Kurdish rebels against Israeli targets in Turkey.

Members of the Kurdish underground and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine recently met, the Israeli daily Ha'aretz recently reported.

Japanese Heroes

JERUSALEM – Three Japanese officials during World War II stepped forward to help save the lives of as many as 20,000 Jews, according to documents and recent testimony. The trio acted against Germany's interests after the refugees became stranded in a Russian border town near the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo in northeastern China.

WORLD

Jewish Newspaper Closes

SKOKIE, Ill. – After 85 years, the Sentinel, a weekly serving the Chicago Jewish community, has ceased publication.

The end came quickly and quietly without prior notice to either employees or readers.

The last issue, dated Dec. 26, contained no indication that the publication would not continue.

The final issue was produced less than six months after longtime editor and publisher Jack Fishbein died at the age of 83.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Jan. 7, 1972

SADAT'S THREATS TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Israeli leaders are taking very seriously the Egyptian threat to renew warfare along the Suez Canal as Egypt's President Anwar Sadat's "year of decision" ends. But differences of opinion surfaced as to whether Israel's response to an Egyptian attack should be an all out thrust for victory or a limited war.

Most observers believe Sadat is not thinking in terms of full-scale hostilities but is considering a renewal of the war of attrition carried out by his predecessor Gamel Abdel Nasser.

HADASSAH ON THE MOVE

Once relegated to the back rooms of executive meetings, women are now making their mark on the decision-making bodies of most communal organizations. This move has not come about as a result of the gallant efforts of a few male leaders, but by the applied pressure of determined women.

Such a woman is Neri Bloomfield, 47, who is soon to be the youngest president-elect of Canadian Hadassah, one of the largest women's organizations in Canada, a chapter of World Hadassah-WIZO.

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Vol. XXXVII, No. 36 (2,832)

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60 Minutes to examine war criminals in Canada

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

CBS may visit suspects interviewed by detective

TORONTO – The top-rated U.S. newsmagazine *60 Minutes* is coming to Canada to shoot a segment on suspected Nazi war criminals living in this country.

Reporter Mike Wallace has lined up interviews with several experts in the area, including Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) war crimes committee.

The *60 Minutes* team may travel to other Canadian cities besides Toronto, segment producer Bob Anderson told *The CJN* in a telephone interview from New York.

But Anderson said he couldn't say more, as the segment is still being researched.

Interviews will be conducted later this month and a February air date is probable, Anderson said.

A source told *The CJN* that *60 Minutes* has requested interviews with Justice Minister Allan Rock and former solicitor general Robert Kaplan, under whose watch Canada's first legal action against a suspected Nazi war criminal, Albert Helmut Rauca, took place. Rauca was extradited from Canada in 1983 and died in a West German jail awaiting trial.

Also scheduled to be interviewed are Justice Jules Deschênes, who authored the 1986 report on war criminals that began the modern process of court proceedings, and Bernie Farber, national director of community relations for CJC.

Asked whether *60 Minutes*' interest in Canada was piqued following the explosive findings of New York private detective Steven Rambam, who tracked down some 140 suspected Nazi war criminals living here, Anderson said only that the program "is aware" of Rambam.

According to *The CJN* source, *60 Minutes* will also interview Rambam, who was the subject of a recent full-edition documentary on CBC's *The Journal*.

The source said that as far as he knows, *60 Minutes* will attempt to visit some of the suspects Rambam had seen, several of whom confessed to having committed atrocities against Jews.

Mike Wallace

PRIVATE EYE HANDS TAPES TO CJC

New York private detective Steve Rambam (centre) hands over secretly taped conversations of suspected Nazi war criminals to Canadian Jewish Congress's Bernie Farber (left) and Irving Abella. Recently, Rambam tracked down some 140 alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada and, posing as an academic, visited about 80 of them. [Keith Gold photo]

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Sailing within Judaism's open seas

One year ago in this space, I advised readers that everything about *The CJN* springs from the broadly worded mandate as conceived by its Board of Directors "to serve the Jewish people in Canada, in Israel and in all its habitations."

Today, at the outset of a new year, it is appropriate to recall that mandate. It is not only a high responsibility, it is also a unique, much-cherished opportunity.

As we have often written in this space, the core activity by which the paper seeks to fulfil its mandate, is in attempting to "inform" our readers in the best way that we can.

In bringing news to our readers, we try to do so reliably, dispassionately and comprehensively.

In bringing opinion, analysis or commentary to our readers, we try to do so in a balanced manner, openly publishing the perspectives and the passions of various writers.

News, opinion, analysis and commentary are the bricks of the structure which carries the weight of the directors' mandate.

The better the community is informed, the more likely it is to be vibrant and confident, or, again in the words of the directors, "to be spiritually alive, intellectually alert, socially responsible and economically secure, and thus a great asset to Canada and to Jewish communities throughout the world, including Israel."

But the mortar that holds the structure in place are the credibility, reliability and *relevance* of the paper to its readership.

To ensure our relevance, we constantly strive in small steps and modest evolutions for higher reaches and wider audiences, and in particular, for instructive, meaningful, evocative, perhaps even eye-opening ways to highlight the Jewish aspect of this Jewish newspaper.

Of course the "Jewish aspect" is a priceless stone of 13 million reflections, as diverse as snowflakes that fall from the sky, as rich as the dark green velvet of a British Columbia forest, and as deep as the ocean.

In our ongoing effort to capture as many of those reflections as possible, our newspaper is destined to be a perpetual "work-in-progress."

Thus, readers will be noticing, and indeed will have already noticed in last week's issue, certain changes in *The CJN*.

For example, we are introducing three new monthly columnists.

Shel Krakofsky, one of Canada's most poignant writers within a new generation of writers, and whose poetry and prose have been featured in *The CJN*, will now appear with Jean Gerber, our monthly columnist from Vancouver.

Justin Korda, the editor of *Dateline:Middle East*, a student publication in Montreal, makes his debut this week as our campus voice from McGill University, with Viva Press our campus voice from Dalhousie University, in Halifax.

Martin Himel, currently Global Television's Middle East correspondent, and an experienced observer of life in Israel, will soon be appearing alongside Emil Fackenheim.

In the near future, we plan to introduce a regular monthly column that will explore and explain and expound upon issues of Jewish education that beset parents daily in many difficult and frustrating manifestations.

Continuing to anchor our efforts will be the Perspectives essay, which will offer readers ideas, polemics and pleas from an array of top-flight thinkers.

One year ago, I wrote in this space the following description of our aspirations and hopes for *The CJN*. That description is as valid today, one year later: "In an age when news was obtained only from print or radio, the Jewish newspaper was a precious lifeline of information about a kinfolk dispersed to the far corners of the vast earth. Indeed, many people of my generation can still recall a time when our parents and grandparents carried the Jewish newspaper around with them for most of the day, twice-folded and coddled under their arm. Until it was fully read, it was not put down...

"Today, print and radio may in fact be the last places people turn to for their news. In the blink of an eye, information now travels by electronic impulse and computer byte into the very heavens of space and back.The vast earth has been brought into our living rooms and onto our display terminals.

"It may, therefore, be exceedingly unrealistic and sentimental to hope that *The Canadian Jewish News* becomes a coddled treasure under the arms of its readers. Nevertheless, it is my aspiration for *The CJN* that our readers, as their parents and grandparents before them, will look upon the paper as a precious lifeline of information about a kinfolk dispersed to the four corners of the earth."

To this aspiration let me add also the hope that our readers will regard the newspaper as a source of interesting, occasionally provocative, occasionally inspiring reading about the unique values, customs, traditions and heritage which tie our far-flung people together, not only in crisis but in celebration as well.

If we succeed, perhaps every now and then, one or more of our readers will discover that incomparably exhilarating, deeply satisfying feeling, to paraphrase John Updike, of sailing within Judaism's open seas, rather than, unschooled and uninformed, hugging closely its remote, often perplexing, seemingly uninviting shoreline.

Regardless of the measure of our success, however, *The CJN* commitment to our readers for the coming year will remain uncompromised: to always do our best to be "an independent community newspaper serving as a forum for diverse viewpoints." *MBD*

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This Journey Lasts A Lifetime

Artists & Poets

With the arrival of Passover in the spring, *The CJN* will be introducing a new Literary Supplement. We therefore invite the authors and poets among our readers to submit original and previously unpublished works of fiction, memoir, biography or poetry to us. The works must explore Jewish themes. The fiction cannot be longer than 1,500 words.

You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN* , 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. *The editor.*

Greater Toronto Area

Chabad Teen Club to open clubhouse

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Chabad Teen Club (CTC), run out of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham congregation, acquired its new name and a new youth leader in September, and is now gearing up to open its own clubhouse.

The clubhouse – which will serve as an after-school drop-in centre, with amenities including a donated ping-pong table — will be on synagogue property. Rabbi Meir Gitlin, youth director, expects it to open in the next few months. The date depends on completion of the new synagogue building on Green Lane.

The teen club was renamed and launched as a new entity in September both to revitalize it and to distinguish it from the shul's Chabad Youth Club for youngsters from ages 6 to 12.

The club has a mailing list of about 200, almost half of whom have come out to programs, estimated Zev Herman, 20, the club's youth leader and a second-year Business Administration student at York University. Most of the participants attend public high schools, but there are also some day school students. Membership is open to all Jewish youth.

'Worthwhile program, and a lot of fun'

For Jarred Schneider, a 14-year-old Thornlea Secondary School student who has been involved with CTC since September, a weekend Shabbaton in Montreal was a highlight. The forty-three Toronto-area students from here were billeted with families, attended services and joined teenagers affiliated with Chabad in Montreal for a skiing outing. The CTC has a "loose" affiliation with all Chabad clubs, Herman explained.

"They had such a blast...but at the same time they experienced an Orthodox Shabbat," he added.

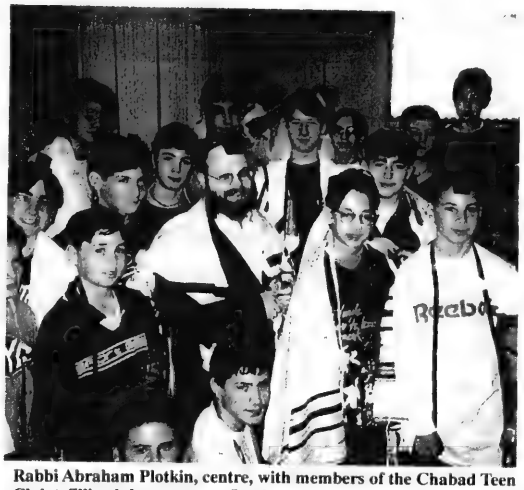
"I learned a lot," said Jarred, who also attends the club's Sunday morning tefillin club and a weekly CTC-related Jewish issues club at his school. The Jewish issues club is a discussion group focused on topics such as Jewish holidays as well as current news issues from a Jewish perspective.

The teen club is "a worthwhile program, and a lot of fun," said Jarred.

Other recent programs have included High Holiday services a three-day camping trip and a Sukkot meal at the home of Rabbi Abraham Plotkin, spiritual leader of the synagogue. Upcoming events include a talent show and a movie night.

Future plans include greater community involvement through visits to hospital patients and retirement home residents.

The club aims to provide "an opportunity to learn and to grow, and be in an atmosphere of fun," said Rabbi Gitlin. "We like to mix the social together with the educational and inspirational. That's part of our goal: to inspire the kids to feel belonging and commitment."



Rabbi Abraham Plotkin, centre, with members of the Chabad Teen Club tefillin club on a recent Sunday morning. [Zev Herman photo]

Kruger to head Jewish Campus Services

TORONTO – Dr. Arthur Kruger has been appointed Chair of UJA Federation's Jewish Campus Services (JCS).

"His track record and his impeccable reputation made him the obvious choice," noted JCS executive director Zac Kaye who added that Kruger's determination and sense of equity has improved Jewish life on campus for 30 years.

Kruger will be guiding a 21-member board, with a mandate to serve over 15,000 students at York, U of T., Ryerson Polytechnic University and Seneca College.

Kruger, a retired economics professor and the University of Toronto's first Jewish Dean of Arts & Science, was instrumental in developing policies to prohibit exam scheduling on religious holidays. He also served as principal of Woodsworth College for part- time students and headed the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

As chair of Jewish Campus Services, Kruger will work with board members and staff on fundraising to complement UJA Federation's allocation and to improve programming, both on and off the campus.

Arthur Kruger

Kruger estimates that JCS needs $1 million annually in order to properly serve the Greater Toronto Area's Jewish students.

JCS, through its separate student organizations, is responsible for events such as lectures, Shabbat dinners, dances and film nights.

"If you don't make the Jewish connection with students on campus," cautioned Kruger, "it becomes extremely difficult once they leave."

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Greater Toronto Area

Kosher frozen meals available for home delivery

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For the first time, kosher frozen meals are available for home delivery throughout Ontario.

This new service is a response by Meals on Wheels and other home support agencies, which have had to increase their meal delivery service because of hospital cutbacks, winter weather and the growing senior population.

The kosher frozen meal preparation has been contracted to Peter Graben Fine Foods, which is glatt kosher under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of Toronto, and is distributed through Private Recipes, the caterer for the frozen food service of Meals on Wheels throughout Ontario.

Cost is $5.25 per meal, and participants can order in multiples. The low price is a reflection of government subsidies.

All entrées are packaged in plastic containers, and can be heated in either conventional or microwave ovens. Directions, product names and ingredients are in large print, to accommodate poor eyesight.

Choices include beef stroganoff, chicken breast tarragon, veal stew, grilled salmon, pasta primavera, roast beef and roast turkey, and are accompanied by one starch and one vegetable serving.

Each entree provides 400 calories and over 40 percent of the daily protein requirements for men and women over 75 years of age. The meals are lactose free and are suitable for most special diets, including diabetic. Sodium content is limited to 660 milligrams.

This service is not for the elderly only. It can be used, for example, by those just released from the hospital, who find it difficult to shop and cook, or for those who cannot get out to shop because of injury or illness.

To receive prepared kosher frozen meals, or for other special diet requirements, contact your local Meals on Wheels or home support agencies. If you do not yet receive kosher meals, you can contact Private Recipes directly at 1-800-268-8199.

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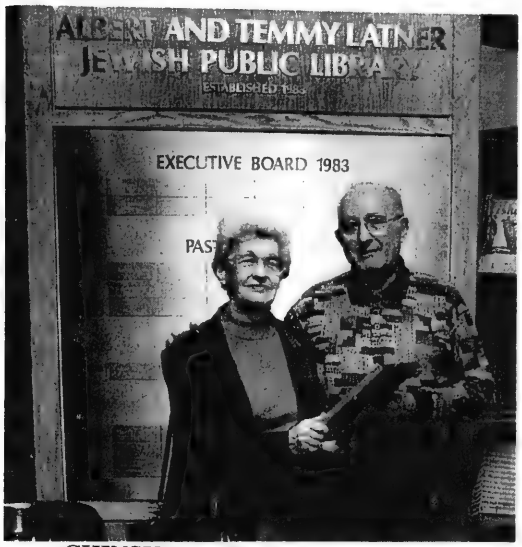

CHINSKY'S MEMORY HONORED

Club Savoy recently presented two volumes on the history of Jewish surnames in Poland and Russia to the Jewish Public Library to honor the memory of Joe Chinsky. Accepting a plaque from Solly Cantor is his widow Miriam. [Tobi Asmoucha photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Volunteer brings joy to hospital patients

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Some 150 patients at the Hospital for Sick Children were assured a merry Christmas thanks to the efforts of an Orthodox Jew.

Jack Schwartz, accompanied by his wife Rose and several friends, went from room to room this season visiting children who were too ill to go home for the holidays.

For the past four years, Schwartz and his helpers have wished patients a speedy recovery and good wishes for the holiday season and have given each a stuffed toy.

Recognizing members of a Jewish family, Schwartz asked if they would like him to make a *misheberach* (prayer for a speedy recovery). He took out his siddur and recited the blessings.

One of Schwartz's helpers this year was his nephew, Dr. Jonathan Fine,who is currently on sabbatical from Bar Ilan University and doing cancer research at the hospital.

The kippah-wearing doctor wished a Chinese woman a happy holiday to which she replied, "Happy Chanukah."

When handing a toy to the the 11-year-old son of Russian immigrants the boy's father placed his hands over his eyes to let the volunteers know the boy is blind.

Schwartz's wife, Rose, who recently had a liver transplant, spoke to transplant patients, and told them how successful her surgery had been. Schwartz says it was his wife's idea to distribute gifts to the children.

Active in many communal groups

Schwartz, a retired textile distributor, is active in many communal organizations. As part of his volunteer work for Jewish Family and Child Service, he serves as lay chaplain at the Toronto and Doctors Hospitals and often visits patients at Princess Margaret and Mount Sinai hospitals after synagogue on Sabbath.

Most of the toys collected this year were donated by Sam Ganz, president of a company that manufactures stuffed animals and toys.

For Chanukah, Schwartz distrubuted toys to underprivileged children, through Chabad Lubavitch to children living as far away as Halifax.

Jack Schwartz (left) and his wife Rose stop to talk to Tina, a patient at the Hospital for Sick Children as they distribute gifts and good cheer to the young patients. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

THE HEARTBEAT OF BAYCREST

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is a recreational therapist who started a choir at Baycrest 9 years ago and learned a full repertoire of Yiddish songs so that she could lead the group; voices diminished by age but enhanced by enthusiasm.

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There is an understanding at Baycrest that everyone has something to offer.
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Greater Toronto Area

Parenting Fair to offer helpful tips in dealing with offspring

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Are you a parent and concerned about television violence? Your children's teeth? Dealing with teenagers? Dealing with your own parents?

There is something for you and much more besides at Aish HaTorah's Parenting Fair, on Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The event will be held at Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W. in Thornhill. An all-day family pass, which includes activities for children, is $20. Kosher food can be purchased.

Other topics will include teaching respect, nutrition, safety, the Internet, encouraging optimism in your children and managing emergencies.

Speakers include children's entertainer Eric Nagler; Joyce Diclemente of York Regional Fire Department; dentists Drs. Larry Tobis and Alex Pister; parenting, marriage and personal consultant Sarah Chana Radcliffe; child psychologist Dr. Gerald Klein; and Dr. Michael Kirzner, staff physician at York Central and Branson hospitals.

Each speaker will present a 50-minute seminar, and will answer questions from the audience.

The program was suggested by the organization's sisterhood, Aish's Chayil.

Aish HaTorah is an international educational outreach organization for Jews from all backgrounds. There are six centres in Toronto, and ongoing programs include a nursery school, a Hebrew school, programs for families and for teens, classes and Shabbat services.

For more information, or to register, call Aish HaTorah at 905-764-1818.

Na'amat helps to stem violence

TORONTO — In October, 110 Na'amat Canada members participated in a mission tour of Israel. The trip was also combined with the Eleventh Triennial Convention and a National Leadership Seminar.

The official opening of the $1 million Na'amat Canada/Glickman Centre for Prevention of Violence in the Family was a highlight of the trip. The centre is unique, a refuge for battered women and children whose address is known to the males from whom they are fleeing. While the shelter itself is a locked, secure facility, the attached counselling unit is open to men: a place where families can receive the treatment they require to function collectively again.

A project three years in the making, the centre was funded by Na'amat Canada membership, in conjunction with the Tel Aviv foundation. "We have always worked towards the care of our children and well-being of Jewish women," says Erika Bloom, who was installed as national president at the convention.

To ensure Na'amat Canada's continued growth, a young leadership seminar was held. Some 20 women, new leaders from across Canada, were involved. "The future of the organization relies on the leadership we develop." Bloom says, "For young leaders, seeing Na'amat in action helps them understand what the cause is all about. As these are all bright, talented individuals, all we have done is show them how to best hone their skills."

Former prime minister Shimon Peres spoke at the convention.

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Basic Judaism Part 2 – *Rabbi E. Diamond* (Tuesday, Jan. 28 - 8:30-9:30 p.m.)
Time & Place – *Rabbi M. Dratch* (Tuesday, Feb. 25 - 8:30-9:30 p.m.)*
Leading Davening – *Shloimo Sufrin* (Wednesday, Jan. 22 - 8:00-9:00 p.m.)
Pray & Learn – *Dr. E. Malamet* (Shabbat 9:30-12:00 noon)

TEXTUAL STUDY

Parshat Hashavua – *Rabbi M. Dratch* (Monday, Jan. 6 - 10:00-11:00 a.m.)
Akeidat Yitzchak – *Dr. S. Zolty* (Tuesday, Jan. 14 - 9:30-11:00 a.m.)
Sefer Shemot – *Rabbi C. Sacknovitz* (Monday, Jan. 20 - 8:00-9:00 p.m.)
Masechet Brachot – *Rabbi H. Hoschander* (Monday, Jan. 6 - 8:00-9:00 p.m.)
Masechet Gittin – *Rabbi M. Dratch* (Wednesday, Jan. 8 - 8:15-9:15 p.m.)

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Hebron

As of this writing, agreement still eludes Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) over the IDF's redeployment from Hebron. Despite the personal involvement at "the highest levels" of Prime Minister Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat for more than five hours late into the early morning hours last weekend, their signatures did not appear on final documents.

Apparently, the issues holding back their signatures relate less to the details of the proposed Hebron accord than to the details of what may follow the accord.

According to media reports, Arafat wants a commitment *now* from Israel specifying three precise dates on which further troop withdrawals from the rest of the West Bank will take place. This is a commitment, however, which the prime minister cannot make. Fully seven members of his 18-person coalition cabinet — Limor Livnat, Zvulun Hammer, Yitzhak Levi, Yuli Edelshtein, Rafael Eitan, Ariel Sharon and Benny Begin — have gone on record as saying that they oppose any further withdrawals, after Hebron, from the West Bank. Indeed Edelshtein and Eitan have said they will even vote against the Hebron agreement when it is submitted to the Knesset.

Nor should Netanyahu make such a commitment. The PA must first be held to some reciprocal balance, such as the public, unambiguous and final renunciation of the Palestine Covenant calling for Israel's destruction and the extradition to Israel of a handful of Palestinians wanted in Israel for murder.

Moreover, the September "disturbances" in which PA police fired upon the IDF bitterly proved the importance of waiting a little bit to taste the fruit of confidence-building measures before more "peace produce" is purchased at the PA market.

Whichever course he steers, Netanyhau is under relentless pressure. By the opposition he is excoriated for having tortuously slowed down the pace of the peace process. By his own cabinet he is "politically" taunted. By many of the right-of-centre voters who supported him in the election he is criticized for even negotiating a Hebron pullout. By neighboring states he is villified as a "threat to peace." By the western media he is scorned as the underminer of peace." And from the president of the United States he is receiving clear messages of obvious impatience.

But the prime minister's proclivities for prudence and caution are the appropriate steering mechanisms. As we have written before in this space, peace is both a means and an end, its proving ground tilled with patience, coexistence and cooperation.

According to Steven Rodan of the *Jerusalem Post*, defence minister Yitzhak Mordechai has recently told the Israeli public that one of his biggest concerns is that Israelis will continue to live under the illusion that true peace is imminently attainable. "What is needed to be understood," the minister was quoted, "is that it will take many years before we get to the stage of repose." Until that special time, he warned, Israel faces an uncertain future which requires from the people high motivation, patriotism, a proven military force and tenacity. To that list he could have added the highest degree possible of social and national unity.

U.S. President Bill Clinton has invited Netanyahu and Arafat to Washington for that last negotiating "push" that might get their signatures onto the paper. Netanyahu need not resist the president's invitation. He need only resist that gentle "push." Though welcome and comforting, it is not the feel of the hand of the American administration on his back that will instil him with confidence, but rather the feel of the support of the majority of the people of Israel.

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(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress.)

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DON'T JIGGLE IT SO HARD BOSS.
1997
IT SEEMS TO BE TICKING!
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Jan. 9, 1872 Rabbi Abraham de Sola of Montreal's Shearith Israel Conregation, opened the session of the U.S. Congress with a prayer. He was the first Jew to be so honored. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Life sentence, not marriage, Pollard issue

I have visited Jonathan Pollard a number of times in his federal prison. I have spent countless hours in personal conversations as well as in telephone communications wherein his expressions of remorse and his desire not to be a hero but rather to live his life with his loved ones is, in fact, his single focused message.

It is of little interest to me whether or not Esther Pollard was married in Butner, N.C., and duly recorded or not. What is of primary importance to the broad Jewish community and to people of goodwill worldwide, is that the severity of sentence does not compare to any given to even those who have spied on behalf of an enemy — let alone an ally. He has spent over 12 years in prison and has experienced continuous remorse for his illegal and grievous activities on behalf of the State of Israel.

Rabbi Raphael B. Butler
Orthodox Union
New York

No public school system in Newfoundland

I refer to *The CJN*, Nov. 28, "Schools funded outside Ontario."

Your comment, "Newfoundland: All school systems — public and denominational are equally funded" is misleading.

Although all schools are funded by the province, they are established on a denominational basis, controlled by seven Christian denominations. The province does not have a public school system similar to that found in other Canadian provinces. Therefore, it is difficult to make a direct comparison of funding of the Newfoundland school system with those of other provinces.

Ruth Gillis Noel
St. John's, Newfoundland

Searching for the Wolkowicz family

I am searching for Wolkowicz family members who survived the Holocaust. I am a Wolkowicz both by ancestry and marriage. My family came from Kolo in Poland and I have discovered that they were a very large family. There were so many Wolkowiczes in Kolo that I did not believe they all perished. My branch went to England (where the spelling of the name changed) and I have recently found another branch in New Jersey. The Kolo yizkor book shows that a number of Wolkowiczes went to Canada and I would like to make contact with them.

Judy Wolkovitch
28603 Trailriders Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes
California 90275, U.S.A.

Jews who worked or hid in Germany

The Canadian author Carol Matas is looking for Jewish individuals, male and female, who lived in Nazi Germany during World War II under the pretense of either working or being hidden. Matas would like to interview these individuals as she is researching the subject for her upcoming book.

Anyone interested, call 416-635-2883 ext. 144.

Pnina Zilberman, Director
Holocaust Education Centre

Flatowicz kin in Canada

I am a Holocaust survivor and most of my family were killed, but I am looking for kin. My family was born in Brznica Kolo Radomsko, Poland. My parents' names were Joseph and Manya Flatowitcz. My brothers and sisters were Moshe, Chaim, Chaya, Shimin, Rivka, Rachel and Pinchas Flatowitcz.

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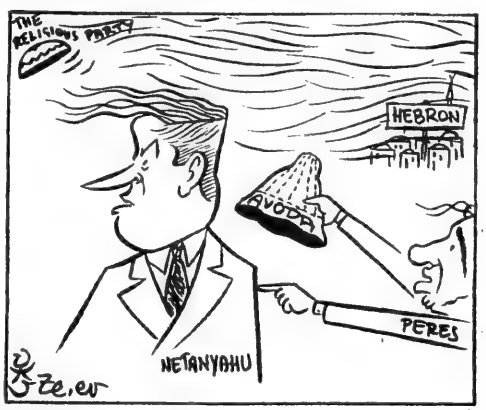


Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

War crimes cases crawling ahead at snails pace

Last week, we published Part 1 of an article discussing where the Jules Deschênes report on war criminals has led the Canadian government since it was delivered 10 years ago. This week we publish the conclusion.

By ARNOLD FRADKIN

On Jan. 19, 1995, *The Canadian Jewish News* reported a war crimes investigation unit representative as saying that the unit had given up laying criminal charges and instead would be focussing on the deportation and denaturalization remedy. The representative was further cited as saying that given the difficulties in proving a criminal case, as identified by the Supreme Court in the *Imre Finta* decision in March 1994, criminal prosecutions were no longer viable.

At the end of January 1995, denaturalization proceedings against three persons and deportation proceedings against a fourth were instituted. The *Toronto Star* on Jan. 31, 1995 reported that the Justice and Citizenship ministers were expected to announce that over the next two or three years Canada could move to deport as many as four other war crimes suspects, depending upon the success of the first four cases, and that the War Crimes Unit was still investigating 12 other suspects.

The reaction by Jewish groups to this announcement was reported as one of "tremendous anger." The *Globe and Mail* report the next day contained Justice Minister Allan Rock's explanation that the government would try to remove at least 12 suspects but that the four cases would be taken as test cases first to establish precedents that would help clear the way for subsequent cases. The Jewish groups were concerned that by the time these four cases worked their way through the courts, the suspects and witnesses in the other eight cases could die of old age. They believed that the Federal Court judgment in the denaturalization case of Jacob Luitjens and his subsequent deportation provided sufficient precedents and urged that all 12 cases be commenced.

The four individuals were Ericks Tobias, 84, Helmut Oberlander, 72, Johann Dueck, 76, Joseph Nemsila, 82. Proceedings against the first three were by way of denaturalization and the fourth by deportation.

Shortly after these proceedings were started, newspaper reports broke the story that Canada had been aware over 30 years ago that Tobias was an alleged Nazi war criminal living in Canada. On March 24, 1995 both the *Globe and Mail* and the *Toronto Star* reported that the Canadian Jewish Congress had released a copy of a letter written June 13, 1966 by Simon Wiesenthal to Canadian officials giving Tobias' address in Toronto and listing allegations which were now part of the denaturalization proceedings against him. On April 21, 1995 both the *Montreal Gazette* and the *Ottawa Citizen* reported that Canada had known for more than 35 years that Nemsila was living in Canada. The Communist government of Czechoslovakia had requested Nemsila's extradition in 1958 and in1959 but both requests had been turned down.

In May 1995, a fifth deportation proceeding was instituted against Antonas Kenstavicius.

Aside from Kenstavicius, no trial dates for these individuals have as yet been set. What happened instead was the following:

With respect to the three denaturalization proceedings, the government brought pretrial motions in each case to obtain directions from the Federal Court. The three individuals in turn filed motions for disclosure by the government of certain documents. On June 30, 1995, *six months after proceedings had been instituted,* Associate Chief Justice Jerome, who was responsible for the cases, ordered that all three cases be joined for the purpose of the motions. Shortly afterward, the individuals brought further motions to stay the denaturalization proceedings.

Thus three sets of pre-trial motions for each of the cases were now before the Court: the government's motion for directions, and the two defence motions for better disclosure and for a stay of proceedings. Trial dates for the cases were not set because the motions had to be resolved first.

The parties appeared in court on Dec. 12, 1995 to argue the motions. On that day, *almost a year after the proceedings were first initiated,* the argument on only the first motion began. But it could not be concluded in one day. Continuation of the argument on only the first of the three motions was set for May 15 and 16, 1996, almost six months later.

Thus, about a year and a half had passed since proceedings were instituted. But no trial dates were set for any of the cases; nor had the argument been concluded on only the first of the three motions.

On March 1, 1996, Assistant Deputy Attorney General Thompson, in charge of civil litigation, met with Chief Justice Julius A. Isaac of the Federal Court. Correspondence was exchanged between them on the same day. In his letter to the chief justice, the assistant deputy attorney general made reference to his statement during the meeting that the attorney general was going to be asked to consider bringing the issues raised in the three motions to the Supreme Court of Canada "because the Federal Court Trial Division is unable or unwilling to proceed with the subject cases expeditiously." He pointed out that a crucial witness in the Tobias case was seriously ill and might not be able to testify and that in the Dueck case one key witness had died and two others were seriously ill. He expressed concern that "if these cases are not dealt with expeditiously they will never be heard on the merits" and went on to say that it was likely that 12 similar cases would be brought to the Federal Court with as many as six cases being instituted that year.

The chief justice's reply stated that he had spoken to Jerome and both were "prepared to take all reasonable steps possible to avoid a reference to the Supreme Court." He went on to say that Jerome had said that "he did not fully appreciate until he read your letter, the urgency of dealing with these matters as expeditiously as the government would like. However, now that he is aware he will devote one week from May 15 to deal with these cases not only with respect to the preliminary points but also with respect to the merits. Finally he has authorized me to say that additional cases of this class coming into the Court will be given the highest priority in light of the concerns experienced in your letter."

Defence counsel were not advised of this meeting nor did they receive a copy of the March 1, 1996 correspondence until approximately a week later. Then a series of correspondence ensued between the parties and on April 30, 1996 they appeared before Jerome to decide how to proceed with the cases. Both sides agreed that Jerome should stay on to hear the motions, including a new motion to stay proceedings because of the intervention by the Assistant Deputy Attorney Council. Jerome decided to turn the cases over to another judge, Mr. Justice Cullen.

Cullen delivered his judgment on July 4, 1996, on the issue of whether the proceedings against the three individuals should be stopped. He ordered the denaturalization proceedings to be stayed. He said that what had happened on March 1, 1996 was "patently wrong" and that judicial independence had been impaired to such a degree that a stay was required. He went on to say that he could not "conclude that the cases were progressing unusually slowly."

His decision met with a mixed reaction. For example the July 7, 1996 editorial in the *Toronto Star* said justice was not served by stopping these cases from proceeding. The July 5, 1996 editorial in the *Ottawa Citizen,* on the other hand, called the stay of proceedings a high price for justice which was "worth paying." The July 8, 1996 editorial in the *Globe and Mail* also lauded Cullen's decision, The Jewish community, however, was unanimous in their outrage. Irving Abella asked Canadians to "picture the outrage they would have felt had multiple killers Paul Bernardo or Clifford Olson been freed simply because a lawyer asked a judge to speed their cases along" (*Globe,* July 5, 1996).

On July 9, 1996 the government announced that it would appeal Cullen's decision. It also announced its intention to bring six more proceedings for denaturalization.

Subsequently, in a report prepared for the Justice Department, former chief justice Charles Dubin of the Ontario Court of Appeal concluded that Thomson has made an error in judgment when he met with Isaac but that he was motivated by concerns over "inordinate delays." Dubin pointed out that "over a period of 13 months, only one day had been allocated to hear argument and that has permitted only a portion of the argument to be heard on one of the three motions pending, all of which were preliminary to the revocation proceedings themselves."

On Oct. 9, 1996, a three member panel of the Canadian Judicial Council's Conduct Committee concluded that Isaac acted properly in speaking to Jerome after the Department of Justice raised concerns about court delays. It also concluded that there was no improper conduct in Issac's meeting with Thompson about delays. It did however, find that the wording of Isaac's letter and his failure to provide notice of the discussions to all the parties was inappropriate, but not serious. The Cullen decision is now awaiting its appeal.

Meanwhile, with respect to the deportation proceedings against Nemsila, the defence brought a motion saying that the law at the relevant time did not allow deportation of immigrants who had acquired domicile in Canada. The Immigration Adjudicator accepted that argument; the proceedings to deport him were stayed. This ruling was appealed and was argued before Jerome of the Federal Court in Dec. 1995 and Jan. 1996. He reserved judgment. Nemsila then sought an order to stay the proceedings which was argued in July 1996. Mr. Justice Rouleau refused the request for a stay of proceedings, leaving the way open for Jerome's decision on the domicile argument. On Aug. 23, 1996 Jerome ruled that the Immigration Adjudicator had made a mistake in law. He ordered Nemsila be brought before another deportation hearing. That decision was appealed and is scheduled to be heard on Jan. 10, 1997.

On July 17, 1996, a new denaturalization proceeding was filed with the Federal Court against Wasily Bogutin, 87, of Toronto. On Oct. 31, 1996 two further denaturalization proceedings were filed with the Federal Court against Vladmir Katruik, 75, and Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, 82, of Montreal.

And that is where matters stand at the present time.

There are two other cases, namely Rudolph and Kalejs, but they involve alleged Nazi war criminals who have or are presently attempting to enter Canada, not those who are here as citizens or permanent residents.

Thus, the tally of proceedings instituted by the Canadian government in the ten years since the Deschênes Commission Report of Dec. 30, 1986 recommended that 224 cases be investigated and that 20 cases be given urgent attention as follows:13 proceedings were undertaken and only one has resulted in the denaturalization and deportation of a war criminal from Canada.

Arnold Fradkin was one of the founding members of the War Crimes Litigation Unit in the Department of Justice which was formed in 1987 after the Deschênes Commission released its report on the existence of Nazi War Criminals in Canada. He was lead counsel in the case against Jacob Luitjens.

Opinion

Countering Christian missionaries

The Atlantic Jewish Council's biannual convention took place in December. Among the many issues discussed was counter-missionaries.

By Viva Press in Halifax

I never realized how important the conversion of Jews to Christianity is to a Christian. Of course, I had heard of such groups as Jews for Jesus, but the magnitude of this conversion never really affected me —that is, until I met Julius Ciss.

Ciss is the head of the Toronto chapter of Jews for Judaism. He "converted" to Christianity, but the inconsistencies between the Christian Bible and the Hebrew Bible drove him back to Judaism. Ciss is now working to save other Jews who are involved in Christianity and bring them back into the Jewish fold.

Listening to Ciss talk about his experiences was very interesting. But what got me really thinking was why I wouldn't be able to refute some of the things a missionary might say.

Ciss said that most of the Jews who have "converted" to Christianity, are those who grew up with a very limited Jewish background. I had a Jewish day school education. I went to Jewish summer camps. I observe the holidays. So, why all of a sudden was I feeling ignorant?

I realized that while I know the fundamental differences between Christianity and Judaism, at that moment I didn't really know how to answer Bible-quoting Christians. My knowledge of the two testaments is not good enough to win a showdown. But the few key points Ciss stressed are enough to help anyone out of a potential confrontation.

The basic premise upon which Christianity rests is the belief that Jesus is the Messiah predicted by the Hebrew Bible. Judaism has always rejected this belief. So Christians feel compelled to convince Jews that Jesus did fulfil the requirements of the promised Messiah. If he didn't, then Christianity is based on a false fact.

The following are some of the Jews' criteria for the Messiah: The Messiah must be Jewish; he must be a member of the tribe of Judah and a direct descendant of King David and King Solomon.

Jews believe that he will gather the Jewish people from exile and return them to Israel; he will rebuild the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem; he will bring world peace; he will influence the entire world to acknowledge and to serve one God. If an individual fails to fulfil even one of these conditions or responsibilities, then he can't be the Messiah.

Jesus was Jewish. Beyond that he failed to fulfil any of the other criteria. His genealogy is questionable. The Christians believe that the third, fourth, fifth and sixth criteria will be fufilled in a Second Coming. However, the concept of the Messiah coming twice has no scriptural foundation in Judaism.

So, according to Judaism, Jesus is not the Messiah. The missionaries will ask the potential Jewish convert a lot of questions until the Jew falters. They will misquote our Bible, take passages out of context, mistranslate, and give "proofs" showing how the Hebrew Bible prophesies the comings of Jesus. But if every Jew remembers these few points on why Jesus is not the Messiah, she or he will be able to fend off the missionary.

According to Ciss, there are over 600 different missionary groups that spend more than $200 (US) million worldwide for the purpose of converting Jews each year. There are over 50 such groups in Canada.

So that the Jews to whom their proselytizing is directed won't feel uncomfortable, they call themselves Messianic Jews instead of Christians. They wear Jewish symbols including *tallitot* and *kippot*. They call their church a Messianic Synagogue. Jesus is referred to as "Yeshua Hamashiach." These misrepresentations are designed to allay the feelings of guilt of prospective Jewish converts who find the terminology of "Christian" too alienating.

Ciss's group, Jews for Judaism, helps keep Jews Jewish. The Christian missionaries cannot succeed as long as Jews can refute the claim that Jesus is the Messiah for the Jews. If we continue to disprove this claim, Jews will remain Jews in the Jewish faith.

Unity badly needed in the Jewish world

Two months ago, I stood at the corner of a four-way intersection. To my right was a gathering of Jewish people demonstrating its support for the Middle East peace process and its dissatisfaction with the current Netanyahu adminisration. To my left was another group of Jews responding to the group on my right. They were supportive of the Netanyahu government.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

Across the street in front of me was yet a third demonstration, of Palestinian Arabs who had gathered to protest the Israeli "occupation" of their land and the "injustices" being experienced by their people.

This was the scene that I witnessed in Seattle, Wash., one evening, when I attended the Council of Jewish Federations' annual General Assembly, outside the covention centre.

I watched in sorrow as this microcosm of divided Diaspora Jewry turned on itself. I couldn't help but be frightened about the old saying, "United we stand, divided we fall." But how far can this old saying be taken? Doesn't freedom of speech and pluralism outweigh the need for total unity?

As pondered these questions, I recalled a statement by the late Yitzhak Rabin. On the day that he shook hands with Arafat on the White House lawn, he referred to Eccelesiates, saying, "There is a time and place for everything." But are the streets of Seattle the proper time or the proper place for Diaspora Jewry to rally against each other in the face of a Palestinian demonstration opposed to both of their common values.

The murder of Yitzhak Rabin sparked much controversy within the Jewish world over the nature of legitimate debate concerning the peace process. The assassination was an alarm stirring us to understand that the issues which divide us cannot override the fundamental forces that unite us. Unfortunately, though, this alarm seems to have been muted lately.

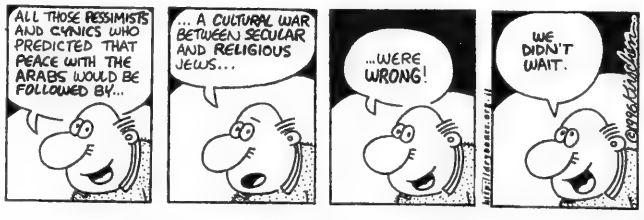
Prior to 1948, there were many different ideological visions among Zionist leaders. These visions, although different, did possess a common goal, a common aspiration. When the State of Israel was proclaimed, Jews everywhere rejoiced.

With the assassination of Rabin, this feeling of being one nation has descended to its lowest point. Following the murder, a feeling of unity was urgently needed, but was sorely missing. And it was this same feeling that was absent on the street in Seattle that evening.

There still is room for pluralism and difference of opinion; however, more room must be "allocated" for the historical religious and other forces which unite us.

Much of the debate within the Jewish people today revolves around the issues of Jewish observance, continuity and Zionism. Throughout the debate, though, we Jews must never forget to ask ourselves why we debate these issues at all. The answer is that we have a common interest and it is this common interest that makes the Jewish people an energized nation.

At Mount Sinai, the Jewish people celebrated one nation. During the Holocaust, the Jewish people suffered as one nation. In 1948, the Jewish people were triumphant as one nation. Today, we must recognize that the fundamental forces that unite us as a nation, are much stronger than the issues that divide us. This realization is essential to enable us to stand together, again, as one nation.


ALL THOSE PESSIMISTS AND CYNICS WHO PREDICTED THAT PEACE WITH THE ARABS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY...
... A CULTURAL WAR BETWEEN SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS JEWS...
...WERE WRONG!
WE DIDN'T WAIT.

Dry Bones

The King of Shnorrers

It was almost 100 years ago that Israel Zangwill wrote his famous little book *The King of Shnorrers*. It was one of Dad's favorites and he gave it to me to read when I was young. I have never forgotten its message.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The hero of the tale was a professional *shnorrer*, who knew that giving ranked high on the list of mitzvot, and that every good Jew has a sense of guilt when someone asks for money and is turned away. The King of Shnorrer's technique was so superb that he rarely received the cold shoulder.

Recently, along with 100 requests for supporting worthy organizations, I received a little booklet entitled, *All hail to a Prince of a Schnorrer.* The person referred to was the late professor Jacob Rader Marcus, acknowledged to have been the foremost historian of American Jewry, who died earlier this year at the age of 99.

He was also the founder of the American Jewish Archives, located in Cincinnati, which is the prime repository of archival American Jewish material. Once a year he used to send out a letter, and his notes had such incomparable charm that their success was a foregone conclusion. Now that Marcus is dead, his successor at the archives has put some of his *shnorr* letters into an illustrated pamphlet. It is a joy to read and brings back the memorable personality of the writer.

Here is one example: "Some of my disciples begged to continue sending out my annual *schnorr* letter. They tell me that my letters make them smile. But I have no desire to be funny. Archival science and history are serious disciplines... I have never consciously set out to be funny. I can fully appreciate the indignation of one of my clients who righteously insisted that I allow him the privilege of disliking to give. 'Don't make me enjoy it,' he wrote. 'It may set a dangerous precedent.'

"Anyhow, it's a sublime profession I've been devoting myself to at the Archives. I hear that distinguished neurosurgeons demand $20,000 to transplant the brain of a archivist. The brain of an engineer costs only $500; the brain of a rabbi can be had for $1,000...

"In these days of economic detente, we should take market conditions into consideration. The Denver Zoological Foundation, seeking inmates for its new primate house, offers to name a gorilla in honor of a donor who puts up $4,900. A chimpanzee may be named in honor of a friend for $850, a baboon for $190.

"Here is our archival post-holiday offer, especially tailored for you. Even though most of you are surely more advanced as primates, the American Jewish Archives will do better than the Denver Zoo. We will name a project after you for less money. We figure you're as good as a baboon no matter what your Board thinks of you.

With all respect and affection I am, as ever, Jacob R. Marcus."

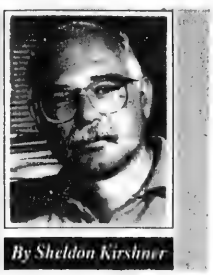
It is my understanding that the response was almost 100 percent. There was only one baboon who did not give!

"Jake" as we called him, is now gone, but his books and his *shnorr* letters survive him.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade...

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...



By Sheldon Kirshner

Magda Trocme, a Holocaust heroine, was the leader of a rescue movement in the southern French village of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon which saved the lives of about 3,500 Jews. Trocme, a pacifist, professed not to understood why her goodness and her courage were applauded. She was the subject of a book, *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed,* and of a documentary film, *Weapons of the Spirit.*

Samuel Toledano, the dominant figure in Spain's Jewish community for many years, played an integral role in the promulgation of two government decrees (1967 and 1992) which gave Jews equal rights with Catholics and paved the way for the construction of the first synagogue in Spain since the Inquisition.

Harry Kemelman was the author of 11 popular novels whose protagonist, Rabbi David Small, solved mysteries large and small in books ranging from *Friday the Rabbi Slept Late* to *That Day the Rabbi Left Town.*

Raphael Patai, a cultural anthropologist born in Budapest, wrote almost 40 books on Jewish and Arab culture, history, politics, folklore and psychology. The recipient of the Hebrew University's first doctorate degree, Patai was the author of *The Arab Mind, The Jewish Mind, The Myth of the Jewish Race* and *Myth and Legend of Ancient Israel.*

Jules Davids, a scholar specializing in American diplomatic history, helped a bedridden John F. Kennedy write *Profiles in Courage,* an award-winning book that burnished Kennedy's credentials as a national politician worthy of the presidency.

Samuel Brownstein, a Brooklyn biology teacher, assisted millions of North American high school seniors study for the dreaded Scholastic Aptitude Test. He and Mitchel Weiner co-wrote *Barron's How to Prepare for the S.A.T.* and a host of related works that are still in print after more than 40 years.

Rabbi Elmer Berger was for decades a major personality in the American Council for Judaism, an anti-Zionist group that opposed Israel's establishment.

Bernard Jacobs was one of the most influential persons in American theatre. As president of the New York-based Shubert Organization for 24 years, he wielded immense power on Broadway.

Miriam Kressyn, a Polish-born actress and singer of the Yiddish stage in America, appeared in such beloved plays as *Brothers Ashkenazi, Family Muskat* and *Yoshe Kalb.* She and her husband, Seymour Rechtzeit, were considered the romantic idols of Yiddish musicals.

Pandro Berman, a legendary Hollywood producer, churned out more than 100 films, including *The Blackboard Jungle, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Butterfield 8, The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Top Hat.* He worked with stars like Elizabeth Taylor, Fred Astaire, Cary Grant and the Marx Brothers.

Erwin Leiser, a German Jew, produced precise documentary films about the Nazi period and the Holocaust, notably *Mein Kampf, Following the Fuhrer* and *Eichmann and the Third Reich.*

Fritz and **Ingebord Kahlenberg** were members of Hidden Camera, a Dutch group that documented the German occupation of Holland through the medium of stark photographs. Working secretly with rationed film, the Kahlenbergs photographed the persecution of Jews and the liberation of the Netherlands.

Abram Games, Britain's first and only poster designer during World War II, created more than 100 posters, masterpieces of the genre.

Nachum Tim Gidal, a pioneer of modern photo-journalism, perfected his craft in Germany, England and Israel. His pictures appeared in numerous books and were exhibited widely. He was honored by the Israel Museum and the Royal Photographic Society.

Nathan Safir, the son of Russian Jews, pioneered Spanish-language broadcasting, being the general manager of the first Spanish radio station in the United States (San Antonio, Tex.). In 1989, he was inducted into the National Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame.

Hugo Buchtal, an art historian at New York University, was an authority on illuminated medieval manuscripts, particularly those of the Crusader epoch. His book, *Miniature Painting in the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem,* was a classic.

Irving Caesar, the quintessential American lyricist, dreamed up the words for standards like *Tea for Two, Swanee* and *Sometimes I'm Happy.*

Irving Gordon, a song writer, wrote Nat (King) Cole's hit, *Unforgettable.*

Evelyn Danzig, a composer, set to music *Scarlet Ribbons,* one of the golden oldies of the 1950s.

Paul Erdos, a Hungarian mathematician of the first rank and the epitome of an eccentric professor, was called the "prince of problem solvers." A prolific monographist and a wandering lecturer, he founded the field of discrete mathematics and was one of the pioneers of computer science.

Harold Fox, a Chicago clothier, claimed credit for the Zoot suit craze which swept North America in the 1940s.

Max Factor Jr. , the cosmetic company executive known for his ability to create fragrances and identify scents, invented waterproof mascara and the first non-allergenic lipstick.

Joseph Gerber, a Holocaust survivor and an inventor with 600 patents to his name, was the founder of Gerber Scientific Inc., a Connecticut company with annual sales of more than $350 million (US). He is credited with having revolutionized the garment, automotive and optical industries.

Fred Pressman presided over the fortunes of Barneys, a Manhattan-based men's clothing store chain that was and still is a watchword for urban chic.

John Loeb Sr., a Wall Street investment banker and philanthropist, belonged to the "Our Crowd" social set, immortalized by Stephen Birmingham in his best-seller. Loeb's firm, Loeb, Rhoades & Company, was incorporated by Shearson Lehman/American Express.

David Schine was an aide to Senator Joseph McCarthy during one of the darkest periods in American politics, the McCarthyist era in the early 1950s. In later years, he managed his family's hotel and real estate empire, and was the executive producer of the acclaimed thriller, *The French Connection.*

Frank Israel , a gifted architect, designed private homes and offices for Hollywood's elite. His reputation was such that the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles mounted a retrospective exhibition of his work.

Philip Birnbaum, one of America's busiest architects, designed about 300 office and apartment buildings in Manhattan. His most imposing building was the Trump Plaza.

Carl Sagan, the son of a garment factory worker, popularized astronomy and space exploration through enormously successful television programs and books.

Michael Bruno was a top-flight Israeli civil servant , serving as governor of the Bank of Israel from 1986 until 1991 and as chief economist of the World Bank until his death. A native of Germany, Bruno also designed the plan for integrating Soviet immigrants into the Israeli economy.

Alex Schoenbaum, a restaurateur, built Shoney's into the third largest family-owned fast food chain in the United States.

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QN1

Our place in nature

BY RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Tu b'Shvat, the New Year of the Trees is approaching and once again we ponder the significance of our place within nature. However, it is not all of nature which we celebrate, but specifically the trees.

Humanity has a very real, physical dependence upon the trees. By simply existing, trees provide the oxygen essential to our lives. One could say that we inhale what the trees exhale — they breathe life into our world. This alone would merit a celebration of the trees. But could there be a symbolic message underlying this holiday?

Rabbinic literature has two interesting narratives concerning the trees. The first is an explicit command that if one is planting a tree and hears that the Messiah has arrived, one must finish planting the tree and only then go and greet the Messiah. Clearly the importance of planting the tree is underlined, since it takes precedence over welcoming the person for whom we have waited since the dawn of time.

The second rabbinic narrative concerns a sage named Choni Hama'agel, who was known as the greatest of Torah interpreters. One day he came upon a man planting a carob tree, a tree that does not bear fruit for 70 years. Choni asked the man planting the tree if he was certain that he would live to partake of its fruit.

The man responded: "The whole world is like a carob tree; my ancestors planted for me and I am planting for my children."

Choni sat down, fell asleep and slept for 70 years. Upon awakening, he saw a man picking the fruit from the carob tree and he inquired if this was the same man who planted the tree. The man responded that it was his grandfather who had planted the tree.

The story of Choni and the carob tree speaks of a person's investment. The man planting the tree knew he would not live to enjoy its fruits, but he planted nonetheless. In stating that the world is a carob tree, the man is acknowledging that the world could not function if not for the investments of those who came before us. He feels himself obligated to plant the seeds for the future, uncertain but hopeful that his investment will provide nourishment for those to follow.

Within nature, humanity has a special connection to the trees, for their lifetimes span several of ours. The trees become the physical connection to our past and they embody our hopes for a safe future. When we look upon a forest, we do not see only the beauty of nature in its glory, we also see those people who lived before us and to whom we owe the very air we breathe.

It is easy to understand why even the Messiah must await his greeting until we have completed our obligation to the seeds we must sow.

Locating lost relatives

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Letters from the Roots & Remembrance mailbag:

Louis Laufert of Markham, Ont. writes seeking advice on researching his family tree. Laufert was born in Rouen, France. His father was born in Zloczew, near Lodz, his mother (née Katzko) in Sieradz, also near Lodz. His family was arrested by the Gestapo and deported to concentration camps, where his mother and sister perished. He never knew any other family members in Poland, especially since they probably did not survive the Holocaust. He believes he has some cousins in Israel. He is married to Tony Edelman and has four married children and nine grandchildren, all interested in their roots.

Even from this limited amount of information, it is clear that the Laufert's have many research avenues open to them. Yad Vashem's Hall of Names (P.O. Box 3477, Jerusalem 91034 Israel), which has some three million pages of testimony in its archives, will do a generic surname search by mail at a reasonable cost. Pages of testimony, which provide details on Holocaust victims, were usually supplied by living relatives whose names and addresses are also given.

However, since many pages of testimony were submitted in the 1950s, the researcher may need assistance tracing a particular submitter who may be related. The best bet is to contact the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives (P.O. Box 92, Jerusalem; fax 2- 202730). Utilizing a data base of more than one million names, the bureau's Batya Unterschatz has an excellent track record at finding relatives living in Israel, including the cousins of Russian olim arriving in recent years.

Alexander Beider's *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames From The Kingdom of Poland* (Avotaynu, 1996) links the surname Laufert to the town of Sieradz and connects the etymology to the Polish word for "tramp" or "rover." The dictionary indicates that the surname Kaczko comes from the Polish word for "duck" and was found in Sieradz and a few other nearby towns.

Nineteenth-century Jewish records in handwritten Polish are readily available at low cost for many towns of Russian-Poland through the Mormon LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City and its network of branches. A quick scan of the LDS catalogue shows that it possesses some five reels of microfilmed Jewish records of births, marriages and deaths for Zloczew between the years 1826 and 1872. (Records from the period 1808 to 1825 may be mixed in with the Roman Catholic records.) The phone number of the LDS library in Toronto is 416-621-4607.

The Encyclopedia Judaica's entry on Sieradz indicates that the town had a Jewish street as early as 1446, that its Jewish population swelled and then declined to a low of 17 in 1765, then rose again to nearly 5,000 (about 40 percent of the total population) before World War II. The Jews "earned their livelihood from trade in cereals, shopkeeping, tailoring, weaving, carpentry, and haulage." Through Nazi brutality, looting, ghettoization and deportations, the community was entirely wiped out by August 1942.

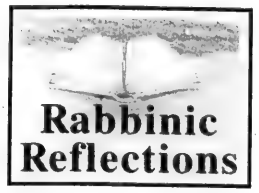
A *yizkorbuch* or memorial book for Zloczew is available from select Jewish and university libraries. Written in Hebrew and Yiddish, *Sefer Zloczew* was published in Tel Aviv in 1971 by a committee of the town's former residents, many of whom (or their children) may still be around to tell the Lauferts what they remember of their family.

Space limitations unfortunately prevent description of more research avenues open for exploration, which are both numerous and promising. One method of getting up-to-date information is to chat with members of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (416-638-3280; [e-mail henry_w@tvo.org]) at the monthly meetings at Sha'arei Shomayim Synagogue. Another is by reading the quarterly journal *Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy* (P.O. Box 900, Teaneck NJ 07666).

In regard to the Jewish settlement at Wapella in what is now Saskatchewan, Allen Klenman of Victoria, B.C. writes that his grandfather, Abraham Klenman, founded the first Jewish farm settlement there in 1887. He encloses Wapella Farm Settlement, *a 50-page tract by Cyril Edel Leonoff with many photographs, including one of Klenman's family taken in Montreal in 1887.*

Thanks for the book, which I had not seen before. For readers interested in tracking it down, it was published in 1972 (second edition, 1975) by the Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society in conjunction with the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada.

Israel's relationship with God



By RABBI AKIVA LUBOW

In the course of normal conversation, people tend to be verbose, repeating themselves, even if they sometimes use different words or terminology. Not so with the Torah. When we read the Torah, each word and even each letter of the Torah teaches us something new.

Therefore, when we read in this week's parshah (Shmot 6:6-7), "Say, therefore, to the people Israel: I am the Lord. I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from their bondage. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and through extraordinary chastisements. And I will take you to be My people, and I will be your God," we learn something new with each phrase of these two verses.

In fact, in these two brief verses, God uses four verbs to describe what he is about to do for the people Israel. We read, "I will bring you out...," "...and deliver..." "I will redeem you...," and "I will take you to be My people..." The use of these four verbs provides the basis for drinking four cups of wine at our Pesach seder. I would suggest that rather than being redundant, these four verbs are used to demonstrate a progression in the relationship between God and the people of Israel.

First, God says, "I will bring you out." This is the most elementary level, but it is an act which is necessary before the others will be possible. First the people Israel must experience physical freedom. So long as they live under the burden of slavery, it will be impossible for their relationship with God to grow and develop on a higher level. Then God says I will "deliver you." This is a verb which goes beyond physical freedom. A God who merely brings the people Israel out from slavery can allow them to be taken once again into servitude by capricious Pharaoh who has changed his mind, but a God who delivers His people is a God who will watch over them and protect them as they reach the sea.

Then, we are told, "I will redeem you..." This verb is related to the Hebrew technical term for a person who has the responsibility for ransoming of captives. It is also a verb related to the theme of redemption, and viewing God as the God of Redemption is a central tenet of Judaism. It is a theme which finds itself expressed numerous times in our liturgy, as well. It expresses a special relationship between God and the people Israel throughout all time.

That relationship reaches its pinnacle when we are told, "I will take you to be My people..." This is a phrase which has the legal force of establishing a covenant between God and the people Israel. When God says, "I will take you to be My people," it reminds us of the relationship metaphorically of bride and groom.

These four verbs which we read in this week's parshah establish a progression and an evolution of relationship between God and the people Israel. They speak not just to our ancestors at the time of our redemption from slavery in Egypt, but to our people throughout all generations. They speak not just to the relationship between a God and His people, but to the relationship with God which is available to each of us as individuals as we go about our lives.

Rabbi Lubow is the spiritual leader of the Rosh Pina Congregation in Winnipeg.

Pharmacist beats Ripken's record

By MICHAEL CHARLES
Special to The CJN

Norman Charles

Whenever I think of the fuss that was made over Cal Ripken's consecutive game record of 1,189 games, I have

Guest Voices

to smile. Anyone who has ever passed Charles Pharmacy in the past 57 years knows they never miss a day without seeing my father, Norman Charles.

Now in his 80s, he has never missed a shift for 17,100 days. Working for him is as natural as breathing and whenever I suggest he take a vacation or a day off, he chides me with the response that "working is my vacation."

To say his store is not located in the toniest part of Toronto would be an understatement. He constantly gets a lot of what he would call "rubbydubs" for customers.

I remember one day when one of his clients came in and handed him a pile of money. My father simply took the small package, lifted up the carriage of the till and neatly put the money away. I never said anything at the time, but I did wonder what was happening. A few days later, the man came into the store again and when my father saw him, he took the money out of the till and handed it back, nothing more said. That is the way it is with my father, a man of very few words whose actions speak for themselves.

As I reconstruct the scene 40 years later in my mind, what I think may have happened was that the man simply could not trust himself with all of that payday cash and gave it to my father for safekeeping. He might have been concerned that he would drink it away.

On the other hand, my father did not act very pleasantly when alcoholics came in to buy rubbing alcohol. I remember him intercepting me once, as I was getting a bottle from the back. He calmly walked to the front of the store and threw the man out. When I asked him why he would turn down a sale, he said the person was an alcoholic and would probably kill himself with that stuff.

It was not the first time I saw may father almost physically throw people he didn't like out of the store. If you could see all 130 pounds of him, you would wonder where he gets his nerve. The customer was not always right in my father's store.

About a year ago, when I went to visit him one night, I asked him why his arm was bruised. He brushed off the question, but my mother told me someone was reaching into the cash register and Dad slammed it shut on him before calling the police. He tends to do things like that.

A woman came in recently with a prescription that he noticed was false. He told her she would have to come back in a few hours because "his computer was down." After she left, he called the police and had them waiting to arrest her when she came back. I don't know where he gets his courage or his sense of justice, but it is all there.

Recently, the government changed procedures and insisted that the 63 remaining pharmacists not on computer change over immediately if they expected to be paid for drugs from the provincial plan. In my father's world, rules are rules. So he simply went about researching which computer and software package to buy and took the appropriate course. This was quite a challenge for someone who still used his original typewriter and could probably sell it as an antique for more than the computer he eventually bought.

As a keen observer of this man for the past 50 years, I only hope I can live up to his standards of integrity, honor and compassion. Maybe I should write Cal and tell him his record has been broken.

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Ultra-Orthodox get emergency medical response service

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Like a number of other cities in the world where there are large "frum" communities, Montreal's ultra-Orthodox Jews will soon have their own emergency medical response service.

Hatzoloh, as the service is known, is not intended to replace, but rather supplement, the public Urgences Santé, assisting it in overcoming language or "cultural barriers," said local coordinator Zev Neuwirth. Because its volunteers live and work in the same neighborhood as those who will use the service, Neuwirth believes Hatzoloh will be able to respond more quickly.

Entirely funded and run by the Jewish community, the non-profit, all-volunteer Hatzoloh is expected to be operational by the end of the year.

In Montreal, Hatzoloh will operate on a more limited basis than in, say, New York where it has its own ambulances, because by law Urgences Santé exclusively provides emergency stretcher-bearing transportation, and paramedics are not recognized in Quebec.

Hatzoloh's function will be similar to that of the emergency medical service run by Cote St. Luc and other municipalities, he said. In fact, its volunteers did their field training with the Cote St. Luc service, as well as in the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) emergency ward.

Hatzoloh has 25 emergency medical technicians, all young men, who are to take turns being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including holidays, serving initially the Orthodox communities in Outremont, and later Cote des Neiges and Snowdon.

Neuwirth said the community will be advised to continue to first call 911 in case of medical emergencies, and then Hatzoloh. Its technicians have received 150 hours of theoretical training, in a course approved by the U.S. Department of Transport. Hatzoloh's medical adviser is Dr. Alex Guttman, an emergency room doctor at the JGH.

Volunteers are equipped with a variety of emergency medical equipment, such as an airway management system and trauma care supplies. Like Urgences Santé attendants, Hatzoloh volunteers cannot perform any invasive procedure, such as starting an IV or blood transfusion or medicate, Neuwirth said.

When Urgences Santé arrives on the scene, Hatzoloh will step aside and let it take over, he said. Hatzoloh's role after that will be to assist with any language problems or other misunderstandings. Although Urgences Santé personnel is supposed to speak English, Neuwirth said, in times of crisis, many in these communities can think clearly only in Yiddish, especially the older people. Some also are apprehensive communicating with strange authority figures, he said.

"Although Urgences Santé may do an adequate job of serving the city at large, their huge workload and other priorities may have deprived them of the opportunity to adequately meet the special requirements of the frum Jewish community," an appeal from Hatzoloh states. "We must understand and appreciate that under Urgences Santé's current restraints, there is only so much that it can accomplish...Quite frankly, the Jewish community cannot expect Urgences Santé, which is doing the best job it can, to also serve its special needs."

Hatzoloh intends to offer preventive health and first aid programs in the community.

Besides New York, Hatzoloh operates in Monsey, N.Y., London, Zurich, Melbourne and Bnei Brak.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News.* **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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THE BORINS BEAT

The CJN has a new home and now so does this column. It's great to be back! **Sheila Seaton,** nee Goldberg, of Beverly Hills who is a subscriber will be happy as will my old friends and CJN Directors, **George Cohon** and **Murray Koffler.** This morning I was saddened to hear of George's close friend **Earl Walls'** passing. Earl was a great Canadian heavyweight champion, a genial real estate broker who touched a lot of people's lives ... a real mensch.

Another reader **Sheila Engel** got me involved in **Reena** years ago when my Wheat Sheaf Tavern used to donate Pub Nights for auction. That's how I met **Bert** and **Marilyn Raphael** who "won" a party night. I've written many times about how thankful we should be that Bert continues to monitor our daily newspapers and to respond with such zeal. During the last year or so I've also featured the affable Sheila Engel in my columns. My loyal readers will be happy to know she found her "hunk". In fact **Dr. Norton Lithwick** recently threw a **SURPRISE** 50th birthday party at Simpatico for her. **Ruth Ladovsky** of **United Bakers** fame took great photos. **Ira Sack, Flory Lebow, Bob Cohen and Elaine Yaffe** regaled us with their stories and genial **Jerry Yaffe** was the very funny M.C. Harriet and I enjoyed seeing Sheila's great kids **Alysa and Josh. Sy and Carrol Eisler** as always were great dinner companions. I know you like when I name names. I think I heard Sheila say that it was the first time she knew everyone in a restaurant but having enjoyed many meals with her at **United Bakers Dairy Restaurant, La Maison Benoit** and **Sabatino's,** I doubt it. Have a happy year dear friend.

Well, my **OBUSFORME** (founded in 1980 by my old neighbour **Frank Roberts,** another **Reena** supporter) got me through another column. **Reena** has brought joy and hope to so many families. Wonderful leadership of so many able staff and marvelous volunteers ... I'm thrilled to continue to be a part of **Reena.**

Abi Gezundt and Shalom.

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, being built on Clark Avenue in the City of Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss the dedication opportunities still available

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From coast to coast

Tribute planned for Irving Layton's 85th birthday

MONTREAL — A tribute to poet Irving Layton on his 85th birthday is being planned here for March 9 at the Centaur Theatre.

"Irving Layton has been one of Montreal's and Canada's most flamboyant, outspoken and daring literary figures for close to 60 years," said tribute committee chair Roma Gelblum Bross. "To say that he is part of the literary scene and history of this country and the city would be an understatement. He has made its history."

Layton has been in failing health. The evening will be a chance for fellow writers, friends and family members to share their memories. Layton himself is expected to read from his works.

Centaur director Maurice Podbrey will act as emcee, while Muriel Gold, a former director of the Saidye Bronfman Centre Theatre, will be artistic director. Among the writers who will participate are Michael Harris, David Solway and D.G. Jones.

Born Israel Pincas Lazarovitch in a Romanian village in 1912, Layton came with his family to Montreal a year later. He dropped out of school for a while to work as a pedlar, but later re-entered Baron Byng High School.

He earned a degree in agriculture at Macdonald College and later a master's in political science at McGill University.

In 1940, he began teaching English to immigrants at the Jewish People's Library and at the Jewish Teachers' Seminary. In 1946, he became a teacher of English and British history at Herzliah High School, a career that would last about a decade.

One of his early students, Ethel Roskies, recalled that the brash and exuberant Layton stood out among his colleagues, most of whom were rather dour older Europeans.

"He was not a good teacher in any conventional sense. He was not patient or kind. He fired chalkboard erasers at you if he didn't like your answers. He broke all the rules. We had never seen anything like him."

Layton published close to 1,000 poems and prose pieces in some 50 books, as well as volumes of correspondence and an autobiography. He won a Governor General's Award for poetry in 1959 and was named to the Order of Canada in 1976.

He taught for many years at Concordia University (and its predecessor Sir George Williams) and at Toronto's York University from 1969-78.

The tribute is sponsored by the Quebec Society for the Promotion of English-Language Literature (QSPELL).

For ticket information, call 514-934-2485.

Will return in two weeks

Israel will focus on security needs

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Despite U.S. President Bill Clinton's public rebuke of Israel recently, the Jewish State will act in its own interests and continue to expand settlements in order to enhance its security, the secretary-general of world Likud said in an interview.

"The best way to unify Israel, as history has shown, is to put pressure on Israel," said Michael Adari during a visit to Montreal to build support for Herut-Likud.

"The position of U.S. presidents has always been that the settlements are an 'obstacle' to peace, but we cannot afford to look at it through this prism," Adari said.

He suggested as well that any differences with the United States over settlement policy are far outweighed by "mutual" and "common" interests that will not jeopardize the alliance.

Israel's determination to press ahead with new construction is based on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's commitment to Likud policy – within the legal parametres of the Oslo accords – to expand existing settlements.

A permanent Jewish presence in Hebron "is the essence of what Judaism is all about," Adari said.

Adari also included "reciprocity" by the Palestinians as an essential element to a "real and secure" peace, but he expressed distrust of Yasser Arafat, who, in his view, has not changed his terrorist stripes.

And while differences exist within Herut-Likud over the wisdom of dealing with Arafat, there is complete unity on three main principles: there will never be a Palestinian state or a divided Jerusalem, and settlements will expand.

"For the first time, we have a prime minister who means what he says," Adari said.

Adari said part of his work while travelling has been to clarify the "confusion" and "misunderstanding" of Likud policies in the Diaspora, largely attributable to a weakness in Israel's own *hasbarah* skills and negative media coverage.

On the other hand, Adari noted, Herut-Likud has always found a more receptive hearing among average members of the Jewish community than it has had from the Jewish "establishment."

He cited the huge support enjoyed by Likud-Herut among average Jews in France, many of them Sephardim, who turned out by the thousands to welcome Netanyahu when he visited the country soon after his election.

Adari hoped to tap some of that same sensibility in Canada, where he said Herut-Likud activities have essentially been in a state of "hibernation."

While in Montreal, Adari spoke at Petach Tikvah Synagogue in St. Laurent and consulted with membership at a briefing at the Beth Israel Beth Aaron synagogue.

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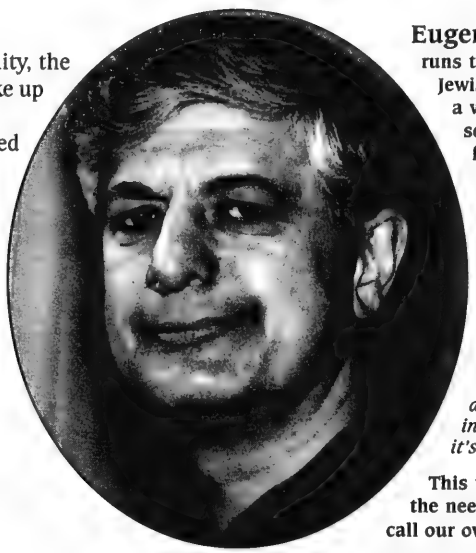

Eugene Maiese
runs the creative arts program at the Jewish Home for the Aged, and over 300 residents a week benefit from his creativity and sensitivity. A fine artist trained in New York, for the past 10 years, Eugene has used his talent to encourage the clients at Baycrest. Painted silk scarves, pottery, weaving, stained glass and mosaics blossom from hands tainted with time or illness.

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דעם 13-טן יאַנואַר איז געווארן 55 יאָר זינט די דייטשע רוצחים האָבן ליקווידירט די געטאָס אין ראַדאָם און אומגעבראַכט איבער 30 טויזנט יידן — מענער, פרויען און קינדער.

אין דער צייט, ווען די נאַצי-מערדער האָבן אומגעבראַכט די פוילישע יידן, האָט די פרייַע וועלט נישט געוואָלט הערן דעם ס.א.ס. געשרייַ פון אונזערע פראָפינקטע ברידער אין שוועסטער, און די ציוווילידירטע וועלט האָט זיך גלייכגילטיק צוגעקוקט צום ספעקטאַקל פון מאָרדן אַ גאַנץ פאָלק.

מיט דער באַרימטער פינקטלעכקייט און סיסטעמאַטישקייט זייַנען די געטאָס און לאַגערן פאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין רייזקע לאַבאָראַריעס פון טויט. אויף דער באַרימטער ווצוג אין בערלין אין 1942, האָבן די דייטשן באַשלאָסן צוצוואיילן דעם פראָצעס פון פאַרניכטונג פון פוילישן יידנטום, און מיט אַ פאַרשנעלערטן סטעמפּ גרינדן זיי די גאַז-קאַמערן און קרעמאַטאָריעס.

* * *

יעדע דייטשע אַקציע קעגן יידן האָט זיך אַנגעהויבן מיט אַ יידישן יום-טוב . . . מיט ראָזפּידטער דייטשער פינקטלעכקייט און מעטאָדע האָבן זיי אויסגערעכנט דעם פסיכאָלאָגישן פאַקטאָר.

דאָס אויסקלייבן יום-טובים איז נישט געווען קיין צופעליקייט. זיי האָבן עס געטאָן מיט יידן אויך אין אַנדערע לענדער. די דייטשן האָבן מיט דעם געוואָלט פארשטארקן דעם געפיל פון הילפלאָזיקייט, מוטלאָזיקייט און הפקרות בי יידן און זיי צעברעכן מאָראַליש.

שוין אין יום-כיפור 1939 איז פאַרגעקומען די באָמבאַרדירונג פון דער ראַדאָמער יידישער געגנט, און אחרון של פסח תש״א זיינען די ראַדאָמער יידן אַרויסגעטריבן געוואָרן אין צווייַ קליינע געטאָס. טרויעריק באַקאַנט זיינען געווען די דייטשע אַקציעס אין תשעה באב און פורים.

באַלד נאָך דעם ווי די דייטשן האָבן פאַרנומען ראַדאָם, איז פאַרבאָטן געוואָרן צו דאַוונען. דער באָפעל איז אָבער נישט אויסגעפירט געוואָרן. אין די שול געשלאָסן געוואָרן און שפּעטער פאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין אַ מאָגאַזין. אין בית-המדרש האָט מען נאָך די ערשטע וואָכן געדאַוונט, אָבער ווען דאָס געטאָ איז געשאפן געוואָרן, האָט מען דאָרטן איינגעאַרדנט אַן איראַלאָטאָריום.

יעקב לעוונטאַל דערציילט, אַז ערב יום-כיפור האָבן די דייטשן אַזוי גערופן אויף די יידישע גאַסן, אַז עס איז אומגעלעך געווען צו גיין צו כל-נדרי. יום-כיפור ביינאַכט איז אין שול געווען פינצטער, און דאָס ערשטע מאָל אין דער געשיכטע פון יידישן ראַדאָם, האָבן יידן אָפּגעריכט די תפילות אין פרייוואָטע היזער.

יעקב לעוונטאַל דערציילט אויך, אַז דער רבי ר׳ יאָסעלע איז דערשאָסן געוואָרן אין פענצערס גאָרטן, בשעת דער גליציאנער אויסזידלונג. ער האָט ביי זיך געהאַט אַ שופר, וואָס ער האָט מיט-גענומען אַלס סגולה. אָפילו נאָך זיין טויט האָבן די דייטשן נעוואָלט אָפּשאָפן פון אַ רעליגיעזן מנהג און אים באַגראָבן צוזאַמען מיט אַ התט.

באַזונדערס טרויעריק איז געווען די פּורים אָקציע אין 1942. די דייטשן האָבן אַרויסגעלאָזט אַ באָפעל, אַז די גאַנצע יידישע אינטעליגענץ אין ראַדאָם זאָל זיך רעגיסטרירן צו פּאָרן קיין ארץ ישראל. עס האָבן זיך רעגיסטרירט אַלע יידישע אַוונטאָקאַטן, דאָקטוירים, בוכהאַלטערן און סתם אינטעליגענץ. די דייטשן האָבן זיי אַלע אַוועקגעפירט אין אויטאָס קיין שידלאָווצע און דאָרטן, אויפן יידישן בית עולם אַלע דערשאָסן מיט מאַשין-געווער.

אין ראש השנה האָבן דייטשן אַרויסגעשלעפט יידן מיט טלחים פון פּריזאָטע מנינים, זיי געפּינקט און מיט חוק געשריגן: „וואו איז אייער גאָט?!״. מיט דער דייטשער רציחה האָט עס היט-לער נעהאַפט צו באַזינגן די גאַנצע וועלט.

אויך די פּאַליאַקן, אויסער קליינע אויסנאַמען, ווערן מיטגע-ריסן מיט דעם גרויסן ספעקטאַקל: דער מאָסן-מאָרד איבער די פאַרהאַסטע „זשידעס״, די „אנטי-קריסטן״. די דייטשן האָבן אויסגעקליבן פּוילן. זיי האָבן געוני געווואוסט, אַז די לאַקאַלע באַפעלקערונג וועט מיטהעלפן ענטוויאַסטיש.

ווען מען האָט געלאָדעוועט די ראַדאָמער יידן אין די פראַכט-צוגן קיין טרעבלינקע, איז געווען אַ שרעקלעכע הין און די פּאַ-ליאַקן האָבן זיך אָפּגעזאָגט צו געבן וואַסער די דורשטיקע קרבנות, אפילו פאר גרעלט.

די בלוטיקע היסלער-חיות האָבן דערמאָרדעט, דערשטיקט און פארגאזט 30 טויזנט ראַדאָמער יידן.

לאָמיר זיי געדענקען און אפהיטן זייער הייליקע צוואה: נישט פארגעסן וואָס דאָס מערדער-פאָלק — די דייטשן — האָבן געטאָן צו זעקס מיליאָן יידן.

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From coast to coast

Calgary's Jewish community continues to thrive

Over the past two decades, the Calgary Jewish community has experienced rapid growth, increasing in size from 3,275 in 1971 to more than 7,000 in 1991. This rapid increase has had significant impact on the character of the community, as shown in a recently released demographic study.

The study reveals that Calgary's Jewish community is relatively young, with lower than average rates of Jewish identification and higher than average rates of intermarriage. The proportion of recent immigrants to the community, particularly from the former Soviet Union, is higher than in other Canadian Jewish communities.

The study, entitled *Weaving Diverse Strands: Demographic Challenge Transforming the Fabric of Jewish Communal Life in Calgary*, was prepared by James L. Torczyner and Shari L. Brotman of McGill University's Consortium for Ethnicity and Strategic Social Planning, in conjunction with the Council of Jewish Federations-Canada and Calgary's Jewish Community Council.

Through its analysis of the 1991 Canadian census, the study provides important information on the makeup of the Jewish community of Calgary – information that will be useful to communal leadership in reaching future funding decisions on the maintenance, development and expansion of local communal resources, services and institutions.

In the 1991 census, Canadians were asked to identify themselves by religion and by ethic origin. For the purposes of the study, a Jew is defined as "someone who identifies him/herself as being 'Jewish by religion,' or 'Jewish by religion and Jewish by ethnic origin' or 'Jewish by ethnic origin with no religion.' " Excluded from the analysis were those who identified themselves as Jewish by ethnic origin but with a religion other than Jewish.

Some of the points brought out in the study are:

• **Population growth** — Calgary's Jewish community has received a high proportion of immigrant Jews to Canada over the last 20 years. One in five Jews in Calgary are recent immigrants who arrived after 1971. This figure is higher than the national average — immigrants make up only 14.8 percent of the national Jewish population. The majority of foreign-born Jewish people who arrived in the last 20 years (62.3 percent) are from the former USSR, another 14.2 percent from Israel.

In 1971, one out of every 100 Calgary Jews was born in the former Soviet Union. Twenty years later, Russian-born Jews comprised one out of every 12 Jewish Calgarians — an increase of 800 percent.

Another factor contributing to Calgary's rapid growth was the influx of Jews from other parts of Canada, especially Quebec, and the simultaneous expansion of Calgary's economy due to the oil boom.

• **Children** — The number of Jewish children has also risen dramatically. In 1981, there were only 850 Jewish children in Calgary under the age of 10, and they accounted for 15.1 percent of the Jewish population at that time. In 1991, there were 1,185 Jewish children living in Calgary under the age of 10, representing 16.6 percent of the Jewish population.

Calgary's Jewish community has a higher proportion of young persons and middle aged persons (35 to 40) and a lower percentage of elderly persons than other Canadian Jewish centres.

• **Patterns of Jewish identification** — Only 77.6 percent of Calgary Jews said they identified as Jewish by religion. Only two other centres had lower rates of identification with Jewish as a religion – Edmonton and Vancouver.

The authors of the study believe that two factors may influence the relatively low rates of Jewish identification in Calgary. They write that "it may be that Jews who are less affiliated and less identified are more likely to move to Calgary than those who place a greater importance on living in a community with more Jewish institutional resources ... [at the same time] Calgary Jews who are very committed to Jewish life may encourage their children to leave Calgary and move to a community with a greater Jewish presence."

• **Intermarriage** Calgary has higher than average intermarriage rates, the fourth highest of all Jewish communities of any size in Canada, following Vancouver, Halifax and Edmonton. One out of every three Jewish children (33.3 percent) lives in a family situation where one parent is not Jewish. Intermarriage is more common among younger Jews, in the 25 to 39 age group.

• **Living arrangements** — The living arrangements of Jews in Calgary are stable and traditional. The predominant living arrangement is husband-wife families consisting of Jews married to other Jews (over 77 percent). However, 7.2 percent lived in single parent families, with 93.4 percent of these families headed by women.

More children live in husband-wife families in the Jewish community in Calgary than in the general population, but one in 10 Jewish children lived in single-parent families, the majority living with a female single parent.

• **Socio-economic status** — As stated in the study: "In general, the Jewish community of Calgary has attained higher levels of education, income and participation rates in professional occupations and industries than has the Calgary population as a whole. Consider the following points:

— Twice as many Jews earned $75,000 or more in 1991 as did members of the Calgary population as a whole.

— Sixty percent of all Jews in Calgary were either enrolled in university or had completed at least a bachelor's degree. These rates are twice that of the city's general population.

— Calgary Jewry had a greater percentage of people in professions than the Calgary population as a whole. One out of 20 doctors and dentists in Calgary in 1991 was Jewish, compared to one out of 30 Calgarians generally.

However, the study points out that Calgary Jews are not as well off as Canadian Jews generally. While 7.4 percent of Calgary Jews earned $75,000 and more, 10 percent of Canadian Jews had that level of income.

Jews in Calgary had higher participation rates in several professional occupations in 1991 than did Calgarians in general, including: human services and teaching, accountants, notaries, lawyers and judges, physicians and dentists.

• **Poverty among Jews** — One out of every six Jews in Calgary, or a total of 1,240, lived below or near the poverty line. This poverty rate is higher than the national Jewish average, but lower than levels among the Calgary population as a whole. Women are more likely to be poor than men and 33.6 percent of all Jewish seniors lived below the poverty line. Almost one in five Jewish children under the age of 14 lived in poverty in 1991.

• **The elderly** — Almost one in 10 Jews in Calgary are over 65 years of age. This is considerably lower than the national Jewish rate of 17.3 percent. There were 230 Holocaust survivors in 1991, representing 3.2 percent of the Jewish population.

In summing up, the study's authors write: "The factors of intensive Russian Jewish immigration following a period of economic growth and migration of large number of Jews from other parts of Canada, combined with a sharply higher birth rate, has transformed Calgarian Jewish life in a unique way."

This transformation, they write, rasies challenges for community building. These challenges fall into five categories.

• **The challenge of rapid growth** — Rapid growth creates demands for diverse Jewish institutions and challenges to provide funding to meet the increased demand. Will the community's fund-raising capacity be able to keep pace with the anticipated service demands on it? How ought the community to prioritize the various agenda items? Should emphasis be placed on educational programming, family support or assistance to immigrants and to the poor?

• **The challenge of Russian immigration** — How well equipped are the Jewish communal agencies to respond to the linguistic and cultural needs of this sizable population group? To what extent are Russian Jewish immigrants becoming integrated into Jewish communal life? Are they represented on decision-making bodies? "Specific efforts will be required to incorporate Russian and other immigrant Jews in community governance and to secure their participation in community fund-raising efforts," states the report.

Reprinted courtesy the Jewish Free Press.

Annual General Meeting of Shareholders Eldorado Camp and Amusements Limited

will be held
Tuesday, January 21, 1997
at 6:00 p.m.
at the
Winchevsky Centre
585 Cranbrooke Avenue
North York

I. Fine, *President*

Annual General Meeting of Shareholders United Jewish People's Credit Union Limited

will be held
Tuesday, January 21, 1997
at 6:30 p.m.
at the
Winchevsky Centre
585 Cranbrooke Avenue
North York

I. Fine, *President*

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 9, is deadline for Jan. 23 issue, and Thursday, Jan. 16, is deadline for Jan. 30. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Jan. 12

SURVIVORS, SWISS BANKS

Entertainment and Cultural Connection, in conjunction with Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood, presents **Sergio Karas**, recently featured in newspaper and magazine articles and on CBC's *The National*, speaking on Holocaust Survivors, Money, Swiss Banks: Fighting for Justice, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim. Guests $2. **Jerry and Sandra Genesove**, coordinators.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth. Come listen, come tell, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914.

Monday, Jan. 13

FREE FINANCIAL SEMINAR

State of Israel Bonds presents an entertaining tax saving evening with financial expert **Brian Costello**, 7:30 p.m., Richmond Hill Country Club, 8905 Bathurst St. Reserve 789-3351.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, general meeting 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Program: Selecting Your Colors and Weekenders Fashions. Door prize: complimentary assessment of your colors. Prospective members invited. **Lil** 905-771-8386 or **Sheila** 665-3333.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood meeting features **Bonnie Kates**, chair, facilitator, trainer of volunteers, discussing Tel Aide: The Jewish Distress Line, 8 p.m.

EDUCATION FAIR

Education Fair at Woodsworth College, University of Toronto, 119 St. George St., 4-7 p.m. Find out about part-time undergraduate degree, diploma, certificate and pre-university programs, and also non-credit programs. 978-4444.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood's Women's Health Issues series continues with Body Image: Food, Fact and Fantasy, **Dr. Miriam Kaufman**, pediatrician, Hospital for Sick Children; **Ann Kerr**, Sheena's Place, a centre offering community support, counselling; **Merryl Bear**, National Eating Disorder Information Centre, 8 p.m.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group features Intergenerational Relationships with **Rabbi Ariel Friedlander**, assistant rabbi, Holy Blossom, noon, Bring your lunch; coffee, tea, cookies served. $1. **Leslie Lewis** 789-3291, ext. 233.

Thursday, Jan. 16

ABOUT HEBRON

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto welcomes **Rabbi Mordechai Becher**, senior lecturer of Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, whose topic is What's the Big Deal About Hebron: The Religious and Mystical Significance of a Small Town Outside of Jerusalem, 8:30 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5. 905-886-5730.

And What Else Is New

DISCOVERY SEMINAR

Jerusalem Fellowships and Aish HaTorah one-day Discovery Seminar for students and young professionals, Sunday, Jan. 19, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., York University Vari Hall D. $15 if pre-register by Jan. 14, $20 at door, 905-764-1818, ext. 225.

HOW TO READ HEBREW

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's adult education class continues with a six-class series, Learn How to Read Hebrew, Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 12, 19, 26.

Cont'd. on page 21]

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Fresh'n Tasty Juices or Drinks
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Kosher, Value Club Pack, 5.69 kg
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Frozen, Country, Straight or Shoestring, 1 kg bag
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Regular Coleslaw
Tastefully Yours From the Deli
.99 /100 g
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Fresh Mushrooms
Product of Ontario
4.39 kg
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Fresh!
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Cello Soup
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Fresh From The Bakery
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179

Sponge Cake
Fresh From The Bakery
400 g
329

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT. SUNDAY, JAN. 5 UNTIL SATURDAY, JAN. 11, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd from page 20]

Pride of Israel Synagogue. $10 for series. Register 226-0111.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

Jewish Family Life Groups offered by Jewish Family & Child Service: Parenting Groups for Teens (Jan. 29), For School Age (Jan. 28); Adult Children Losing a Parent (begins Jan. 21); Young Widow/Widower Group for individuals under 60 who have recently lost a spouse. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

ADULT HEBREW CLASSES

Temple Sinai offers classes in advanced beginners Hebrew Thursdays 7:30 p.m., beginning Jan. 16, for 10 weeks. Knowledge of Hebrew alphabet a must. $50 members, $75 non-members. Register 487-4161.

AISH HATORAH

Programs at Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Financial and Estate Planning seminar, financial consultant **Brian Singer,** Sunday, Jan. 12, 8 p.m.

Revealed Soul series, The Glass Blower – Exploring the Five Components of Our Spiritual Being, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel**, Wednesday, Jan. 15, 8 p.m.

ADULT CO-ED CHOIR

To all singers, amateur and professional alike! Bloor JCC is starting an adult co-ed choir led by **Harriet Wichin**, film and choir director from Montreal. Repertoire includes doo-wop, jazz, classical, ethnic, chant, Jewish and Yiddish songs. Rehearsals Tuesdays or Thursdays (depending on availability) 7:30-9:30 p.m., starting Jan. 20 or 23. JCC members $65, non-members $80. 924-6211.

KOLEL MINI-COURSE

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning annual mini-course Jan. 11 and 12. Saturday lecture by **Rabbi Lawrence Kushner**, Sacred Stories of the Ordinary, 8 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre. Sunday workshops at Bathurst Jewish Centre, The "Big" Connection; The Joys and Perils of Jewish Connection; Individual Spirituality Meets Communal Responsibility. Tickets at BJC or call Kolel 905-764-1329.

ICRF FUNRAISER

The '70s returned to Toronto for one night only when Young Associates of the Israel Cancer Research Fund presented Get Funked recently at The Docks. Over 1,000 people attended the event and more than $33.000 was raised for cancer research.

HEBREW CLASSES

Hebrew made fun and easy with **Yael Lev**, conversational Hebrew classes (ulpan method), all levels, daytime or evening. Special Hebrew and Heritage classes for parents with children in Jewish schools. Classes start the week of Jan. 6 and Jan. 14 at Associated Hebrew School (Atkinson), Beth Tikvah Synagogue and Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogue. 225-6151,

REENA VOLUNTEERS

Enhance the life of a person with a developmental handicap by becoming a Reena volunteer – become a friend, visit and assist in one of Reena's group homes, or invite an individual with a developmental disability, with no family, to your family activities or special dinners.

In addition, volunteers will be needed at Reena's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, a day program facility opening in Spring of 1997. Also in Reena's administrative office. **Arlene Margolese**, coordinator, Volunteer Services, 787-9554, ext. 3036 or 787-0131.

CALL A NEWCOMER!

The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program is seeking volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Luba Yanko** 636-1880, ext. 261.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for the March 5-26 vacation trip to Israel, which includes 10½ days of touring. Orientation Monday, Jan. 13. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets Thursdays 7 p.m. at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Jan. 16 program is *Les Miserables* (video) and Jan. 23 is Tu b'Shvat celebration with guitarist **Yitzhak Argman**, non-members $2. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: *Ragtime* Feb. 12. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

Club Hadar meets Mondays and Thursdays 1-4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, Meeting Room 2, for Tai Chi, painting, discussions, bingo. **Viola Landman** 905-886-2625.

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La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Relieving Stress and Improving Sleep with Nutrition and Exercise with **Rick Tufts** of Sleep/Wake Disorders of North York, Thursday, Jan. 16, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. A lecture is scheduled for Jan. 15. **Anna.**

at the JCC/BJC

Downtown Jewish Learning Council offers a wide range of courses at the Bloor JCC – from Hebrew Language to Kosher Cooking, from Vegetarianism to Mysticism. Classes begin immediately. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC is starting an adult co-ed choir. Check item under What Else Is New for details.

At Bloor JCC Seniors Club meeting Thursday, Jan. 9, 2 p.m., photographer **Janet Trost** discusses her photodocumentary on seniors in a multicultural society. **Judy** 924-6211.

The family fun centre at BJC is open Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m. to noon. Indoor children's activity centre, gym and swim are part of the program. Tickets at athletic desk. 636-1880, ext. 284.

About People

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Leah Aryeh, national president of Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital of Jerusalem, has announced the appointment of **Renee Wortzman** as the new executive director in Toronto. A past executive director of the Jerusalem Foundation of Toronto, Wortzman is a board member of the Anshei Minsk Synagogue and president of the sisterhood.

Renee Wortzman

FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT OF IMA

Dr. Daphna Gladman (foreground), professor of medicine, University of Toronto, rheumatologist and deputy director of the Centre for Prognosis Studies in Rheumatic Diseases, Toronto Hospital (Western Division) was recently elected the first woman president of a World Fellowship chapter, Israel Medical Association (IMA). Other officers are (from left) Dr. Kusiel Perlman, treasurer; Dr. Sharon Domb, secretary; Dr. Robert Josse, honorary president; Dr. Wulf Grobin, World Fellowship vice-president; Carol Epstein, conference coordinator.

PNAI MEETING

Pictured at a recent meeting of Parents of North American Israelis (PNAI) are (from left) Minabelle Haneford, membership chair; Saul Isenberg, president; guest speaker Lisa Armony, national director, Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith; Charles King, editor; Ruth Stein, corresponding secretary; Victor Sefton, program chair; Edith Sefton, past president; Beverly Isenberg. [Mollie Rothman photo]

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From coast to coast

Beth Tikvah provides hope for the disabled

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — If a family can be defined as a group of people who share a dwelling and a commitment to one another, then Beth Tikvah would surely qualify.

Beth Tikvah, which literally means house of hope, is a Jewish group home for adults with developmental disabilities. The name is appropriate for the six residents who have come here from other centres, many of which, they indicate, were not as caring as the place they now call home.

Located in West Hamilton, Beth Tikvah was founded after years of advocacy by a board of directors that believed facilities for developmentally disabled adults in the Hamilton area were not providing Jewish residents with an environment where their culture was respected or supported.

As stated in Beth Tikvah Foundation's mission statement, the group envisioned a home "where each person is entitled to live in a stable nurturing, age-appropriate, culturally sensitive environment... steeped in tradition and the observance of all Judaic laws and customs."

The vision is now a reality, but success has exacted a price. Some government officials feel that the clients don't really belong in a group home.

"Our people are seen as high functioning," explains Lea Odoardi-Pollard, executive director of the residence. "But one reason Beth Tikvah clients do so well is because they're very well supported and they have structure."

If the same officials had been around six years ago, she says, they would have observed that there has been a dramatic change in some of the residents.

"Everything here is done to optimize people's abilities. In the right environment, people blossom."

A close bond, built and nurtured in the last four years, exists between Beth Tikvah counsellors and residents. During weekly planning sessions, staff help clients plan their day, budget their finances and cope with any emotional issue that may arise.

Integration in the community is considered important and residents are known in their neighborhood, and at recreational facilities and government-funded workshops across the city.

When they go to the local dry cleaner, flower shop, kosher deli or butcher, the residents are greeted by neighbors and merchants.

Beth Tikvah's board is looking to expand its mandate.

"We know there are other people in the Jewish community who need us but want to remain in their own environment or with their families," says Odoardi-Pollard.

Although Beth Tikvah can't take any more residents, people in the community can be supported through home visits or through participating in the home's Shabbat dinners or other activities.

Accountant new president of Winnipeg JCC

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Larry Hurtig, an accountant and businessman, has recently been elected president of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC).

A major challenge says Hurtig, who for the past three years has been vice-president in charge of budget and allocations, will be to keep young Jewish adults in the city and to attract immigrants to Winnipeg in order to counteract the city's aging population. "We have one of the highest percentages of Jewish seniors in Canada," he says. "We have to do more to keep young people here."

Hurtig has been involved in Winnipeg's efforts to attract Jewish families from Argentina. Since the initiative was started last year, six Argentinian Jewish families have moved to the city.

The new president notes the importance of smoothly integrating the WJCC's beneficiary agencies — including the new Western Canada Jewish Museum and Holocaust Centre — into the Asper Jewish Community Campus when it opens next fall.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Gene therapy employed in cancer treatment

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Cancer researchers are excited for the first time in many years.

"The most exciting things are happening in cancer research and gene therapy," says Dr. Michael Baker, physician-in-chief at the Toronto Hospital, associate chair of medicine at the University of Toronto and clinical oncologist at Princess Margaret Hospital.

Baker, a founding board member of the Leukemia Research Fund, Interlink and the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research also served as host to Princess Margaret at the opening of the new Princess Margaret Hospital last year.

"We can now take a blood sample, look at the genes of a patient and determine if the patient would be susceptible to breast or prostate cancer," he says. "Some patients have a hereditary factor and the genes indicate that they have a high risk of getting cancer."

The first part of their research involved examining and locating an abnormal gene in women with breast cancer who have relatives with a strong history of the disease, Baker explained.

'We know how to alter genes'

"Now we know what the mutation looks like," he says. "It must be responsible for the growing and spreading." He notes that there are similar findings in prostate cancer, but the research is not as advanced.

"Today, we know how to change and alter genes and human gene therapy allows us to create new gene patterns."

Oncologist, Dr. Michael Baker escorts Princess Margaret at the official opening of the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Bone marrow transplants are "the best way to do gene therapy because the bone marrow cells reproduce and become part of the body." New genes stay in patients' bodies for the rest of their lives and fight cancer cells, he says.

"I believe this will make a big difference to future cancer patients and hopefully prevent cancer from occuring," Baker says.

Despite ongoing research, however, Baker says that the health delivery crisis is not only a local, but a worldwide problem.

"With a growing aging population who require more care, along with a rapid rise of expensive technology such as gene therapy and organ transplants, we keep inventing new treatments and don't have enough wealth to pay for them all."

He believes that Canada has to revise the Canada Health Act to permit private medicine to be established along with publicly funded health care. "Everyone should continue to have access to publicly funded medical health care but if you can afford it, you should, in addition, be able to access private health care services.

Referring to his day with Princess Margaret, Baker said she was a "wonderful visitor who was keenly interested in the programs at Princess Margaret Hospital and asked for details of patient care.

"I was impressed with her kindness in speaking to the patients and particularly in taking time to speak with the children of cancer patients in the children's area.

"She insisted on taking extra time with the children even though it set off her schedule."

Study links protein with diabetes

NEW YORK – Leptin, the protein that made headlines two years ago when it was found to reduce obesity in mice, may be a cause of adult-onset diabetes in humans, according to a new Weizmann Institute of Science study.

The institute, based in Rehovot, Israel, found that high levels of leptin disrupt some of the activities of insulin, the hormone that controls blood sugar levels.

The research also suggests that if leptin is developed into a weight-loss drug in the future, it should be used with caution because it may cause the user to develop diabetes-related symptoms.

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Weizman concludes 'milestone visit'

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

BOMBAY — "This visit went beyond our expectations, both from the political and from the economic point of view," President Ezer Weizman said Saturday night, winding up a one-week state visit to India.

Weizman was speaking at a dinner hosted by the chief minister of the state of Maharashtra, Manohar Joshi. The president said he wanted to thank the government and the people of India for their warm hospitality and to send them blessings from the state of Israel.

"We have a great deal with which to help each other. I know how difficult it is to become independent after having been ruled by others. We went through it, too. You have built up your own universities and educated your own scientists, some of whom I met, and this is a great achievement," Weizman said.

He said that it was symbolic that when he first left India 50 years ago, he left from the port of Bombay, and that now it is known as Mumbai. India is currently in the process of renaming its towns by their original, Indian names.

Earlier Saturday night, the president inaugurated another joint Indo-Israeli venture: a 1,000-acre farm which will be cultivated jointly by experts and farmers from both countries.

The president and his wife, Reuma, spent Shabbat quietly at their hotel, hosting members of the Indian Jewish community for a festive Friday night dinner.

"I would like to see more members of your community coming to Israel," Weizman told the local Jewish community members. "If possible, try to send your youth to us."

Passersby outside the Taj Mahal Hotel in Bombay were taken aback when the president decided to walk out and view the Bombay seafront, and the Gateway of India, a monument built to King George V when he arrived on Indian soil. Weizman shook hands with the crowd, who received him warmly.

Indian officials said that they were extremely pleased with the results of the visit, and that numerous economic deals had been worked out by members of the economic delegation.

Delegation members said that the presence of the president had given tremendous impetus to the deals.

"It was a milestone visit," said Dan Propper, head of the Manufacturers Association.

Israeli President Ezer Weizman (left) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda as Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharmaduring (centre) looks on during a welcoming ceremony recently at the presidential palace in New Delhi. [RNS photo]

Hebron deal elusive

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — An Israeli-Palestinian agreement for the turnover of most of Hebron is still elusive.

After more than 13 weeks of intensive discussions, as well as a meeting between the leaders of the two sides, repeated statements that an agreement was imminent have proven premature.

Observers say the agreement is now being held up over a Palestinian demand that Israel adhere to a strict timetable for redeploying from rural sections of the West Bank, as called for under the terms of the Interim Agreement signed in September 1995.

As far as Hebron itself is concerned, the two sides have reportedly resolved most security issues relating to the Israeli troop redeployment in the West Bank town, which is home to some 500 Jewish settlers and 130,000 Palestinians.

Not yet resolved is the matter of joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols near the Tomb of the Patriarchs, which is holy to both Jews and Muslims.

But the Palestinians are now calling for commitments from Israel to implement aspects of the Interim Agreement that are not related to Hebron.

Along with the further redeployments in the West Bank, these include opening a safe passage route for Palestinians travelling between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the release of Palestinian security prisoners from Israeli jails.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat met early Sunday morning at the Erez crossing separating Israel from the Gaza Strip, in an attempt to work out the remaining issues. But after more than four hours of discussions, they failed to resolve their differences.

The talks came after a week of indications that the two would soon hold a summit to initial an agreement. Instead, they apparently decided to hold a behind-the-scenes meeting in an effort to iron out the final obstacles.

Netanyahu later said he regretted that word of the meeting had been leaked to the media.

"I had hoped the meeting would remain secret, because I think it is important for such meetings to help build trust, to build working relationships," Netanyahu told a business conference. "There are some meetings which should not take place in the light of the cameras."

The leak to the media apparently took senior aides from both sides by surprise.

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Israel & the Jewish World

WJC considers boycott of Swiss banks

[Cont'd from page 1]

The WJRO, which was created in 1992 by the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Agency for Israel, said the measures included calls for a withdrawal of investments in Swiss banks, cancellation of the banks' operating licences and a class action suit against the banks.

Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg and World Jewish Congress secretary general Israel Singer said at the news conference that the WJRO had reluctantly formulated the list of punitive actions after Delamuraz made the comments last week.

Singer said the WJRO would wait four weeks before implementing the steps outlined in their proposal.

"This gives the Swiss enough time to consider their position," he said.

Noting that the Swiss government as a whole did not denounce Delamuraz' statement — though a few legislators did register their displeasure — Singer said there has apparently been a "sea change" in the government's desire to resolve the issue of Jewish assets.

In light of this change, Burg said, it is "incumbent upon us to establish a strong policy."

In addition to its proposal for a boycott of Swiss banks by Jewish business leaders and organizations, the WJRO may file a class action suit against the Swiss Bankers Association on behalf of hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors and their heirs.

Other proposals include a call for private organizations, as well as federal, state and local authorities in the United States and elsewhere to withdraw their investments from Swiss banks.

If the Swiss government does not act quickly, the WJRO may also ask U.S. legislators to scrutinize the licensing of Swiss banks.

Acknowledging that the measures, if implemented, could have wide-ranging repercussions, Singer said, "We do not take this matter lightly. But we cannot take the words of a person who speaks for a nation lightly either."

Delamuraz' comments must be "rejected by Switzerland and the bankers clearly and very, very decisively," Singer added.

Switzerland has been at the centre of an international furor over its wartime dealings with Nazi Germany and the fate of Jewish assets deposited during the Holocaust.

Jewish groups have suggested that Switzerland set up a preliminary fund as "a good faith financial gesture."

U.S. Senate Banking Committee chair Alfonse D'Amato echoed the call at a congressional hearing in December.

Jewish and Swiss officials have been discussing the creation of such a fund in recent weeks, and negotiations have centred around the $250 million figure.

(JTA correspondent Daniel Kurtzman in Washington contributed to this report.)

Israel, Hezbollah clash in Lebanon

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — For the third successive day, Israel and Hezbollah engaged in heavy exchanges of fire last Sunday in southern Lebanon.

Israeli jets fired at suspected bases of the Islamic fundamentalist movement in Lebanon and returned safely to base.

In separate fighting, three Israeli soldiers were reported to be very lightly hurt in clashes.

The weekend was marked by Hezbollah attacks on Israeli outposts in southern Lebanon and by retaliatory raids launched by Israeli fighter jets.

Australian Jewish schools excel

By JEREMY JONES
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

SYDNEY, Australia — Jewish day schools in Victoria have taken the top five positions in the first-ever official listing of academic achievement in the Australian state.

In a study prepared for the government by Melbourne University that was based on results in high school final examinations in 1996, Bialik College topped the list.

It was followed by Mount Scopus Memorial College, Liebler-Yavneh College, Beth Rivkah Ladies College and Yeshiva College.

"The day schools' performance has established that the time devoted to Jewish education has not detracted from the quality of secular education at our schools," Diane Shteinman, president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, said in an interview.

"Australian Jews appreciate that the focus of the day schools has been to encourage their pupils' development as members of the Jewish and broader Australian communities, which they have achieved admirably," she said.

Rabbi Mordechai Gutnick, education chair of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria, attributed the results to "the importance of study" that "Judaism has always stressed."

Although their schools won the two top positions in the rankings, senior educators at Bialik and Mount Scopus colleges have criticized the publication of the Achievement Index, arguing that it "sends the wrong message" regarding education.

Genetic link found among kohanim

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Since the destruction of the Temple, the priesthood — handed down from father to son — has bound its members by certain obligations, such as keeping ritually pure at a distance from the dead and not marrying a divorcee.

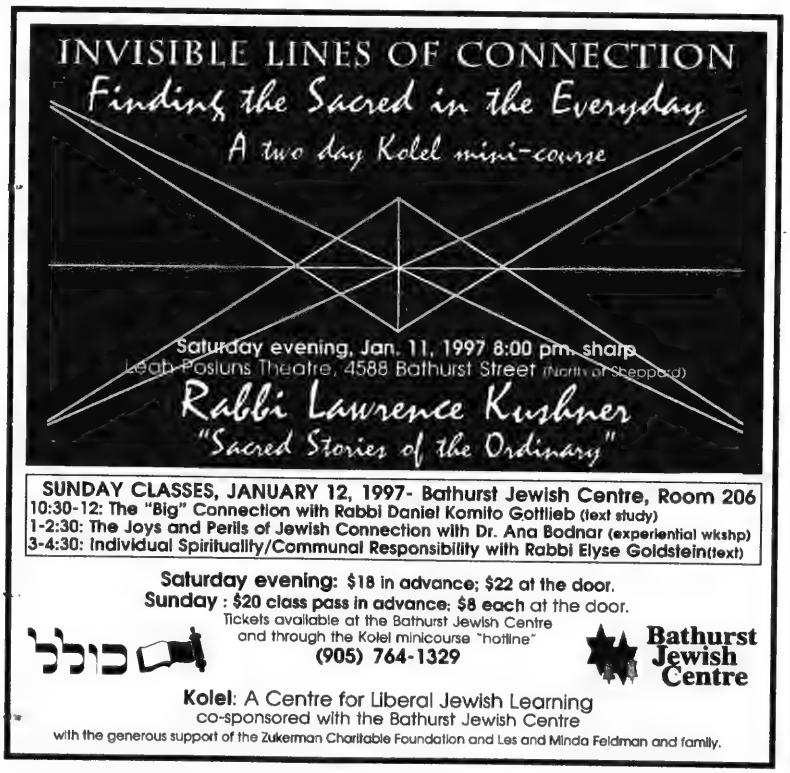
Skorecki, along with Sara Selig and Shraga Blazer at the Technion and Robert and Neil Bradman, P.J. Waburton, Monica Ismajlowicz and Michael Hammer of London's University College and the University of Arizona, found a preponderance of the YAP, DYS19B haplotype in *kohanim* of both Ashkenazi and Sephardi origin (as well as a few Yemenites), but not in the non-*kohanim*. This served as further evidence that the Jewish priesthood predated the division of world Jewry into the two major ethnic groups over 1,000 years ago.

Any differences in the gene structure would reflect molecular-biological changes due to mutations; these are useful in calibrating the rate of mutations in the genes and observing human molecular evolution, he added.

The Y chromosome, carried only by men, is passed patrilineally; mitichondrial DNA is transmitted by the mother's X chromosomes.

"The Y chromosome is not very important; half of the world's population manages fine without it. But it can provide some anthropological information," Skorecki said.

He added that it was impressive that the characteristic Y chromosome was passed down to today's *kohanim* despite periods of assimilation over the millenia. Even secular Jews seem to know if they are of the priestly tribe, says the professor. But he added that if the trends of secularism, assimilation and intermarriage continue in the Diaspora, the number of Jews with this priestly haplotype will probably decline.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Artists & Poets

With the arrival of Passover in the spring, *The CJN* will be introducing a new Literary Supplement. We therefore invite the authors and poets among our readers to submit original and previously unpublished works of fiction, memoir, biography or poetry to us. The works must explore Jewish themes. The fiction cannot be longer than 1,500 words.

You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. ***The editor.***

The Week in Israel

Dec. 30

• Officials expressed concern about the possibility of coordinated attacks by Palestinian terrorists and Kurdish rebels against Israeli targets in Turkey after recent reports that members of the Kurdish underground have met with members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Dec. 31

• A resident of Kfar Darom in the Gaza Strip fatally shot a Palestinian who had apparently entered the village without permission. Residents thought the Palestinian was planning an abduction.

• A 52-year-old woman, Tova Gamliel had triplets. She is the oldest woman in Israel to have ever given birth to triplets.

Jan. 1

• Noam Friedman, 22, of Ma'aleh Adumim, opened fire in a Hebron market wounding seven Palestinians. He was prevented from injuring more Palestinians by fellow soldier Avi Buskela who overpowered him. Friedman later explained that he was attempting to derail the Hebron negotiations.

Jan. 2

• Police detained Yuval Jibli, 21, on suspicion of aiding Noam Friedman.

• Israel agreed to establish a model farm in India. The announcement stemmed from an agreement signed by the two countries during the visit last week by President Ezer Weizman to India.

Jan. 3

• *Yediot Ahronot* reported seven cabinet ministers were opposed to the proposed redeployment from Hebron. Rafael Eitan and Yuli Edelshtein have even threatened to vote against the agreement in the Knesset. Edelshtein has also threatened to resign from the coalition.

• *Yediot Ahronot* reported Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, head of Mir yeshivah in Kiryat Arba, had been questioned by police in connection with statements he made regarding the refusal by soldiers to obey orders. The rabbi denied he was being criminally investigated. He said he met with police to clarify the remarks in question.

Arafat, Netanyahu face similar domestic constraints

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

As 1997 unfolds, one wonders whether it will be as turbulent for Israel as 1996.

Mideast Analysis

In February and March, Israel was convulsed by four suicide bombings which rattled its facade of security and shook the peace process.

In April, Israel launched its biggest military operation in Lebanon — Grapes of Wrath — since 1982.

In May, the Likud defeated the Labor party in general elections, paving the way for the premiership of Benjamin Netanyahu and a set of new policies.

In August, Syrian troop movements in Lebanon sparked nervous speculation that Damascus was on a war footing.

In September, the opening of an archeological tunnel in Jerusalem triggered a wave of unprecedented Arab-Israeli violence in the territories.

So what comes next? What can we reasonably look for this year?

The manner in which events transpire will largely depend on the peace process, which, surveys indicate, is supported by the vast majority of Israelis .

If it moves forward steadily, as it did under the previous government, Israel will be well positioned to improve its deteriorating relations with the Palestinians and with the Arab world.

If it falters in a welter of mutual recriminations, the political temperature will rise and the prospect of additional acrimony between Israel and the Arabs will increase.

At the moment, Israel and the Palestine Authority, led by Yasser Arafat, appear to be on a collision course.

Netanyahu, due to his personal convictions and the composition of his cabinet, seems reluctant to offer the Palestinians more than limited self-autonomy.

Arafat, however, demands a full-fledged Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

It is manifestly difficult to envisage how these conflicting visions can be harmonized, particularly in light of the pressures that have been brought to bear on both leaders by their respective constituents.

Netanyahu's political survival is dependent upon the backing of small parties — religious and secular — which regard the West Bank as historic and inviolate Jewish territory and, from a security point of view, as absolutely vital to Israel's existence. If he breaks faith with either of these strictures, his government could fall. In that case, Netanyahu may surprise everyone and form a national unity government with the Labor party. If it comes to that, Netanyahu will be branded as a traitor or applauded as a pragmatist.

Arafat's domestic problems are remarkably similar. His Palestinian supporters in the territories will be satisfied with nothing less than a sovereign state, for which there is no provision in the Oslo accords. If he settles for anything less, he will probably face a rebellion, a scenario which is scarcely in Israel's interest.

Israel's Arab partners — Egypt and Jordan — also have expectations: an Israeli withdrawal, more or less, to the pre-1967 lines and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state between Israel and the Jordan River.

The Palestinians will place these demands on the table at final status talks, which are scheduled to begin following Israel's deployment from the Arab sector of Hebron. If their claims are rejected, Israel's relationship with Egypt and Jordan, which has plummeted in recent months, will doubtless degenerate.

In the meantime, the focus will be on Israeli settlements in the West Bank and on the spectre of Palestinian terrorism.

If Israel continues with its expansion program, as Netanyahu has promised, Palestinian and Arab bitterness will grow.

And if there is an upsurge of terrorism, it will turn more Israelis away from the peace process, a factor Arafat can ignore only at his peril.

Israel's ties with Syria, which have reached rockbottom since Netanyahu's accession to power six months ago, may worsen should bilateral negotiations on the Golan Heights remain suspended.

The Syrians have not deviated from their position for a full Israeli pullback from the Golan. And while Netanyahu has offered to resume the talks without preconditions, he rejects the land-for-peace formula and believes that the Golan must be retained by Israel. However, Foreign Minister David Levy has let it be known that, without territorial concessions, there is no chance for a peace treaty with Syria.

If the Syrian track remains frozen, Syria may initiate limited hostilities in a bid to break the diplomatic logjam. This could take the form of an attack against Israeli fortifications on Mt. Hermon, or of support for cross-border terrorism (which Syria has strictly forbidden for more than two decades now).

In the absence of a settlement, the Syrians will go on using Hezbollah and rejectionist Palestinian groups as deadly surrogates in southern Lebanon, Israel's last remaining war front and a killing field that claimed the lives of 27 Israeli troops in 1996.

U.S. takes action against two alleged war criminals

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Justice recently announced the start of denaturalization proceedings against two men alleged to have participated in the wartime persecution of Jews.

It also announced that 16 Japanese citizens, involved in gruesome wartime experiments or in the operation of "comfort women stations," were placed on the U.S. government's "watchlist" of aliens who are not eligible to enter the country.

In documents filed in court, the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) alleged that Michael Kolnhofer, 79, was a member of the German Waffen-SS in September 1942 and joined the SS Death's Head Guard Battalion at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin in January 1943, where he served as a guard of prisoners until January 1944. Tens of thousands of prisoners, including Jews and Allied soldiers, were murdered. From Sachsenhausen, Kolnhofer was transferred to Buchenwald.

In a second case, the OSI alleged that Adolph Milius, also known as Adolfas Milinavicius, 78, a retired physician, was a member of the Lithuanian Security Police (the Saugumas) for Vilnius province during the summer and fall of 1941. It is alleged he participated in Nazi-sponsored acts of persecution as a member of Saugumas, which closely paralleled the German Gestapo. The Saugumas collaborated with German forces in arresting and turning over, for execution or punishment, Jews who violated Nazis' decrees, Jews caught attempting to escape ghettos and those who attempted to hide Jews. Wartime records found in Lithuanian Central State Archives show Milius participated in the arrests of Jews attempting to escape from the ghetto.

The inclusion on the U.S. "watchlist" of Japanese citizens is a first for the United States and was authorized under the Holtzman Amendment, which bars anyone who participated with German forces or their allies in the persecution of civilians.

Some of the men barred from the United States took part in inhumane and frequently lethal medical experiments on non-volunteer prisoners in Manchuria. Others were involved in running "comfort stations" in which women from Asian nations were held captive, beaten, tortured and raped day after day by Japanese officers and soldiers.

CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our third annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings about Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different students in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* on March 20. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a cheque for $25.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be too small. Please paint, draw or color bright, bold, colorful pictures. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.
Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: *CJN* Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 1997.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication as "winners". The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing and the way it tells an aspect of the story of Purim. The judges'decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, March 7, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The "winning" pictures will be published in *The CJN* of March 20, 1997. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Israel & the Jewish World

Croatia strives to revamp relations with Jews

This is the first of a two-part series on Croatia's Jewish community. The first part deals with the shifting relationship between the Tudjman government and the country's Jews. The second part focuses on the challenges confronting the Jewish community as it strives to survive.

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ZAGREB, Croatia — On the first night of Chanukah, Ognjen Kraus, the president of Croatia's 2,000-member Jewish community, took the stage of Zagreb's modern Lisinski concert hall and lit the candles on a 3-foot-tall menorah. With television cameras trained on him, Kraus recited the Chanukah blessings in Hebrew before an audience that included President Franjo Tudjman and other dignitaries.

A narrator told the story of Chanukah and the candles then burned brightly throughout a concert of Prokofiev, Bruch and Mendelssohn.

The high-profile candlelighting was part of celebrations marking the 190th anniversary of Zagreb's Jewish community.

The attendance of Tudjman and other senior officials was part of continuing efforts by the Croatian government to demonstrate support for Jewish causes and to combat its negative image.

"Taking everything into account, it was positive that Tudjman attended," said one Zagreb Jew. "The concert reminded Zagreb and Croatia of history – what happened in history – and showed that we are still here. But on the whole, maybe it was more important for Tudjman to be there, than for us."

Tudjman's government has been accused of trying to whitewash Croatia's fascist past through various initiatives aimed at rehabilitating the homegrown fascist Ustashe regime that ruled Croatia as a Nazi puppet state during World War II.

These moves have drawn sharp protests from Jews as well as former anti-fascist partisans and others inside Croatia.

They have also drawn international criticism and blocked Israel from establishing diplomatic relations.

Tudjman drew particular fire earlier this year by declaring that he wanted to rebury the bones of Croatian fascists at a Yugoslav-built memorial to scores of thousands of Jews and Serbs slaughtered at the Ustashe's Jasenovac concentration camp.

"They don't want to admit that the [wartime] Independent Croatian State was a racist state,"said Vlasta Kovac, editor of the Zagreb Jewish community's *Bulletin*. "They would prefer if this was forgotten."

This tendency toward revisionism, rather than overt anti-Semitism, raises concern among Croatian Jews.

Some 25,000 Jews lived in Croatia before World War II. About 20,000 were killed by the Nazis or the local Ustashe regime.

Of the 2,000 members of Croatia's Jewish community today, some 1,400 live in Zagreb, the capital.

Croatian Jews report no threat to their community from overt acts of anti-Semitism, either on the part of the public or the authorities.

A well-publicized letter from Croatian Jewish leaders a year ago said, "There is no open anti-Semitism in Croatia, either in everyday life or in any political party program, or in the attitude of government representatives toward Jews."

The letter expressed the view that "the Republic of Croatia is paying attention to the standpoints of our community and there is a mutual dialogue."

Jewish leaders meet with Tudjman and other senior officials, and several Jews have prominent government positions. "The Jewish community is small but functioning," Slobodan Lang, an adviser to Tudjman, said in an interview. Lang, whose father was Jewish, maintains ties with the community.

Besides the attempts at historical revisionism, recent negative trends include the bitter complaints over Croatia's property restitution policy and Tudjman's continuing attacks against his critics. Shortly after the Chanukah concert, he blasted people who complain about human rights and lack of media freedom in Croatia as enemies seeking to subvert the Croatian state.

He named prominent critics, including Slavko Goldstein, a former president of the Jewish community.

More positive trends include the government's funding of the reconstruction of the Zagreb Jewish community building after it was hit by a terrorist bomb in 1991, its cooperative relationships with aid organizations such as the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the honors it has paid to Jews and Jewish causes.

On another positive note, Tudjman toned down statements in a book that were viewed as anti-Semitic and apologized for giving offense.

But some Jewish community members and observers voice concern over what they see as an uncomfortable aspect: an official attitude that seems to use its support for Jews as a means of demonstrating human rights principles and counterbalancing the negative image of nationalism and historical revisionism.

"The Jewish community in Croatia and in other former Yugoslav republics is not endangered by anti-Semitism," Zagreb historian Ivo Goldstein wrote in a report prepared in the spring for the American Jewish Committee. "Its bigger enemy is low standard of living, insincere philo-Semitism and the constant threat that the local Jewish population can be manipulated and used in propaganda goals."

Before and during the recent wars in Yugoslavia, officials in both Croatia and Serbia attempted to win Western support by showing favor to Jews and Israel. This attitude is still apparent.

"Every side in the Yugoslav war was trying to use the Jews, to make friends with the Jews," Ivo Goldstein said in an interview.

Said a member of the Zagreb Jewish community: "They think that we are important because we have connections with the Jewish world, with the World Jewish Congress, with Israel. This is what gives us some weight."

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Syria slams Israel's Lebanon proposals

By ELDAD BECK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

PARIS — Israel has recently relayed to Lebanon, through French diplomatic channels, a proposal to replace the IDF and SLA presence in the security zone with an interim force from France, Egypt and Jordan, Lebanese sources said last week.

However, according to the sources, Syria intends to veto the Israeli proposal, considered by Damascus as another attempt to separate the Lebanese and Syrian peace tracks.

Syria sees the Israeli proposal as a new version of the "Lebanon first" idea, broached by Netanyahu's government a few weeks after its election and then rejected by Damascus.

Moreover, Syria is not interested in having other Arab military forces stationed in Lebanon, especially not from Jordan. Tensions between Syria and the Hashemite kingdom have been growing over recent months.

The new Israeli proposal was to be discussed last Saturday in a meeting held in Paris between French President Jacques Chirac and Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. After the meeting, held at the Elysee Palace, Hariri was asked by journalists to confirm reports about secret contacts between Israel and France over the future of south Lebanon.

Hariri said that during the meeting Chirac told him that these reports were baseless.

The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs officially denied the reports, stressing at the same time France's willingness to help in future agreements between Israel and Lebanon.

When asked whether Lebanon would accept the presence of French forces in the security zone, Hariri answered: "There is no question of that."

According to Elysee spokesperson, Catherine Colona, Chirac and Hariri emphasized during their discussion the persistence of uncertainties over the future of the Middle East peace process and expressed their concern over the repeated delays in the talks. Both Chirac and Hariri said they were content with the "satisfactory functioning and useful role" of the five-party committee monitoring the understandings reached between Israel and Hezbollah in south Lebanon.

Singles Registry Celebrates Sensational Year With Another Engagement

The year 1996 was a record breaking year for new memberships at the Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto, and 1997 looks even better. In a little over 4 years the J.S.R. concept of letting members choose for themselves who they would like to meet by viewing biography/profiles and photographs has swept Toronto singles with a passion. New members are joining on a daily basis, a good portion of which are referrals from friends who are already part of the J.S.R. Most new members are dating within a week or so of joining the service. IT IS THAT EASY! **Membership is now well over 1,200 members.**

Another Engagement

What better way to start 1997, than to announce that another J.S.R. couple will be walking down the aisle in just a short little while. It has also been reported that two other J.S.R. couples will be formally announcing their engagements shortly. With dozens of serious relationships on the go, there is no better time than now, to register with the Jewish Singles Registry.

You're the Boss

Perhaps the most attractive feature of the service is that members get to do the selecting for themselves. **No matchmaking here!** Members get to see for themselves beforehand who they would like to meet and can either select members to go out with, be selected by other members,or a combination of both. It's fun, safe and simple to connect with hundreds of other Jewish singles.

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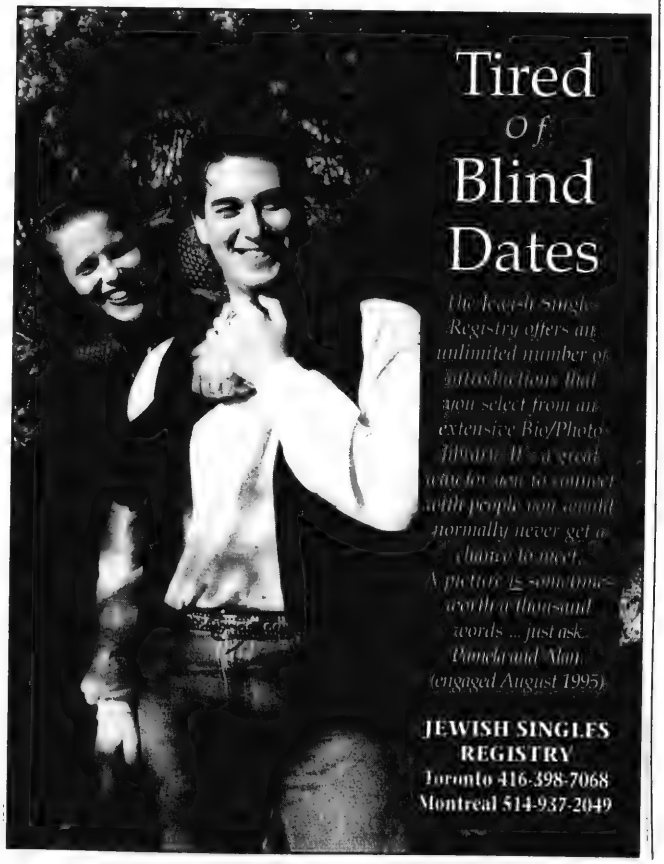
At the Registry, we know how important it is to have someone special in your life, someone to talk to, laugh with, and to share life's ups and downs with. We also know how difficult it is to meet that someone special. Our goal is to make it easy, by giving you the opportunity to choose who you think would be right for you. Whether you are looking for friendship, a long term relationship, or something in between the Jewish Singles Registry has someone right for you. **Come in and see for yourself.** Call us today at **(416) 398-7068. E-Mail: jsreg@total.net**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Get Writing

UNDERSTANDING THROUGH BOOKS
Naomi Shmuel is seen here at home with her three children and four of her five published books. To create better understanding for children about differences among peoples, Shmuel has written about contrasting cultures. [Sarit Uzieli, WZPS photo]

CONGRATULATIONS!

The CJN enjoyed all of the colored Happy Chanukah cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Erica Benderoff, Liat Iankelevic and Cassie Jackson. Each will receive a $20 cheque from The CJN.

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Student writer takes the cake with winning story about ooga

By MARLENE EISNER
Special to The CJN

MONTREAL — A story written in the Grade 4 Jewish heritage class at Royal Vale School last year has been named as one of the winners of Get Writing!, a national writing contest for Canada's English and French elementary school children.

The Canadian Children's Book Centre in Toronto announced the winners from among 10,000 English-language and 2,000 French-language entries. Ten-year old Michelle Roseman of Cote St. Luc won for her story, *The Mysterious Musician of Ooga.*

The story is about the town of Ooga, a Hebrew word which means cake. Everyone in the town makes cakes and is happy doing so. One day, though, the people of Ooga begin to fight about who makes the best cakes. Bitter arguments divide the town and the baking stops.

When a mysterious stranger called Shalom comes to town with his music, the townsfolk remember the joy of working to bake cakes.

How did Michelle get her idea?

"At the beginning of the year, we learned Hebrew food words and I really liked the word *ooga*, which means cake," says Michelle.

"I thought, how can I use this word in my story? Then, it just came. It had a good meaning, which is not who makes a better cake, but that every one enjoys making the cake, the spirit of working together and cooperation."

Michelle entered the contest in a round-about way. Her teacher Annetta Black liked the story so much, she asked Michelle to read it in front of the class, but Michelle was too shy. Instead, Michelle joked that when and if her story ever won a contest, she would read it aloud.

"Annetta suggested I enter it in a contest, but I wasn't that enthusiastic because I thought it would never win. It was mom who did most of the work entering it," says Michelle.

For Michelle's mother, Marlene Roseman, winning the award was a pleasant surprise, but her daughter's writing ability is not.

"I have always thought Michelle's stories have been interesting," says Marlene.

"She is now writing a novel called the *Gnelves of Troll's Field* and has just completed chapter 13."

As part of her prize, Michelle travelled to Toronto for a weekend. She met authors, attended book-writing workshops, saw a Raptor's game and went on a Chapter's book store shopping spree.

"I want to be an animator or a journalist when I grow up," says Michelle. "I've always wanted to be a writer and since I've been little, I've been reading and writing stories."

Get Writing! was a project intiated by Viacom Canada Ltd., and Prentice Hall Ginn Canada and was backed by Editions Beauchemin Ltée, Canada Post Corporation, Coles the Book People and Smith Books, The National Library of Canada, Owl Communications and YTV.

The panel of judges consisted of 10 of Canada's best children's authors, including Linda Granfield, Sheree Fitch, Kenneth Oppel, Ainslie Manson and Kevin Major.

STAYING IN TOUCH THRU THE CJN
Rebecca Sheffman, age 2, daughter of Sherry (Koven) and Robbie Sheffman Victoria B.C.

Kids' news

Book Review & cartoon

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Book honors both famous and ordinary women

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

When we read about famous Jewish people, we usually read about Jewish men, like Abraham or Moses or David Ben-Gurion. But what about all the important Jewish women over the ages?

Now we can learn about the contributions Jewish women have made, not only to their own people, but to the world at large, in a fascinating book *Remarkable Jewish Women; Rebels, Rabbis, and Other Women from Biblical Times to the Present*, by Emily Taitz and Sondra Henry (Jewish Publication Society, 1996).

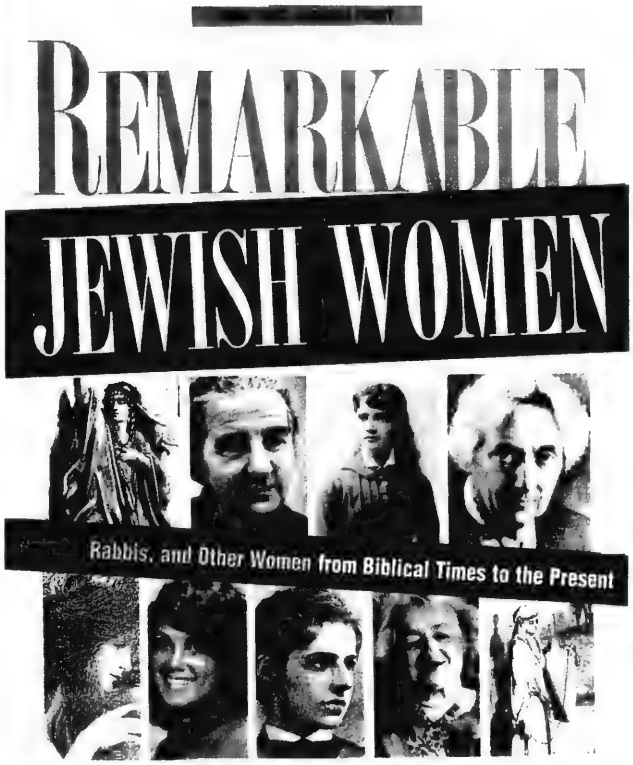
Many of the women are well-known. We have all heard of the prophet Deborah, Rachel and Miriam in the Bible; Golda Meir, the first prime minister of Israel; and Emma Lazarus, whose poem *The Grand Colossus*, which ends "Give me your tired, your poor,/Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," is inscribed on the Statue of Liberty.

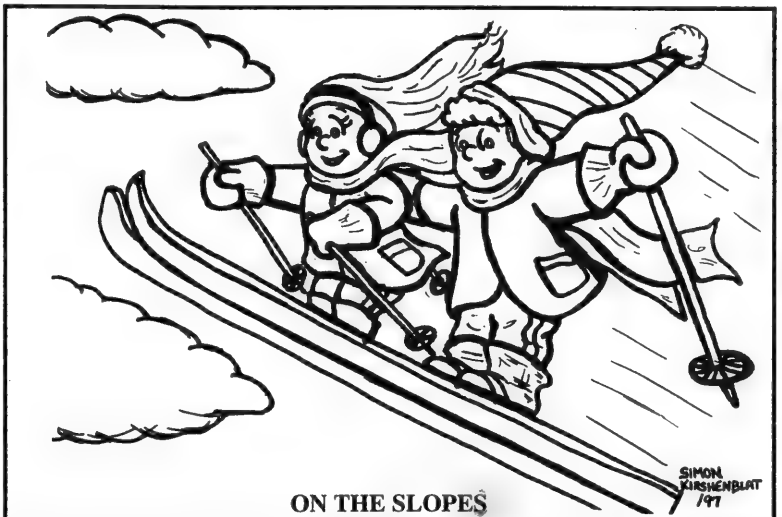
But did you know about the Maid of Ludomir, who taught Talmud in a small town in Poland, or Henrietta Szold, who founded Hadassah or Sally Priesand, who was the first woman ordained to be a rabbi.

There are women who ran some of the first printing presses, women who were very involved in charity work, education or politics, and authors. Taitz and Henry even talk about women astronauts and war heroes.

What impressed me, is that they don't only consider famous women important. They realize that women who cared for their families and did the best they could in difficult times are also worthy of being known. Gluckel of Hameln, born in 1646 in Germany, was widowed early, and not only brought up her children, as was expected, but ran the family business. Her diaries tell us a lot about the lives of women, and of Jews in those times.

All the descriptions have pictures with them, and there is a very helpful alphabetical index, so you can look for anyone you particularly want to find out about. It is also helpful that *Remarkable Jewish Women* is organized by subject, so you can look up people under Holocaust, or pious women or the new world.





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TAB news

Travel Arts & Business

Alternative theatre struggles with Jewish issues

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

The alternative theatre scene is struggling with Jewish issues, particularly in their portrayal of events dealing with the Palestinians.

Opinion

Actors, directors and producers are drawn instinctively to the underdog and it is not surprising that theatre people should identify with the Palestinians. Their artistic nature impels them to see injustice when a minority faces what they think may be arbitrary measures imposed by those with power.

So they appear hell-bent on giving the Palestinians as much favorable time on the stage as their media brothers and sisters give them in print, on TV and on radio.

Perhaps it is time for them to look honestly at the rights and wrongs of the situation that has triggered violence on the streets and appears to have turned a lot of world opinion against Jews.

And why are some alternative theatre groups so hostile to Israel's case? *Reading Hebron* by Jewish playwright Jason Sherman at the Factory Theatre explores the thesis that it was radical Zionist zealots who were responsible for that massacre and that it was condoned by Israel's government.

Sherman is a flash-point for the anti-Israel antics of his theatre cohorts. After all, he is Jewish, and if he thinks Israel may be in the wrong, then let's fire away.

The fact that he has won major playwriting awards increases his status among his peers. This reviewer complained that in *Retreat*, one of the award winners, Sherman was getting easy laughs at the expense of Jewish stereotypes. In *League of Nations*, Sherman introduces the character of Canadian Nathan Abramowitz who is not happy with what he finds in Israel in the '80s.

In his new version of *Reading Hebron*, in which Abramowitz reappears, Sherman has raised the stakes. If anyone doubts the anti-Israel intent of the new *Reading Hebron*, a puff piece by its director, Brian Quirt, distributed by the Theatre to the media in advance of the play's opening, makes it clear.

Fires in the Mirror about the Crown Heights riots is by WUM, a Toronto black theatre company whose good intentions I do not question. The play pits the articulate and sophisticated arguments of black activists against the mundane, unsophisticated reactions of Lubavitcher housewives.

It is true that the fear of progroms is well expressed and the Jewish side of the Crown Heights battle is not overlooked. But the anti-Jewish argument that the deaths endured by blacks under slavery are a bigger Holocaust than what happened to the Jews under Hitler helps fuel the engine of black anti-Semitism. It is asking too much of a black theatre company to go straight down the middle on this issue.

Kvetch, by a British playwright, featuring many vulgar stereotypes attributed to Jews, is an example of the kind of production enhusiastically produced in Toronto.

Have they given serious thought to the results of lighting or feeding the flames of overt and latent anti-Semitism?

This is not to tar the whole alternative theatre scene with the same brush. At Tarragon Extra Space, the plight of a Jewish maverick facing ouster from a hotel (*The Slow Eviction of Ruby Rosenholtz*) is realistically and dramatically probed. One couldn't ask for a greater slice of realism and artistic brilliance, despite its production shortcomings. There have been many honest portrayals of the ups and downs in the modern Jewish scene in small theatres, some of them quite memorable.

But this viewer of alternative theatre in Toronto since its beginnings in the '60s has come reluctantly to the conclusion that it has moved too far into the anti-Israel corner.

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Israel aims to cut deficit in '97 budget

By EVELYN GORDON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The 1997 budget passed without changes last week by a straight party line vote of 60-42.

Passage of the NIS 190 billion budget completes the bulk of the government's efforts to pass a NIS 7.2 billion deficit-reduction package.

The treasury is still NIS 270 million short of its goal. It is unclear how this sum will be made up, after the Knesset's refusal to cancel a half tax-credit for married, working women.

The budget is meant to produce a deficit of no more than 2.8 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). That is significantly lower than the 1996 deficit, which is expected to be more than 3.5 percent of GDP.

In contrast to the Economic Arrangements Law which accompanied the budget, there was no real controversy in the coalition over the budget itself.

Coalition partners receive compensation

According to Finance Minister Dan Meridor, however, the coalition partners did receive compensation that will cost between NIS 550 million and NIS 600 million. Most of that will come out of budgetary reserves. The breakdown on the deals is as follows:

• The Third Way, NIS 65 million. This money will be used to develop existing settlements in the Golan Heights and the Jordan Valley.

• Yisrael Ba'aliya, NIS 72 million. This includes an additional

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*, April 1995

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Funeral Fun

Off-Beat Off-Broadway

• Now entering its third year in an off-Broadway theatre is *Grandma Sylvia's Funeral*, a peculiar show that seems to have won some excellent reviews from the international Jewish press. Billed as "the longest-running funeral in history," it is a "hilarious, moving, and totally outrageous interactive comedy" that puts the audience in the midst of the action during a Jewish funeral.

Audience members arriving at the Helsenrot Jewish Mortuary (actually the Soho Playhouse) are greeted as if they were dear friends of the deceased, who was supposedly hit by a garbage truck on a Brooklyn street in her 83rd year. The 21 actors who portray Sylvia's relatives and friends involve the audience in the machinations and general craziness of the family. A bagel buffet is presented midway through the performance. 15 Vandam St. (between Spring & Prince). 212- 691-1555.

Music

• *Two Lost Souls* is the name of a new CD recently released by **Racheal Rosen** of Toronto and **Brett McCaig** of St. Thomas, Ont. As one might expect from this youthful duo, who have a surprising amount of stage experience to their respective credit, the CD is a "Broadway sampler" with tunes from nearly a dozen different shows. The predominant style is jazz. *Two Lost Souls* is available at the Poor Alex Theatre and the HMV Superstore.

• The Bloor JCC is starting an Adult Co-Ed Choir, with an expected eclectic repertoire of doo-wap, jazz, classical, folk, r&b, ethnic, chant, Jewish and Yiddish songs. Rehearsals, directed by **Harriet Wichin**, to take the form of two-hour weekly sessions (7:30 - 9:30 p.m.) over 12 weeks, starting Jan. 20 or Jan. 23, depending on availability. Sightreading is not mandatory. If you can sing and can learn by ear or by cassette, you are invited to join. JCC members $65, non-members $80. 416- 924-6211.

For Children

• Canada-Israel Association for Child Protetction E.L.I. has reserved a preferred block of tickets for Sesame Street Live's production of *Let's Be Friends*, Hummingbird Centre (formerly the O'Keefe Centre), 4:30 p.m., March 23, 1997. Tickets $50. Half of the purchase price goes to aid abused children in Israel. Post-show reception features fun, friends, treats and loot bags. For more details, call 416-488-4424 or call 416-872-2262 to order tickets. Please refer to "Child Protection" when ordering. Charitable receipt provided.

• The Broadway Buddy Players, a local community musical theatre group for children and adults, presents *Kids On Broadway*, a children's interactive musical theatre production for kids of all ages. The children participate onstage in a musical theatre performance and learn about theatre production. Yorkwoods Library Theatre, 1785 Finch Ave. W. Tickets $8, reserved seating. 416-497-7714.

'97 budget approved

[Cont'd. from page 32]

NIS 60 million in the budget for building hostels for elderly immigrants, and NIS 12 million in research funds for immigrant scientists.

• Religious parties (Shas, National Religious Party and United Torah Judaism), about NIS 450 million. The sum reported by Meridor to the Knesset was NIS 360 million, but there's also an unspecified amount that is intended to reverse the erosion in stipends for yeshiva students over the last four years. That's expected to come to between NIS 80 million and NIS 100 million. The NIS 360 million will go primarily to build new classrooms and rental housing, as well as funding various activities overseen by the Religious Affairs Ministry, such as the construction and maintenance of cemeteries, synagogues and mikvot, budgets for the religious councils, etc.

It cost the government NIS 1.4 billion to satisfy Gesher and Likud MKs by cancelling several major elements in the Economic Arrangements Law, such as cuts in child allowances, payments for visits to the doctor and a hike in co-payments for medicines. This sum is largely to be made up by tax increases.

Photographer receives $10,000 grant

TORONTO – Ruth Caplan, a Toronto photographer, has been awarded a grant of $10,000 by the Toronto Arts Council.

She is one of 32 Toronto artists who have been granted a total of $230,786 in the council's 1996 list of winners. The jury reviewed 256 applications, a record increase in a program that usually receives between 180 and 200 applications.

Others to receive grants were Eli Langer, $7,877, for drawing/painting; Rae Davis/Barbara Sternberg, $8,000 for sculpture/installation; Micah Lexier, $10,000 and Shonagh Adelman, $6,000, for mixed media and printmaking.

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TAB news

Al Waxman prepares to direct *Lost in Yonkers*

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Veteran actor-director Al Waxman is preparing to direct Neil Simon's Pulitzer prize-winning play *Lost In Yonkers* here, with a slated eight-week run beginning Feb. 4 at the 450-seat Atlantis Theatre at Ontario Place.

The play will be the third Waxman has directed in the Toronto area in as many years. Like the two previous productions, *Sight Unseen* and *A Shayna Maidel*, which received favorable reviews when they ran at the Ford Centre in North York, *Lost In Yonkers* focuses on a Jewish family. But Waxman asserts he chooses plays that happen to be very good, not necessarily because they have Jewish content.

"They're really universal in their stories and their appeal and their entertainment value," he says. "*Lost In Yonkers* involves a Jewish family but it resonates way beyond that. It resonates with meaningful moments for any person who is part of a family."

Simon's 25th Broadway play won the Pulitzer prize for drama in 1992. Set in the New York area in 1942, it's about two teenaged brothers who go live with their grandmother in Yonkers after their mother dies and their father's work takes him away for a year.

The grandmother, a German-Jewish refugee who has fled pre-war Nazi persecution, rules the roost with an iron fist, intimidating her grandsons and their various misfit uncles and aunts.

"It's a very emotional story that has to do with the absence of love and warmth in the bringing up of children, contrasting this with a home that has all these things," Waxman says. "Like most of Neil Simon's work, it's just filled with humor."

Casting has just been completed, with veteran stage actor Jennifer Phipps playing the grandmother and the parts of the two boys going to Noah Plener and Benjamin Plener, 16 and 14-year-old brothers and nephews of actor Harvey Atkin.

"They're wonderful actors and exactly the right age. I'm thrilled to Arthur Miller's *Death Of A Salesman* at the Stratford Festival, and he says he is very much looking forward to the role. "I've just finished two movies, I'm directing a play, and then I'm going into Stratford to act, so it's a rather enjoyable time for me. It's a joy to work with good people, and I'm also having the pleasure of working on and studying two very important plays.

"I've always thought of Williams, O'Neill and Miller as the truly great American playwrights; there's a few more, like Albee and Inge. I'd also include Neil Simon up there."

Previews for *Lost In Yonkers* begin Jan. 30. For reservations, call 416-260-8000.

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Collecting becomes more than just a hobby for Toppers

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For some, retirement is a time to slow down. But Renee and Victor Topper have turned their retirement into a thriving business.

Five years ago, Victor closed his fur processing business and started looking for things to do. The Toppers began importing chocolates and gourmet products but found they had little time left for their favorite hobby – collecting art. So they decided to sell their food distribution business and turn their hobby into a business.

Victor began collecting as a child, beginning with comic books, bubble gum cards and sports memorabilia. Over the years, the Toppers collected and specialized in Japanese prints, and lacquer work, *netsuke* (small specialized carvings), snuff bottles, scroll paintings, bronze vessels and antiquities.

Two years ago, they opened Topper Gallery in Markham, Ont. Their hobby-turned business often takes them to far away places to buy and sell and they participate in international conventions and shows. At first, they bought and sold a variety of items, including North American Indian prints, Inuit carvings and Judaica, but now they focus on Oriental art.

Victor and Renee Topper are seen on a buying trip to an Oriental art shop in Hong Kong with the store's owners.

Recently they returned from Hong Kong where they attended the International Snuff Bottle Society's convention.

The Toppers have sold pieces to the Royal Ontario Museum and other museums around the world. "We get calls from collectors and museums but we also have objects for novice collectors and we love to get people interested in collecting," says Renee.

She explains it is important to know the origin of a piece and to be able to trace the object to be certain of its value and its authenticity. A buyer would do well to go to museums and learn about the object he wants to collect, she stresses.

The Toppers have four children and nine grandchildren, and like to include them in their business. Renee's parents, Vicki and Sam Rosenberg, can always be counted on to help out at a show or exhibition, Renee says.

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Boys of Bayview early favorites in hockey league

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Who's going to stop the boys from Bayview?

Last year, they skated through the opposition like a sharp knife through tender brisket and this year could be more of the same.

Nevertheless, enthusiasm is high on all four teams as the Jewish day school hockey league enters its second season.

United Synagogue Day School, Bayview branch, was the class of the league last season and could well repeat as champions this time around. Teams from USDS Bathurst, USDS Richmond Hill and Bialik stand in the way of a Bayview repeat.

Robert Samery, one of the organizers of the day school league and father of Jordan, who plays for USDS Bathurst, said the success of last year's inaugural season has prompted another go-round for the league.

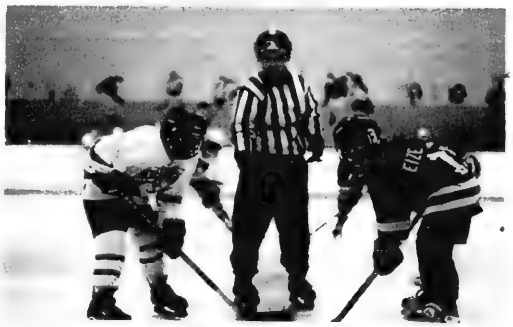
Each team will play eight games through the winter with a season highlight, the second annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Tournament, scheduled for February. A team from Hamilton could round out the competition in that hotly anticipated event.

In addition to the regular season and tournament games, the four teams will also play exhibition games against a number of non-Jewish schools, such as Allenby Public School and Brown Public School, Samery said.

Next year, the league hopes to expand to include other Jewish day schools. But in the meantime, the boys have laced up their Tacks and Bauers and have had lots of fun playing each other while supplementing their weekly phys.-ed activities.

"We found last season to be a great success in pulling together the kids from various Jewish day schools who wouldn't otherwise socialize together," Samery said.

The teams consist of players in Grades 4 to 6 and while last season a few girls participated, this year it's an all-boys league.



Adam Mandel (left) of USDS Bathurst and Oren Eizenman (right) of USDS Bayview prepare to take the ceremonial face off to open the second annual Jewish day school hockey league. Referee Jody Katz is seen here getting ready to drop the puck.

Ontario ski school is thriving

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Skiing has always been a big part of Mitchell Gorski's life.

He has turned his life-long passion for skiing into a thriving business — Snowhawks Ski School — with ski and snowboarding programs for children and teens from six to 18, and for adults 19 to 99.

There are a number of programs for youth who travel, with chaperons, by bus to Barrie or Collingwood where they receive professional instruction ranging from beginners to instructors-in-training."

The Wednesday "adult getaway" program includes transportation to ski clubs in Collingwood, including Devils Glen, Alpine, Osler, Craigleith and Georgian Peaks. Gorski provides morning coffee or tea on the way up, lessons at all levels for small groups and an *apres-ski* party before heading home.

There are also special programs for the spring break and a spring camp of guided skiing including snowshoeing and nightly activities on Mont Tremblant.

Gorski says the name of the game is "make it fun." He believes in skill development and stresses that "safety always comes first." For those who don't want to make the investment in equipment, he can provide you with rentals.

Gorski, from Montreal, where his mother owned a ski school, began skiing at a young age. He received a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Concordia and an MBA from McMaster University in entrepreneurial studies. A major assignment in graduate school was to plan a new business and Gorski selected a ski school.

Before entering graduate school, however, he took off four years and taught skiing full time at Mont Tremblant, Banff and in Switzerland.

Shortly after graduation, in 1984 he moved to Toronto and organized the Snowhawks Ski School for Children. He had 75 children the first year. His success led to the expansion of the junior and the creation of the adult program.

His partner is his wife, Heather Siderson-Gorski whom he met while she was one of his instructors "I broke one of my rules — never to go out with staff."

The Gorskis have three children: seven months, three and four years of age and the older ones are already on skis.

Eight years ago he started Snowhawks Ski School in Ottawa with a majority owner, Harvey Brodkin.

Gorski advises parents to begin young children in classes at local ski facilities such as Toronto's Earl Bales Park where equipment and lessons are available by the hour. This, he says, prepares children for a day ski program.

He hopes to start a ski and snowboarding school in the Vancouver area. "Many skiers are turning to snowboarding", he says.

Heather Siderson-Gorski and Mitchell Gorski of Snowhawks Ski School.

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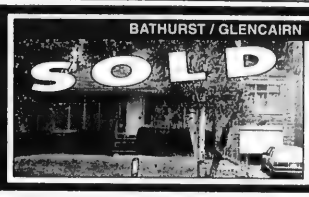

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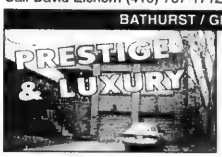

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Widower, seventy-ish, prof., fit & active, financially independent, traditional, wishes to meet widow with similar attributes. CJN Box 6869.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
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The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joe & Marlene Flicht take pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter **Elyse Beth** to **Ronald Howard** son of **Irv Goldkind & Betty Goldkind.**

Langer - Limonchik.
Harold & Larraine Langer are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Beverley**, daughter of the late **Milly Langer**, to **Mark**, son of **Freda & Morris Limonchik.** Proud grandmothers are Lily Bloom and Bella Kestenbaum.

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Your help will find a cure for cancer!
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This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

BAKER, Eddie - on December 17, 1996, late of 262 Ridley Blvd., #613.

FINE, Lilian - on December 17, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street.

KNOPMAN, Sylvia (Sand) - on December 18, 1996, late of 35 Canyon Ave., #302

FELDMAN, Rebecca - on December 14, 1996, late of 9 Madoc Dr.

WINDEBANK, Najer - on December 15, 1996, late of 747 St. Clair Avenue West, #201.

ALTER, Sarah - on December 16, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street.

VOSKO, Jack - on December 16, 1996, late of 377 Ridelle Avenue, #1214.

STARKMAN, Hilda - on December 16, 1996 - late of 27 Invermay Avenue.

CALSTEIN, Max - on December 14, 1996, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.

MILLER, Joe - on December 19, 1996, late of 16 Brockington Cres.

SILVERMAN, Clare - on December 20, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

CHERTKOFF, Abram - on December 21, 1996, late of 250 Hillhurst Blvd.

MANDELL, Tillie - on December 22, 1996, late of 6 Rostrevor Rd.

BASKIND, IDA - on December 23, 1996, late of 3270 Bathurst St.

KOHN, Henry - on December 23, 1996, late of 2200 Avenue Rd., #205.

KARAL, Harry - on December 23, 1996, late of 17 Joyce Pkwy.

GALLOON, Maureen - on December 24, 1996, late of 19 Lower Village Gate, #410.

MITZ, Cecile - on December 24, 1996, late of 34 Carscadden Dr., #605.

GLADMAN, Hye - on December 24, 1996, late of 131 Beecroft Rd., # 604.

COUSINS, Gilda - on December 24, 1996, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #1904.

SONNE (Sosonovit), William - on December 25, 1996, late of 1057 Westmount Ave., #705.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

FISCHER, Helen - on December 19, 1996, late of 668 Roselawn Ave.

BRUN, Sarah - on December 19, 1996, late of 130 Bannockburn Ave.

VYMENETS, Faina - on December 20, 1996, late of 1085 Steeles Ave. W., #1407.

HAFNER, Josef - on December 22, 1996, late of 201 Clanton Pk.

ABEL, Jack - on December 23, 1996, late of 10 Ridgevale Dr.

GUERCHKOVITCH, Mikhail - on December 23, 1996, late of 601 Finch Ave. W., Apt. #303.

SHALUMOR, Miriam - on December 23, 1996, late of 6030 Bathurst St., #612.

FRIEDMAN, Abraham - on December 23, 1996.

BOWMAN, Abraham - on December 23, 1996, late of 10 Meadowbrook Rd., #5.

ALBERTON, Malka - on December 24, 1996, late of 26 Purdon Dr.

GELBSTEIN, Andrew - on December 24, 1996.

KRIKUNETZ, Rima - on December 24, 1996, late of 3036 Bathurst St., #407.

FISCHER, Regina - on December 26, 1996, late of 166 Caines Ave.

GARDNER, Anne - on December 26, 1996, late of 4981 Bathurst St., #506.

KLEIN, Andre - on December 26, 1996, late of 189 Maxwell St.

FISCHER, Terry Flo - on December 27, 1996, late of Baycrest Home For The Aged.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

"שנת הציונות"

במלאת 100 שנה לקונגרס הציוני הראשון הוכרזה השנה כשנת הציונות. זכרנו את "500 שנה לגירוש ספרד" וחגגנו את "3000 שנה לירושלים", מבלי להיסתבך יותר מדי במעמדה הפוליטי של ירושלים העכשווית. באשר ל"שנת הציונות", חשוב שנספק לילדים מידע ושוב יוכתר תיאודור הרצל המסור, כאב הציונות המדינית. נתעלם מפרטים מביכים כגון המלצתו של הרצל בדבר ריבוי לשונות במדינת היהודים, כמו בשוויץ, ואי-הזכרתו, למשל, את קיומם של התושבים הערביים במולדת המובטחת ליהודים.

אם נהיה חכמים, לא נרתע מהבהרת עמדות אידיאולוגיות-דתיות-פוליטיות מגוונות של אז, ימי הקונגרס הציוני הראשון בבזל. ריבוי עמדות, כמו היום.

אכן, יש ברכה גדולה בהתמסרות חוזרת לנושא והוצאה מחודשת, או ראשונה, לספרים העוסקים בנושא הציונות. כך למשל יצאה לאור ביוגרפיה של הרצל לילדים ונוער, "לב קטן גדול",סיפור חיי הרצל מאת נירה הראל, רכס הוצאה לאור וזברה הפקות בע"מ וכן הוצאה לאור מחודשת של "מדינת היהודים", הוצאת קשתרבות.

כל המעיין היום בכתובים של הרצל מתקשה שלא לחוש בלאות שבכאב לאור המציאות הפוליטית העכשווית של מדינת ישראל. אבדה האמונה התמה ושובת הלב, זו שהרויצה את הרצל בלהט חושים.

והספרות הישראלית העדכנית, מה לה ולחזון הציוני? התמונה סבוכה וקשה.

מנקודת מבט היסטורית, הציונות בספרות העברית, במדינת ישראל, התנסתה בתנודות חריפות. הגישה בספרות לציונות היתה הרבה יותר מאשר התייחסות לציונות כאידיאולוגיה וחזון. תפיסת הספרות העברית את הציונות היתה יותר כתכנית-אב מעשית ותכתיב פוליטי. וכך, לארועים מדיניים בפועל, כמו המלחמות, היתה השפעה מכרעת על עיצוב דורות ספרותיים.

במלחמת השחרור נופצה האשליה המתוקה שנוכל להגשים את הציונות בלי קורבנות. למודעות כאובה זו היתה השפעה מיידית על הסופרים בארץ. ניבורו של ס. יזהר, ב"ימי צקלג" (1958) אינו רוצה לשמוע יתר דיבורים ונאומים בנושא הציונות, הארץ, הנוער והחלוציות. "אדמה זה רק אדמה. וצריך להוציא ממנה לחם. זה הכל... ואל תתאכזב כשאינך מוצא את מה שאינו קיים." ("ימי צקלג")

בין מלחמת הקוממיות ומלחמת ששת-הימים, החלה רוח ספקנית נושבת בדפי הספרות העברית. מלחמת סיני לא היתה ממש מלחמה "שלנו" ובזירה הפנימית, צצו מעברות, עוני ומחדלי קליטת עולי צפון אפריקה. א. ב. יהושע יעורר בבוא הזמן את שאלת המיזוג הציוני בין האשכזזי והספרדי. "אנחנו הספרדים הישנים האמיתיים -- המדינה הזאת קצת מעל לכוחותינו, כל הציונות בעצם, קצת חזק ומהיר מדי בשבילנו" ("ינירושים מאוחרים"). בפרק זמן זה, הציונות בספרות היא ציונות במרכאות.

ואז באה תפארת מלחמת ששת-הימים. מלחמה זו העניקה לספרות העברית להט ציוני. תנועת אי"י השלמה מוקמת על ידי סופרים כהזז ואלתרמן. לא הכל שותפים להילולת הנצחון; עמוס עוז מזהיר, בשם הציונות, מפני סיפוח שטחי הכיבוש.

לשתי המלחמות הבאות, מלחמת-יום-הכיפורים ומלחמת-לבנון השפעה קודרת על מצב הרוח הציוני בספרות העברית. מטובי הסופרים, כיעקב שבתאי "זכרון דברים" (1971), אהרן מגד "עשהאל" (1978), בנימין תמוז "רקוויאם לנעמן" (1978), אריה סמו "עץ התות" (1979), חנוך ברטוב "באמצע הרומאן (1984), רות אלמוג "שורשי אוויר" (1987), ומאיר שלו "רומאן רוסי" (1988) כותבים רומאנים המספרים על כשלון הגשמת המפעל הציוני.

מי ינהיג את העם הציוני, שואל, ספק מנבא, עמוס עוז ב"קופסה שחורה" (1987); בועז הבור שחי רק את ההווה, או סומו הפנאטי, החרדי.

וכך, למרות זאת שבשנה הבאה נחגוג את שנת היובל להגשמת החזון הציוני בפועל, במדינת ישראל, לפי שעה, בכל האמור לעיצוב אידאל ציוני מחודש בסיפורת העברית אנו עומדים בפני חסר מהותי ועצוב.

ואולי, ואולי יקום לנו עוד הרצל כזה?

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

ZUCCHINI CASSEROLE

SELLS KitchenAid FOR LESS

6 cups zucchini squash (sliced very thin with skin on)
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 cup condensed cream of mushroom soup
1 cup sour cream
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup shredded carrot
1 8-oz. pkg. croutons
1/2 cup melted margarine

Microwave sliced squash and onion for 2 minutes. Combine soup and sour cream. Stir in shredded carrot. Fold in cooked zucchini & onions. Combine croutons and margarine - spread one half on bottom of large baking dish. Spoon vegetable mixture on top. Sprinkle remaining croutons over vegetables. Sprinkle shredded cheese on top.

Bake in 350 degree oven for 30 - 40 minutes - until top is bubbling.

Note: This dish does not freeze well.

All that's left to do is *ENJOY!!!*

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About families

Dear Susan,

I recently went on a march for breast cancer with a friend. We were shocked to see how poorly the Jewish community was represented. We concluded that some people only volunteer their time when their photos will appear in the newspaper. What can we do about this apathy?

Dear Reader,

Congratulations to you and your friend for participating in the walk for cancer. By giving of your time and yourself you made a meaningful contribution to a worthwhile cause.

People choose different ways to support the causes in which they believe. Some write out a cheque while others become actively involved with the organization itself.

Both you and your friend experienced dismay and disappointment because of what you perceived as a lack of commitment by your peers to an important cause. It is true that there are some people who do volunteer work for narrow, narcissistic reasons. There is, however, a large army of people who quietly do important, useful volunteer work behind the scenes, unnoticed by anyone. Their only reward is knowing that they are making a difference.

I think it is up to families to instil the idea that we are all part of a community and that we have an obligation to help each other. This is not a terribly new idea – every religion tells us that the well-off should help the less fortunate, and before the government took on the task, it was up to each community to look after its marginal, elderly and less capable members.

As a parent, you can teach your children how they can learn to respect others by giving of themselves. You might consider involving your own children in the walkathon next year. If you feel your community lacks involvement and commitment, the most effective, appropriate response is to encourage involvement and commitment in that portion of your community you can most influence – your family.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

14th century Haggadah heads to Hebrew U library

By ALISSA KAPLAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — A rare medieval Haggadah will soon head for its new home — the National Library at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The 14th-century illuminated Wolf Haggadah will arrive in midJanuary as a result of a joint effort by the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and the Polish government, said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC.

In addition, Steinberg announced as part of the agreement with the government of Poland, the 23-foot cross on display at Auschwitz along with other religious symbols on display in the former Carmelite convent at the camp will be removed "within days."

The decision came after Polish officials and WJC representatives met recently in New York.

The fate of the Haggadah, worth more than $1 million, has been in question for years.

Albert Wolf, a German Jew who died in 1907, bequeathed it to the Berlin Jewish community. The Nazis stole it in 1938, and it was discovered in 1944 by Russian troops in Poland. The Russians turned it over to the Historical Institute in Poland.

The claims surrounding its ownership then leads to a Montreal man, Nathan Hecht, who claimed to have bought it and attempted in 1989 to have it sold by a Swiss auction house.

Acting on behalf of the East and West Berlin Jewish communities, the WJC succeeded in 1990 in having the Geneva courts seize the Haggadah to prevent its auction.

At that time the Polish government and the WJC reached an agreement to jointly contest any appeals of the decision preventing the auction of the Hagaddah. If successful, they would send the Hadaddah to Israel for official display and safekeeping. Steinberg characterized the agreement between the Polish government and the WJC as a "good-faith gesture".

Last year, on Oct. 18, after lengthy legal proceedings, a Geneva court upheld the decision prohibiting the sale of the manuscript and decided that the Haggadah could be officially sent to Israel.

When released from the custody of the court, The Haggadah will first be be taken to the Polish Embassy in Bern. It will then be transported to Israel by Tadeusz Polak, Polish undersecretary of state at the Culture and Art Ministry, who took part in the New York meeting with the WJC; the Israeli ambassador and WJC representatives.

In Israel, the Haggadah will be officially handed over to the National Library at a ceremony to be attended by top officials of the Polish government, Steinberg said.

Hecht told *The CJN* he paid "a lot" for the Hagaddah but that "it doesn't look like" he will be pursuing the matter any further.

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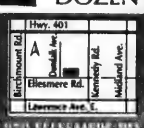

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This Week

Coast to Coast

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King Hussein mediates Hebron talks

End of negotiations near

By DAVID MAKOVSKY AND JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jordan's King Hussein secured a key Palestinian concession last Sunday that appears to have brought the sides closer to a Hebron agreement. He then flew from Gaza to Tel Aviv for a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"We can envision the end of the negotiations in sight," Netanyahu said after meeting with King Hussein. "Because of the important initiative His Majesty took, we have made considerable progress."

Earlier, in Gaza, Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat agreed to Hussein's proposal that Israel could prolong its three-stage withdrawal from West Bank rural areas, narrowing the gap on the key sticking point in the talks, according to a PA official.

Hussein put forward a compromise proposal on a critical future IDF pullback from the West Bank in the middle of 1998.

In Tel Aviv, Netanyahu, King Hussein and U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross were upbeat but noncommittal, saying some work remained.

"I leave here confident that everything will move in the right direction...a fresh beginning to continue the work to achieve the kind of peace and the kind of future we seek," King Hussein told reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Netanyahu.

"We are closer than we were," said Ross, adding that he would now remain in the region, despite earlier plans by the U.S. Embassy to have him return to Washington.

The proposal was formulated during King Hussein's visit to Gaza, his first since 1967, for talks with Arafat. The compromise was worked out during seven hours of talks in Gaza and came after phone calls to Netanyahu, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Ross and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) saluted King Hussein. "One has to admire the king, who is willing to risk his prestige by trying to reach an agreement, just as he did by attending the Washington summit" several months ago, he said.

According to the PMO, Jordanian officials had notified Jerusalem that the king would be visiting Gaza, and if successful in his peacemaking efforts, he would be amenable to meeting Netanyahu later in the day.

Continued on page 30

As Israelis and Palestinians were negotiating a possible agreement over IDF redeployment from Hebron and the rest of the West Bank, demonstrators protested across the street from the site of the negotiations. ***[Reuters/RNS photo]***

Anti-Semitic articles appear in Canadian Arab press

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In language reminiscent of neo-Nazi publications, an Arab language newspaper in Toronto has published an article condemning the prosecution of Nazi war criminals and suggesting the Holocaust is a lie.

"Where is the human justice" in seeking trials for these men, asks an article in the June 27 issue of *Al-Orouba* (*The Arab*) newspaper. "The decision of the government of Canada [was made] under the insistence of a wicked and spiteful Jewish pressure to try very old people. And if these people were Nazis or Jews, they deserve mercy, kindness, pity and compassion. Everyone knows the fulfillment of military orders during wartime is punished by death."

The article goes on to question the Holocaust: "What is the proof for the death of six million Jews in World War II or what is called the Holocaust? And if these lies are true as they claim, the Soviet Union lost 26 million between the military and civilians, so is Jewish blood made of gold while the others' blood is made of brass?"

The article, by A. Sabbagh, said "the continuation of trying these very old people is clear proof of the existence of two qualities the Jews are well known to possess and they are 'don't forgive and don't forget.' These two qualities stayed attached to the Jews since their existence on the face of the earth." The writer goes on to ask why Israel does not try soldiers who participated in the burial of Egyptian prisoners during the 1967 and 1973 wars and asks, "isn't this a clear proof of the double standard by the world society that is under the wicked and poisonous Jewish influence?"

The article, written in Arabic, was translated by Sasson Mayer, a Jew of Iraqi origin. Mayer, who has lived in Toronto for 30 years, said

Continued on page 26

INSIDE

Raise the authentic Orthodox voice of reason and love.
Please see Perspectives on page 9.

An interview with new Israeli ambassador David Sultan — please see page 4

The News in Brief

UFOs Don't Arrive

JERUSALEM – Thousands of Israelis took to their rooftops last week, scanning the skies for UFOs whose arrival was predicted by an Israeli mystic.

Helinor Harar, who predicted the election victory of Benjamin Netanyahu, said the extraterrestrial beings were supposed to land Jan. 5 in Israel.

Theme music from the American television show *The X-Files* came over loudspeakers for the event.

But the only lights observers saw were those of planes landing at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Harar later told Israeli media that she had a new date for the landing — Feb. 14, Valentine's Day.

CANADA

Moroccan Wonders

TORONTO — Experience the beauties and wonders of the ancient country of Morocco, on a tour led by Cantor Daniel Benlolo of Beth Shalom West synagogue in Nepean, Ont.

The tour, called The Moroccan Journey, will leave Montreal on May 22, and return June 5. Guides will take you to the fabled cities of Marrakesh, Casablanca, Rabat, Meknes and Fez.

For more information, contact INTRA Madison Travel, 56 Sparks St., Suite 400, Ottawa, K1P 5A9, telephone 613-238-4040, or outside the 613 area, 1-800-465-4040.

ISRAEL

Graduate Fellowships

JERUSALEM — The Shalem Centre of Jerusalem is currently accepting applications for eight graduate fellowship grants of $14,400 which will be awarded for study at the centre for 1997-98.

Send requests for information or applications prior to March 1 to – U.S. office at: American Friends of Shalem Center, 1524 Delancey St. 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Tel 215-985-4681, Fax 215-985-2332, e-mail [shalem@jer1.co.il] or Israel office at: The Shalem Centre, 5 Eliash St. Jerusalem, Tel (02) 625-4185, Fax (02) 625-6720, e-mail [shalem@jer1.co.il].

Accusations Denied

JERUSALEM — Israel has rejected Syrian accusations that it carried out a fatal bus bombing in Damascus and that it planned additional terrorist attacks.

"The government of Israel is not involved and has no connection to what happened," Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters.

Arab driver kills Israeli

JERUSALEM — A 15-year-old Arab crashed a car into a bakery in Jerusalem's crowded Machane Yehuda outdoor market last week, killing one person and injuring six others. Police said an initial inquiry showed that the incident was a traffic accident. But they did not rule out other possibilities, including a terror attack.

WORLD

Rabbi Charged

SAN FRANCISCO — A local synagogue is trying to reassure its members that their children are still safe, despite allegations that its rabbi molested a 12-year-old female student.

Pending a preliminary hearing, Rabbi Sidney Isaac Goldenberg is not allowed on the premises of Congregation B'nai Israel in Petaluma during religious school hours.

The rabbi, 58, was suspended from his post last month after he was charged with one count of lewd acts with a child and two counts of annoying a child.

He pleaded not guilty to the charges. He has been free on bail since the day after his arrest.

War Crimes Trial

CLEVELAND — An accused war criminal is set to go on trial here this week, more than two years after the Nazi-fighting arm of the U.S. Justice Department began denaturalization proceedings.

Algimantas Dailide, 75, a resident of nearby Brecksville, is accused of taking part in the persecution of Jews during World War II, while serving in the Saugumas, the Nazi-sponsored Lithuanian security police.

New Bonds Leadership

NEW YORK – Israel Bonds North American Leadership Division has appointed former CNN correspondent Linda Scherzer as its new director.

Born in Montreal, Scherzer was named CNN's Mideast correspondent based in Jerusalem in 1988.

In 1993 she made aliyah and was hired by Israel Television.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Holocaust Centre Site

WEST BLOOMFIELD, Mich. — The Holocaust Memorial Centre now has a home page on the World Wide Web. It is found at [http://holocaustcenter.org].

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Jan. 14, 1972

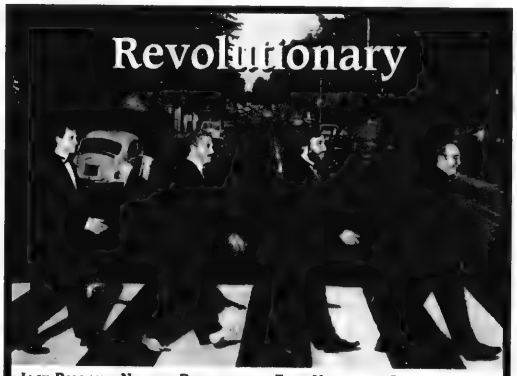
TENSION RECEDES IN MIDDLE EAST

Some of the heat appears to have gone out of the Arab build-up towards resumed fighting in the Middle East. In Israel the emphasis has returned to the search of a political solution and more particularly to the expected resumption of a U.S. bid to secure an intermittent Suez Canal settlement.

Israeli leaders are adamant they have paid no advance price for President Nixon's decision to resume Phantom deliveries. Nevertheless, Washington will clearly expect a further demonstration of Israel's "flexibility" as a quid pro quo.

FRANCOPHONE IMMIGRANTS LACK OPPORTUNITIES

French-speaking immigrants from North Africa who have made Montreal the third largest absorption centre after Israel and New York City, find a lack of warmth and personal feeling on the part of some agencies and the general population, according to a study. The report says it is the opinion of many of the newcomers that the community is content to let its agencies meet the tangible needs of food, clothing and shelter but is not interested in making personal contact with them.



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Cantor had 'few friends, limited social life'

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — The chair to the right of the cantor's table in the chapel at Beth Israel Synagogue was empty. Books covered the desk, along with a pair of glasses, the last hint that a man respected by the congregation had been there.

Stuart Friedman was gone. The 42-year-old man who served the congregation for the past 30 months as cantor, Hebrew school teacher and choir leader, boarded a plane to his Baltimore home the day before, after being convicted of possession of child pornography, fined and exiled.

"We are still in shock," said Bob Wolman, president of the 107-year-old Halifax Orthodox congregation, wrapping his *t'fillin* after morning services. "We knew nothing of this until we got a call from police that they had taken the cantor into custody after raiding his apartment."

Wolman called Friedman a "kind and gentle man, extremely cooperative, helpful, dedicated worker. He attended each morning minyan and afternoons too, when he wasn't teaching."

Yet the president says the cantor was "lonely, had no close friends and a limited social life."

Friedman came to Halifax in August 1994. His operatically-trained voice raised the level of services at Beth Israel. He participated in two Halifax concerts, with other cantors, that brought Jewish music to the awareness of the secular public. He sang in London, England recently in a three cantors' concert.

He studied classical music at the Peabody Institute of Music and Towson State University in his home town of Baltimore. His cantorial studies took him to the Belz School of Music at Yeshiva University.

"While we can't make excuses for what was totally inappropriate behavior, we know he wasn't an abuser," said Wolman. "He didn't bother anyone. His problem was his own."

Wolman accompanied Friedman to the airport following his plea and sentencing. "He was remorseful and said he wishes he 'could apologize to the children of the Hebrew school.' We know he didn't do them any harm."

Wolman said the cantor realizes he is ill and needs help and "I feel he'll get it. We're just saddened about what happened."

He said the synagogue will begin a search for a new cantor.

Halifax cantor guilty of possessing child pornography

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — After months of intensive investigation by Canada Customs and Halifax police officials, it took but a few minutes for cantor and Hebrew school teacher Stuart Friedman of Halifax's Beth Israel Synagogue to plead guilty to charges of possessing child pornography and be returned to his native United States.

Friedman, 42, was a teacher, choir director and leader of services at Beth Israel Synagogue since August 1994. Well respected in his synagogue duties, the cantor's private interests were unknown to synagogue officials.

"I'm speechless," said president Robert Wolman. "Our whole congregation is in shock."

Friedman, relieved of his duties at the synagogue, was fined $2,000 and flew to his native Baltimore within hours after his conviction.

"We bought him an airline ticket to Baltimore, told him we'd pack his things and send them to him, and put him on the plane," said one synagogue board member.

Police raided Friedman's apartment in south end Halifax, Jan. 6, after securing a search warrant. They discovered, and took as evidence, two computers, dozens of computer discs containing pornographic material, a few sets of handcuffs, books, more than 300 explicit photos and over 50 pornographic video tapes and scores of magazines.

"It was disgusting," said Const. Gary Martin, public affairs officer of the Halifax Regional Municipality Police Department. "The discs showed explicit pictures of young boys in sexual acts, covering every form of pornography. Ninety percent of it was obtained indirectly or directly from the Internet."

He said there were photos of children and a concern was that he may have been taking local photos. "We're trying to find out if locals are in these pictures."

After the plea and sentencing, defence lawyer Joel Pink emphatically told reporters no local children were in the pictures. He and Wolman had examined the photos prior to Friedman's court appearance. Friedman taught Hebrew school and conducted bar mitzvah classes at the synagogue.

Crown attorney Frank Hoskins said Friedman was cooperative with police when they entered his apartment. "He had only used the photographs for his own sexual fantasies. His intent was possession, not distribution or selling."

Friedman, not married, helped police further their investigation by providing information to bring more like-minded individuals forward.

Outside court, a police officer told reporters the investigation is international in scope and far from over.

"We're pursuing every angle. He's not the only person involved. The investigation involves law enforcement officials in Canada and the United States."

In addition to the fine, Friedman forfeited his computers, valued at a total of $2,700. He said privately later that he realizes he has an illness and will seek help.

When reporters suggested the fine might be lenient for such a crime, police officer Martin said, "This individual has lost more in his standing in his own community than just $2,000.

Synagogue officials were scheduled to meet with parents of bar mitzvah boys from the past two years in their own investigation of the cantor's activities. But it was strongly felt he did not act improperly with his students.

Clarification

Arnold Fradkin, whose two-part essay on the prosecution of war criminals in Canada appeared in the last two issues of *The CJN* is no longer with the War Crimes Litigation Unit in the Department of Justice. In 1990 he returned to his practice of civil litigation as senior counsel within the department.

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Greater Toronto Area

From the editor's desk

'Intensive political dialogue is necessary'

Next week, on Jan. 20, Israel's new ambassador to Canada, David Sultan and his wife, Adina, will be in Toronto. The ambassador will be speaking to the community from the dais of the Beth Tzedec Congregation. It will be their first official visit to Toronto and his first official presentation.

The ambassador was gracious enough to interrupt a warm weather vacation to allow *The CJN* to speak with him by telephone. We reproduce the interview as a way of "introducing" the ambassador to our readers.

CJN: Have you met with Lloyd Axworthy yet?

Sultan: Yes I have. We had a long chat. I tried to convey to him the complexity of the current situation [in the peace process].

In the near future, we hope that Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Levy [David Levy, Israel's foreign minister] will be able to exchange visits. In fact, visits had been arranged, but pressing matters, namely in Zaire and in Hebron, arose to postpone them.

CJN: How would you describe Israel's relations with Canada?

Sultan: Good relations between Canada and Israel are a tradition, but there is always room for improvement. We would like to see the two countries defying the geographical distance between us by moving even closer [on a bilateral level].

Politically, we should intensify the dialogue. It would be of benefit to both sides.

As you know, Canada has interests in our region and is involved in the peace process through its participation in peace keeping forces, her active role in the multilateral process and financial assistance to the Palestinians.

We, of course, welcome all that and would like to see the Canadian role continuing.

At the same time, I would say that Canadian involvement in the peace process means that there is a growing number of subjects that are of increasingly common interest to our two countries. Thus, intensive political dialogue is necessary to prevent misunderstandings. We want to prevent quick condemnation of Israel in situations which are delicate, sensitive and complex.

CJN: How would you describe your ambassadorship in Egypt?

Sultan: Egypt was a very special experience. For an Israeli diplomat, the assignment in Cairo is different from any other. In Cairo, the task

Ambassador David Sultan

directly involves the building of a peaceful relationship between us and our neighbors.

The task was difficult, not in the least because right from the beginning, Israel and Egypt had different approaches toward normalization of relations. For us, peace and normal relations were the aim and the goal, whereas for them, it was a price they had to pay for getting back the Sinai.

It was a great challenge and a great privilege. For me, having been born in Egypt, there was also a personal angle. When my family immigrated to Israel in 1949, I was 11 years old. I never thought I would come back to Egypt as the representative of the Jewish state. It was the closing of a circle.

CJN: During your term in Cairo the "episode" arose involving the alleged mistreatment of Egyptian prisoners of war from the Sinai campaign in 1956. Some Egyptian media even directed some of the allegations at you. Can you tell us anything about that?

Sultan: To be sure, the allegations were not pleasant. They came from the opposition. They did not come from government officials. But we agreed that it was better not to dig up old wounds from the past.

CJN: Do you wish to impart any specific message to the Canadian Jewish community?

Sultan: I am more concerned with Jewish continuity in the Diaspora than with the intensity of the internal debates within Israel generated by the peace process. The internal debates in Israel will ease once the peace process comes to fruition. But where will the Diaspora be in terms of Jewish continuity?

In fact, my remarks next week in Toronto will focus on Israel-Diaspora relations.

I would like to work closely with the Canadian Jewish community. I know the community in Canada is a vibrant, confident, proud and committed one. Maintaining and hopefully strengthening the bonds uniting us will be a major priority.

CJN: What do you see when you imagine the year 2000?

Sultan: For the long run, I am very optimistic. We will have a comprehensive peace, close cooperation among neighbors for the economic flowering and benefit of all the countries in the region. There is no other way.

The career of an Ambassador

David Sultan was born in Cairo, Egypt in 1938. His family immigrated to Israel in 1949. He and his wife Adina have two children.

After serving in the IDF, he was the first secretary in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Since then:

- 1974 to 1979: counsellor in The Hague, Netherlands.
- 1979 to 1981: director of division in the Foreign Ministry's Centre for Political Research.
- 1982: head of the Israeli Interest Office in Nairobi, Kenya.
- 1983 and 1985: minister-counsellor in Cairo.
- 1985 to 1987: consul general in Milan, Italy.
- 1987 to 1989: director of the cabinet of the director-general for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 1989 to 1992: deputy director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 1992 to 1996: ambassador to Egypt.

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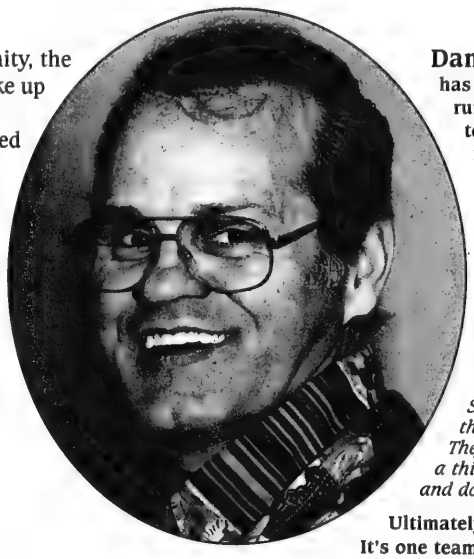

Dan Godfrey

has kept the mechanics of Baycrest Terrace running for the past 7 years. As maintenance team leader, his long days are filled with mechanical checks for the pool, heating and air conditioning systems and repairing or replacing whatever has to be repaired, or replaced. Both behind the scenes and with the residents, Dan has a quiet efficiency that encourages respect.

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Greater Toronto Area

THUMBS UP FOR SPIEGEL NAMESAKE

Blood donor Randy Spiegel of Associated Hebrew Schools braved last week's snowstorm to attend a clinic on behalf of unrelated blood user Randi Spiegel (inset), who has Crohn's disease. Eighty-one people attended the Red Cross clinic sponsored by two Jewish Women International chapters at the Promenade Mall, where 70 units of desperately needed blood were collected. [Frances Kraft photos]

Police probing anti-Semitic telephone messages

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Metro Toronto Police's hate crimes unit is asking for the Jewish community's help in catching the people or person responsible for leaving bizarre anti-Semitic telephone messages at a number of businesses.

The unit has received seven complaints to date, but there have likely been many more unreported instances, Det. John Monroe told *The CJN*.

The messages began in October and have been left after and before working hours at several Jewish-owned or operated businesses around Metro, Monroe said.

The recordings are of a male voice warning that "anti-Christs" and "Hebrew Satanists" are going to be "annihilated."

Monroe said there's "a good chance" the same person has been leaving the messages.

He's advising anyone who receives the message to press the star sign on their telephone dialing pad, followed by pressing 57. That, he said, would trace the call, even to a number that has been blocked.

But that only works, he explained, if the message is the last one left on an answering machine. Calls are more difficult to trace when a switchboard forwards them to voice-mail, he said.

"We're really concerned about this," Monroe said. "The calls are not threatening or harassing anyone personally as defined in the Criminal Code. But people getting them feel threatened and intimidated nonetheless."

He said police are talking to Crown prosecutors to find a section of the Criminal Code under which the caller could be prosecuted.

Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress said a few people who were targeted for the calls were scared.

"While I don't believe there's anything to be scared of, these calls are disconcerting and malicious," Farber said.

Anyone with information is urged to call Det. John Monroe at 416-808-3500.

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I. Falk

On Friday, December 13, 1996 in Montreal. Son of the late Yitzhak and Rachel-Leah Falk of Warsaw. Participant in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and survivor of Nazi Concentration Camps. Long-time activist in the Jewish Labour Movement, the Bund and the Workmen's Circle. Beloved husband of Feige Charney. Survived by son and daughter-in-law Michael and Lilian Falk, stepchildren Ben and Joan, Jerry and Larry and Sandra Charney. Grandchildren: Jonathan and Dan Falk, Ted, Robin Brian and Noah Charney. Nieces: Joanna Perelmuter and Maria Kaczmarek and their families.

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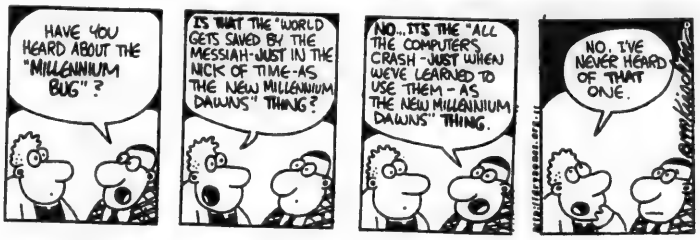
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Rabbi Jay Kelman helping couples purchase homes

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Jay Kelman

TORONTO — Rabbi Jay Kelman, associate rabbi of Beth Jacob Synagogue in North York, is pressing forward in his attempts to revitalize the shul and the Bathurst Manor community.

The first 10 couples who buy homes in the area, and who commit to become active members of Beth Jacob, will receive a $25,000 loan, interest-free for two years, as well as a percentage off their mortgage, and 40 percent off their legal fees.

Rabbi Kelman told *The CJN* that he is trying to also offer a discount on moving costs, and a reduced rate membership at the BJC.

"We are trying to create a young, open, energetic, vibrant, centrist Orthodox community in Bathurst Manor," he said.

For many years, he said, young couples buying their first homes have been buying in the Bathurst corridor, especially in Thornhill. But there are many benefits to buying in the manor, he said – it is on the subway line, lots are bigger, there are many rentable basements, and there is good value in the housing market. "You get more for your money," he said.

Rabbi Kelman has other ways to encourage young families to join the synagogue; a junior congregation, Shabbat luncheons, and educational and social programs. In fact, he confided, nine young families, with children, have joined in recent months.

To assist those who are interested, the synagogue is holding a homebuyers' seminar on Feb. 3, which will include a representative from the Toronto Dominion Bank talking about finance.

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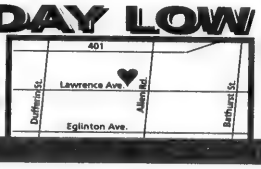

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Greater Toronto Area

Some of the participants in Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region's high school outreach program enjoy a game of Hebrew Twister during a recent kallah in Toronto. From left are: Shanna Park of Sault Ste. Marie; Shayna Hoffman of North Bay; Beth Albert of Peterborough; Jonathan Marmurek of Guelph and Avrum Hollinger of Guelph. [Leanne Rosen photo]

Teens from small communities prepare for summer in Israel

TORONTO — Twenty-five teenagers from small communities across Ontario took a break in their recent school holidays to come to Toronto for three days of preparation for their participation in the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) three-year High School Outreach Program, a five-week summer study tour in Israel.

Leanne Rosen, who was attending her first kallah (gathering) since her appointment as program coordinator last summer, said she was "delighted" to see and hear how much the participants had been absorbing through home study.

At the weekend conclave, " the teenagers were absolutely captivated by the talks on what to expect in Israel," she said.

As part of its mandate, CJC Ontario region is committed to preserving and strengthening Jewish life in small communities ranging in size from one to 250 families. Identifying the need for Jewish education and continuity in these communities, CJC launched the outreach program, now in its fourth three-year cycle.

Students learn by correspondence from material sent out by Congress and from periodic visits by CJC professionals. Twice yearly, teenagers from places including Sault St. Marie, Timmins, Kingston and St. Catharines – come together at a weekend kallah for group study.

"Now that we are two years into the program, the youngsters have jelled into a cohesive unit — one extremely enthusiastic about the forthcoming trip to Israel," said Jennifer Turack, CJC director of the Community Services and Youth Activities Department that supervises the outreach project.

At the recent kallah entitled Israel: Back to the Future, speakers videos and group activities helped prepare the teenagers for their forthcoming trip.

Michael Soberman of the Canada-Israel Experience Centre gave a talk on what to expect. Volunteers Saul Cohen, Janna Cohen, Robin Hollinger and Michael Nadler spoke of their own experiences, and about some specific features of Israeli life.

The kallah also included Shabbat services; team games such as "Jewpardy," a takeoff of the popular television show *Jeopardy* featuring questions about Israel and Israeli heroes and heroines, and Jewish history; and crafts involving the creation of hand-decorated prayers for travel.

Leah Kon, 16, of Guelph said that this kallah "stressed the importance of our connection to Israel in solidifying our Jewish identity. Specifically, we were informed about the many accomplishments of Israel and the Israelis. During the weekend, we have come together as a group, and that's great because we are going to have to rely on each other when we are in Israel."

Daniel Schwartz-Narbonne, 14, of Kingston got the impression from the speakers that in Israel, they should be ready "for individuals who are more intense and more likely to tell you exactly what they think and feel. I am really looking forward to our trip, especially the social aspects of meeting young Israelis of our age group."

Shanna Park, 15, of Sault Ste. Marie said she is particularly enjoying the outreach program because of the opportunity to become friends with other Jewish youngsters who understand the experience of living in small communities.

Unlike most of his fellow participants, Avrum Hollinger, 14, of Guelph has already toured Israel. "What was special for me is visiting the sites where all these Bible stories took place," he said.

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The snake turns

On Dec. 18, a grenade was thrown at a bus carrying soldiers in Lebanon. One soldier was killed. A week later, a bomb exploded near military intelligence headquarters in the Bekaa Valley killing two more soldiers. Then, in an even bolder and deadlier attack a bus carrying civilians was bombed in the heart of the capital on New Year's Eve killing at least 13 passengers.

The scene described could very well apply to the determined but craven terror directed at Israel. But it does not. This time the targets of the bombings were Syrians.

As Steve Rodan and Jacob Dallal recently wrote in the *Jerusalem Post*, "After more than a quarter of a century in power, the question is who wants to harm Assad and why does he think this is only the beginning? The suspects, as well as the reason, are numerous."

Even a cursory assessment of the situation yields at least six possible "candidates" for the terror: Lebanese Christians who revile the Syrians for having taken away their country; Turkey, which is fed up with Syria for supporting the PKK Kurdish rebel struggle; Islamic fundamentalists in Syria who regard Assad and his minority Alawite sect as far too liberal and who are tied into the secret web spun of mutual support and deceit by Iran's Revolutionary Guard and the Moslem Brotherhood; Iraq, one of Syria's traditional enemies; Iran, one of Syria's traditional allies with whom relations are somewhat tense at the moment due to current Persian Gulf political expediencies and south Lebanon disagreements; and even Assad's fellow Alawites among whom are rivals always eager and ready to overthrow the Syrian president.

Eventually responsibility for the bombing in Damascus was "claimed" by the Islamic Movement for Change, apparently a newly formed fundamentalist group now taking its place alongside the cadre of the radical, religious killers.

After the Dec. 31 bus bombing in Damascus, Syria immediately though perfunctorily accused Israel of perpetrating the atrocity. Noted Israeli military analyst Ze'ev Schiff correctly pointed out that the fact Syria blamed Israel demonstrated confusion in the president's palace and among his generals.

No one should feel smug at the carnage in Damascus. It is not the vulnerability of the regime that saddens us but the sheer, almost gleeful, disregard for the sanctity of human life. Nowhere in the Middle East has this grisly evil been more evident recently than in Algeria. In the name of their God, Islamic fundamentalist "rebels" have been slaughtering innocent men, women and children. Scores of thousands of people have been killed in Algeria in the fundamentalists' war against the government. But the vulnerability of some regimes is also worrisome. The Iranian-backed Moslem Brotherhoods are actively seditious in Jordan and in Egypt.

Last week in Israel, 13 people were injured as a result of two bombs that exploded in south Tel Aviv. Palestinian sources said the garbage can bombings appeared to be the work of George Habash's Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. In south Lebanon, an Israeli soldier was killed and more than a dozen injured in clashes with Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

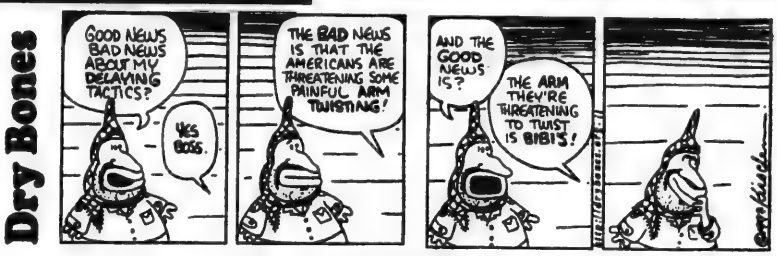
The snake of terrorism that feeds on the blood of innocents that Syria has nurtured and to this day still helps sustain, has now turned on itself. But it must be eradicated.

With goodwill and cooperation among Middle Eastern nations, and a clear understanding of their true shared, common interests, it could be done.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"We shall hear reports of the Jewish situation in the various countries. You all know...that with few exceptions, the situation is not cheering. Were it otherwise, we should probably not have convened."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress.)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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Jan. 16, 1950 CTV broadcast journalist Sandie Rinaldo was born. In 1980 she became the first woman in Canada to anchor a network newscast on a daily basis. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Their daughter guarded the Golan

After having read Shirley Stutz's guest column entitled "On Guard For Israel" (*CJN*, Dec. 5), I felt compelled to give her a Yasher Koach and to send her the following message.

In many ways, my wife and I felt just as you do. Our daughter undertook the same path as your son, that is as a *chayelet bodeda* back in the years '91-'93.

We too felt passionately every recrimination in regards to Zionism, every barb by left-leaning Jews, Israelis and gentiles alike, with respect to the Golan and we too felt every threat both real and perceived by the various enemies who doubted the Golan, which our daughter, Zoe, was so loyally guarding. We too owed the telephone company over-much, (specially frustrated when there were weak connections), and we also envied those Israeli soldiers who could return home to their various families on weekend leave.

Somehow we managed to weather the storm and, truth be it known, the return of our warrior daughter has further cemented our love for each other and our collective desire and love for all of Israel.

Nina Klein
Paul Klein
Windsor

Silent German woman kept him alive

Fran Klodawsky's letter of Dec. 19 merits an answer for her thoughts "on our fight against Holocaust deniers and assorted rabble of neo-Nazis and the old war criminals who found haven in this God-blessed country."

The government through the years knew about them but shamefully did nothing about them, letting them live among their intended victims who survived; it still is dragging its feet in prosecuting them. The letter says that there were Germans who made some difference by saying "no" to the accepted Nazi hatred, by helping the enslaved people by small deeds where the difference between life and death meant a bite of bread given to her mother.

I had the same experience in the factory where 1,000 toiled daily and were dying of hunger and abuse. A German woman who was working not far from me got my attention by hinting by expressions to a place where I noticed a piece of paper. She never spoke to me but I found this same paper containing a slice of bread for several months. When she fell ill, my hunger returned.

Simon Schweitzer
Montreal

Deplores shooting of Palestinians

The recent shooting of Palestinians in a crowded market in Hebron by the young, religious fanatic Israeli soldier, Noam Friedman, will immediately trigger painful memories among Jews around the world of the horrifying shooting death of Yitzhak Rabin by Yigal Amir just 16 months ago.

Perhaps it is high time that Israeli society start doing some soul searching and ask itself some important questions.

In the case of Friedman, the IDF should have taken more cautious measures before recruiting such a fanatic in its ranks knowing his past history and background. Perhaps Israeli Jews and those in the Diaspora are starting to see a disturbing trend among a small percentage of Jews, who by acting alone, think that they have the God-given right to change the course of history.

Akiva Gitelman
Montreal

Another salvo on Reading Hebron

In response to Ioan Davies' letter criticizing my comments on Jason Sherman's *Reading Hebron:*

First, Israel is decidedly not, as Davies claims, a 'text, provided for us openly on TV, radio and film' to be 'read, carefully' in order to understand it. Israel is, in fact, a true-to-life nation-state composed of true-to-life human beings dealing with the very complex problems of real life. And as much as I must commend Davies and Sherman for their love of reading, I expect that real-life will one day welcome them, too, into its complex and often muddied reality.

Secondly, I have grave doubts as to whether Sherman knows his Prophets (as Davies claims), and challenge Davies himself (as he has me) to put his Talmudic defence of *Reading Hebron* before the eyes of what should be an eager and curious *CJN* readership.

That is, of course, if he can read Aramaic.

Lorne Katz
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Raise the authentic Orthodox voice of reason and love

By RABBI MAURY KELMAN

Perhaps the greatest secret in the survival of the Jewish people through millennia of persecution and upheaval has been our uncanny common sense. From Abraham's smooth business dealings with the hard driving Hittites, to Mordechai and Esther's clear grasp of political reality, to our contemporary rabbis' creative solutions for the modern challenges to Judaism, we have always used our legendary Jewish *kop* to survive and flourish as a tiny minority. Yet, as an Orthodox Jew surveying the changing landscape of Jewish life over the last few years. I fear that segments within the Orthodox community have replaced common sense with a perilous myopia.

While all members of society must balance their individual and communal aspirations, a seriously committed Jew faces a much greater task. From its earliest days, Judaism has vigorously emphasized its obligations to the community, often at the expense of personal goals. Our Talmudic rabbis teach that in helping others, whether it's by sharing our wealth with the needy, visiting the sick, comforting the mourner or giving joy to a bride and groom, we participate in acts of *imitatio Dei*. Our communal obligations are thus infused with divine echoes animating our daily lives with spiritual rewards. We are not only being nice people when we spend 20 minutes helping an elderly person get home safely, we transcend our own desires and make God more accessible in this world. Without proper perspective and guidance, however, these communal responsibilities can lead to an unhealthy tension: How can I do anything for myself when there are so many problems just outside my comfortable home?

Societal responsibilities

Lately, society has displayed a slight uneasiness with the "me first" syndrome that has often encapsulated Western culture. Overall, however, the major thrust of modern man is to pursue personal success while downplaying societal responsibilities. Ironically, one can detect a similar tendency in the religious sphere among minority elements of Orthodox Jewry. Thus, certain Jews, in their justified desire to create a spiritual sanctuary for themselves and their families, unwittingly create the false impression that Orthodox Jews care less about our unaffiliated brothers and sisters than about other observant Jews. And yet, while this attitude, especially in Israel, has led to great dissension, it is important to understand the sincere motivation that drives this behavior.

Certain Orthodox Jews view the temptations of Western culture as a direct threat to the health of traditional Judaism and feel that in order to ensure the survival of Judaism we must distance ourselves as much as possible from potential dangerous influences. The consequences of this fear can, however, lead to the tragic "us first" conclusion: "Since we are ensuring the survival of a strong Orthodoxy, we have to take care of our own religious needs before we worry about the implications of our actions for less committed Jews."

While this unfortunate approach has had a deleterious effect throughout the Jewish world, it is most evident in Israel, a sad fact which the international press continues to document. The months since the Israeli election provide a telling case study for the state of this small, yet greatly publicized, minority of contemporary Orthodoxy. In the days following the election results, many Orthodox Israeli Jews exulted in a giddy euphoria, pointing to the 23 "religious" Knesset seats as evidence of the public's disdain for the alleged anti-religious bias of the previous government. From the towns of Judea and Samaria, through the study halls of Mea Shearim, Orthodox Jews inhaled the sweet fragrance of victory that infused them with vigor and new-found confidence.

And truly, the election results were not surprising. One had sensed a growing discomfort among average Israelis with the rapid import of Western culture and its concomitant erosion of authentic Jewish culture. Madonna, McDonald's and MTV, along with their *Friends*, such as Seinfeld and Michael Jordan, have become touchstones for many young Israelis searching for a cultural identity. Many of the secular Israelis I know are alarmed at the virtual ignorance that Israeli youth and young adults display of anything Jewish. Recently a public high school principal uncharacteristically asked me to run a special Jewish program at his school, sheepishly explaining that his pupils "know nothing about Judaism."

This atmosphere, together with the election results, have accorded Orthodox Jews a wonderful opportunity. But how have we used it? Instead of reaching out to alienated Jews, we continue to drive them away with disputes over cars on Shabbat. A crazed band of hooligans finds sport in attacks on women not dressed modestly enough for their intrusive eyes. And of course, CNN and the *Toronto Star* eagerly expose our dirty laundry to a worldwide audience who wonder why Jews don't get along with one another.

What has happened to our common sense? What has happened to Judaism's deeply rooted and cultivated traditions of tolerance and love for all Jews, and indeed all mankind? If we care about reaching the majority of the Jewish people, the temperate Orthodox minority must vociferously reject the opinions of these splinter groups who unwittingly bring shame to our Torah and teachings through their divisive and selfish actions.

Israel's Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron (left) and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau seen recently at Rachel's Tomb. Their leadership and our participation are required in the search for the "temperate Orthodox minority." [Isranet photo]

Unfortunately, the plague of extremism has spread to other Jewish communities. When I was growing up in Toronto, I felt that a certain sense of unity pervaded all Jews from the left to the right in what was then a more limited spectrum. Now, whenever I return to my home town, I detect an increasing insularity among some Orthodox Jews marked by a proliferation of new schools and shuls that focus inwardly at distinct subgroups within the Orthodox world.

Beyond the question of schools and shuls however, lies the more pressing issue of attitude. It is quite convenient to blame Jewish ignorance and apathy upon the evils of the outside world, while warning that unless we replace our global village with a hermetically closed *shtetl*, we will continue to lose Jews to seductive secularism. More demanding, however is the question that every concerned Orthodox Jew must ask him or herself: Am I doing even the minimum to reach out to other Jews or am I more concerned with my own religious world?

No axe to grind

In fact, both common sense and Halachah demand that we approach all Jews, no matter how distant or even antagonistic, with a sense of understanding and respect. As has been stressed by many great rabbis, no Jew, no matter how hostile, can be deemed a *rasha* or wicked person. The illustrious Chazon Ish, the 20th century sage of B'nei Brak who is not often identified with liberal, politically correct causes, quotes other scholars who maintain that we are actually commanded to love sinful Jews. This decision is based upon the Talmudic position (Arachin 16B) that we have lost the ability to rebuke our fellow Jews, indicating that even the most impious of Jews cannot be deemed fully culpable for their transgressions of Jewish Law.

This is especially true of both contemporary Israel and Judaism. The vast majority of Jews today have no *a priori* axe to grind with Judaism. Today's typical modern Jewish child grows up in a secular world with barely committed Jewish parents, inheriting few Jewish roots while receiving his/her cultural nourishment from popular media and entertainment. While in North America most Jewish adults remain apathetic to their heritage, the best that we can usually hope for in Israel is that by the time these typical Jews begin to make independent decisions, they will remain only apathetic and not become hostile to Judaism.

It is not too late to attract Jews to a vivacious, open Orthodoxy. We must first, however, heed the exquisite words of the great 19th-century rabbi of Volozhin, Naphtali Tzvi Yehuda Berlin (Netziv). Living in a society not overly accepting to Jews, this perceptive hero nevertheless implores us in his introduction to Genesis to follow the tolerant and open paths of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and reject the crooked ways of supposedly pious people who claim that only their approach is correct, castigating all others who don't share their views. This path, the Netziv proves, leads to spiritual death and physical destruction.

The overwhelming majority of Orthodox Jews across the spectrum cares deeply for all Jews, but as in most cases, the voices of reason and *Kiddush HaShem* (glorification of God's name) have too often been muted by a vociferous and skewed minority. Those who seek Jewish continuity and education for Jews of all denominations and backgrounds must raise the authentic Orthodox voices of reason and love.

Many Jews sense a spiritual vacuum in contemporary Israeli and North American culture and, if the Israeli election results are even a slight indication, have begun to search for these Jewish routes. We now have a splendid opportunity to create a renaissance of Jewish identification and learning. Let us act immediately to banish the discord of hate and rhetoric and replace it with the melodious sounds of diverse Jews joining together in a symphony of sensitivity and respect.

Rabbi Kelman is the director of KEDMA, an international organization for observant students, and rabbi of Kehillat Moriah, a new synagogue in Jerusalem.

Opinion

A question of unity

The possibility of a national unity government has been discussed in Israel since last May's election. For many who feel that the government has not been effective in its leadership on domestic issues or in the peace process, a unity government is viewed as a panacea that can guarantee a broad base of support for the government and that, in turn, forces the government to moderate its positions and move toward the centre of the political map.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Israel has had three experiences with national unity governments.

In 1967, during the tension-filled weeks preceding the Six Day War, then prime minister Levi Eshkol invited Gahal, the forerunner of Likud, to join the government. In fact, Eshkol was forced to do so by Rafi, a breakaway faction from Mapai (the forerunner of Labor). In the weeks prior to the war, when it seemed that Eshkol, who also served as defence minister, was losing the confidence of the people, he needed Moshe Dayan of Rafi by his side. Rafi's condition for joining the coalition was the addition of Gahal and its leader, Menachem Begin, in an effort to weaken Mapai.

The unity government was important during the war and its aftermath. But from a political point of view, Eshkol and his party were weakened. Dayan, and not Eshkol, was viewed as the great hero of the war. And Gahal, which had been delegitimized by the Mapai establishment in the past, had been successful in conferring a new legitimacy upon itself. The decline of Mapai, which culminated 10 years later in its first defeat at the polls, can be traced to the unity government of 1967.

In 1984, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir joined forces in a unity government because neither of them could muster a majority in the Knesset that would allow his party to form a government. Once formed, the 1984 government was able to act on two fronts decisively and courageously. It withdrew the IDF from Lebanon, where it had been involved since 1982, and it reduced inflation to a single digit figure.

In 1988, a similar deadlock in the election results led to the formation of yet another unity government by Peres and Shamir. This time around, the record was not nearly as spectacular. The government was unable to act on the peace front in the aftermath of the intifadah, leading some commentators to name it "a government of national paralysis." At the same time, in a blow to parliamentary democracy, the Israeli parliament functioned without an effective opposition for eight years. This experience spawned an intense national debate on electoral reform that resulted in the direct elections for the prime minister, starting in 1996.

Today, Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu both have political and substantive reasons for considering a unity government. Peres claims that only a broad coalition can attenuate the pressures on Netanyahu from the right and can salvage the Oslo process. But his political interest is transparent. In a broad coalition, he can continue to play a central role on the political stage, at least until the year 2000. Although he has announced that he will not seek the leadership of the party in the June 1997 leadership convention, his seat in a unity government will be assured beyond the leadership change.

Netanyahu, for his part, weakens the opposition just by talking about the prospect of a unity government. He also subdues his own right flank by appearing to entertain the notion of a coalition with the "left." But Netanyahu's true interests are not clear. If, after the Hebron redeployment, he wants, or is pressured, to continue the process and loses support from the right, he will likely want to bring Labor into the government, thereby moving himself to the centre. If, on the other hand, he prefers not to move forward in the peace process, he will have no interest in broadening his parliamentary base through concessions to Labor. By continuing to keep the idea alive, Natanyahu also introduces an element of tension into the relationship between Peres and Ehud Barak, the chief contender for the leadership of Labor. Barak opposes any move that will perpetuate the status quo of Peres' leadership of the party.

History has shown a unity government can be effective on issues on which there is broad consensus, but is ineffectual when the partners differ in their fundamental approach. If Netanyahu forms a broad coalition, it will signal his interest in moving towards a new consensus of the moderate right and left, while leaving ideological conflicts to the margins of the political spectrum.

Diaspora or galut?

Next to the peace process, another issue is perhaps the most crucial question for the Jewish people inside and outside of Israel. It is the gap that has developed between Israel and the Diaspora.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Outside of Israel the gap is pragmatic and not ideological. Communities in most countries suffer from a constriction of funds, and the conviction is spreading that more of the money being collected for enterprises such as United Israel Appeal must to a significant degree be utilized at home in order to ensure Jewish continuity.

This is true for Canada as it is for the United States. We owe it to ourselves (so the thinking goes) to strengthen the sense of Jewishness at home. We have to take care of our institutions first and foremost or else there will be no one around tomorrow to support Israel.

Furthermore, there is a widespread belief that Israel can no longer be considered the poor cousin who needs our charitable dollars, monies which are sorely needed here.

Thirdly, of course, there is the debate over the peace process itself. Some welcome the policies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, while others consider them to be a prescription for war, not peace.

Fourthly, our younger people do not have the same emotional attachment to Israel as we and our parents did. For us Israel could do no wrong, it was the beloved with no blemish. We scanned the news for the word "Israel" and rejoiced or suffered with every item we read or heard. Today's generation no longer views Israel as the victim it once was; rather, it is seen as a society with foibles found everywhere. With Jewish ties weakening generally, our connection to Israel, too, is bound to suffer. Yes, there still is love and respect, but it is not the way it once was.

So much for the Diaspora side of the coin. But it is not only here that the gap exists. It can be observed in Israel as well. Many Israelis believe that the Diaspora community is in fact living in self-imposed exile, and therefore is not merely a community geographically dispersed throughout the world (*t'futzot*) but, literally, has chosen *galut*. In that view, those who live in *galut* will either return to Israel or disappear altogether — and in that sense, they are becoming increasingly irrelevant to Israel. As long as the United States is the reigning world power, Washington still plays a role and American Jews have some role to play. But that too will diminish in time, especially as demographic shifts diminish Jewish importance to the administration in the United States.

There are those who believe that even if a serious development somewhere in the world would put Jews in that country at risk, Israelis would pay little attention and simply say: "They should have come to Israel before this happened." Others disagree, and think that such an incident would rekindle the basic instinct of Jews in Israel as everywhere else.

These things are now being discussed here and there, especially in universities. But it is high time that the issue be moved to the public. If these facts have not as yet surfaced at home, they will tomorrow, and they beg for attention.

Jewish studies go on-line

Scholars in the field of Jewish studies have begun to use the Internet to create discussion groups in which questions and answers on various topics are exchanged.

On the surface, the major benefit is that these groups can connect Jewish scholars instantly with a large pool of other scholars, who, if they have the time and the patience, might be prepared to help out a colleague with a specific question. In this limited sense it beats a university reference librarian, since respondents are likely to be specialists in the field.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Recent queries have ranged far and wide. One scholar was curious to know whether the percentage of Jewish deaths during the Black Death was lower or higher than that for non-Jews. Another wondered about the root of the tradition in which observant Jews did *not* study Torah on Christimas.

Chanukah prompted a host of discussion topics. One (initiated by me) dealt with preferences for side dishes to be eaten with latkes. Respondents ranged from purists who stood steadfastly with sour cream or applesauce, to the innovators (assimilationists?), who dabbled in ketchup, jams, mushrooms and trendier, perhaps healthier alternatives. Clearly, passions were aroused. When it comes to Jewish identity, food is not a trivial matter.

Other Chanukah debates concerned the basis for and propriety of the public display of the chanukiah (for example, on car roofs). Another debate focused on the true meaning of the holiday. Many commentators made the point that the real clash was less between the Syrians and the Jews, and more between the Hellenizing Jews and the more traditionalist Maccabbees. It is ironic that the many North American Jews who celebrate Chanukah, themselves far from traditional, fail to recognize the extent to which they (actually, this is true for most Jews) are modern day versions of quasi-Hellenized Jews.

One of the more controversial issues raised dealt with the issue of whether or how scholars in Jewish studies should be "critical" of elements of Jewish life in their public scholarly work. At a recent meeting of the American Academy of Religion, a Jewish scholar presented a paper entitled *The Tenacity of Unreasonable Beliefs in Modern Orthodox Jews: A Psychological Analysis.*

One does not have to be Orthodox to take offence at the title. There is an element of disrespect, even derision, in the choice of words. While I have not seen a copy of the paper, the author complained some of his colleagues attacked him for criticizing Jews "in front of the gentiles." He claims he has been made to feel like a medieval apostate criticizing Judaism in public disputations.

On the other hand, one of the cardinal assumptions of any academic research is that nothing is beyond the pale of critical inquiry. And the criteria for scholarship, including the choice of topic and the evaluation of outcomes, are independent of the audience. Indeed, the audience is assumed to be universal, and communal loyalties and insecurities should not play a role. According to this view, scholars need not worry about what gentiles might think or whether anti-Semites might use the research for their own purposes or about possibly hurt feelings.

Nevertheless, the wording seemed insulting. Scholars should avoid disparaging language. Would he have called Hutterite or Methodist beliefs "unreasonable?"

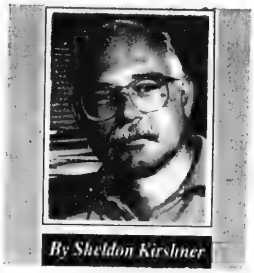
What was surprising about this Internet debate is that these questions are old hat for scholars in the field of Jewish studies. Hannah Arendt and other scholars have explored the role of Jewish councils as possible collaborators in the Nazi genocide. Studies of Jews and crime, or Jews and wife abuse, or the status of women within Judaism or Jewish life, or discrimination against Israeli Arabs or West Bank Palestinians risk painting Jews or Judaism in a negative light, at least from some perspectives. But by and large, the topics are researched.

Responses to Internet queries ought not be confused with rabbinic responsa, though no doubt at some point they will — by an enterprising group of researchers — be subjected to comparable analyses. There is no authoritative consensus which can emerge on any subject of discussion. The medium remains anarchic. What the discussions offer up is a pulse of that segment of the Jewish Studies community which uses the Internet, a snapshot of the concerns and predilections of contemporary Jewish scholars.

The Kirshner File

Leonard Baskin: a printer's printer

Leonard Baskin's books are not in your friendly neighborhood bookshop. They are probably not in your local library. And that's just the way Baskin likes it.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Baskin, a printer, sculptor, painter and engraver, is publisher of the Gehenna Press, one of the most important and elite art presses in the world.

Based in Northhampton, Mass., the Gehenna Press is famous for its beautifully-printed, leather-bound limited-run editions. More often than not, they are bought by university libraries and connoisseurs.

And if you're concerned about price, there is no point even asking. In recent years, Baskin's magnum opuses, printed on the finest handmade paper, have cost between $6,000 and $10,000.

A former yeshivah *bocher* and the son of an Orthodox rabbi, Baskin acknowledges that his is not the only press of its kind in North America. "But none is nearly as serious or as consistently good as mine," he said in an interview.

In Toronto as a guest of the International Festival of Authors, Baskin founded the Gehenna Press in 1942, when he was a student at Yale University's School of Fine Arts.

Rummaging through a campus library one day, he came upon a book written and illustrated by the renowned British poet William Blake. "It was like being struck by a locomotive," recalled Baskin.

Bent on emulating Blake, Baskin turned his sights on learning the art of printing. Shortly after this epiphany, he published his first book, *On A Pyre Of Withered Roses,* a collection of his own poetry.

Called up for national service during World War II, Baskin resumed his artistic career in 1946, studying sculpture and printmaking in the United States, France and Italy.

Since then, Baskin's Gehenna Press, which is strong on poetry, has published over 100 titles on topics ranging from feminism to American slavery. Baskin, who did the original cover of Mordecai Richler's *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz,* has illustrated the majority of the books and often writes the introduction.

On average, three years elapse from the inception to the publication of a volume. "The books are very special," he said without the slightest trace of humility. "They're not popular artifacts."

For 40 years, the Gehenna Press was in the red. "I subsidized it," he said. But of late, it has turned a modest profit.

Regarded as a master craftsman in calligraphy, drawing and design, Baskin was born in New Jersey in 1922. When he was still a very young man, he attended a craft fair in Manhattan with his brother, Bernard, a Hamilton Reform rabbi and a freelance book columnist who writes for *The Canadian Jewish News.*

Watching a woman modelling a head at an exhibition, Baskin was transfixed by the sight. "It was a revelatory experience," he mused. "Once I saw that I didn't want to do anything else."

Rushing back home with a pound of clay, Baskin enthusiastically sculpted figurines by past masters.

At around this juncture in his life, Baskin left the yeshivah he had been attending since the age of seven. His father, Rabbi Samuel Baskin, a Lithuanian Jew whom he describes as "a wonderful man," tried to dissuade him, fearing he would be unable to make a living. But Baskin could not be stopped. He left the cloistered confines of the yeshivah and was apprenticed to Maurice Glickman at the Educational Alliance in New York City.

Having abandoned the orthodoxy of the yeshivah, Baskin was drawn to Marxism. His father, though upset, did not disown him. "He was a great liberal, a Talmud *chuchum.*"

Despite his rejection of organized religion, he is proud to call himself a Yiddishist. "I'm an atheist, but a Yiddishist through and through," said Baskin, who sprinkles his speech with Yiddish words and expressions. " I revel in Yiddish."

Baskin, a voracious reader, makes a point of reading Yiddish every day, usually a selection from *The Penguin Book of Modern Yiddish Poetry.*

Baskin, who considers himself a socialist nowadays, is first and foremost a sculptor. However, he is also a formidable printmaker, having produced more than 1,000 prints in a fruitful career.

Recently, he started a series of prints and woodcuts on the Holocaust. "It took me 30 years to get to this subject," he said. "I had no meaningful way of depicting it.

Baskin, who has been influenced by the likes of Donatello, Michelangelo, Rembrandt and Goya, among others, has few interests outside the Gehenna Press, art and literature. "But art is life," he observed. "I guess you can say I'm wrapped up in art, overwhelmingly so."

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Jewish life

Well worth reading... Ten or 15 years ago, Jews living in Germany supposedly "sat on their suitcases," waiting to leave. Today this is no longer the case. For better or worse, Jews have chosen to remain in Germany. In *Speaking Out* (edition q, $19.95 US), 20 prominent Jews who call Germany home offer an impressionistic view of the post-Holocaust community. The essays, edited by Susan Stern, are by turns thought-provoking and informative. A fine primer.

A complementary volume, *Jewish Voices, German Words* (Catbird Press, $23.95 US), is a probing collection of stories, essays and poems about the problems of Jewish life in contemporary Germany and Austria.

Jewish Identities in the New Europe (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, $27.50), edited by Jonathan Webber, consists of cogent essays by some of the most learned observers of the current scene.

Last year, Montreal hosted a human rights conference to mark the 50th anniversary of the Nuremberg war crimes trials. *Nuremberg Forty Years Later* (McGill-Queen's University Press, $19.95) conveys a good sense of the proceedings through a series of essays edited by McGill University law professor Irwin Cotler.

Persecution, Extermination and Literature (University of Toronto Press, $17.95) is a rigorously scholarly examination of a multi-faceted topic that should be of interest to some readers. The author, Sem Dresden, is certainly knowledgeable, but regrettably, his work is extraordinarily ponderous and, therefore, inaccessible to the majority of readers.

For a change of pace, snuggle up with *Swing, Swing, Swing* (Penguin, $18.99), Ross Firestone's comprehensive biography of the inimitable musician Benny Goodman.

I am a faithful reader of the *Jewish Chronicle,* the weekly voice of British Jewry and one of the best Anglo-Jewish newspapers in existence. *The Jewish Chronicle and Anglo-Jewry 1841-1991* (Cambridge University Press, $59.95 US) by David Cesarani is a serious analysis of the paper's development, its personalities, its power struggles and its impact on a community.

The Oxford History of World Cinema (Oxford University Press, $73.95), edited by Geoffrey Nowell-Smith, is the epitome of erudition. Chapters dealing with Yiddish film, Arab movies and films of the Nazi era will be of special interest to readers.

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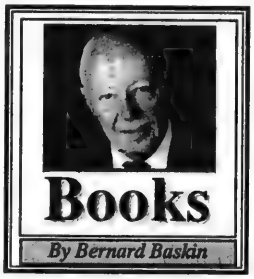
A new year for exciting books



Facing a new year, we are confronted with an astonishing phenomenon. More books on Jewish subjects are being published today than ever before in history. The shelves of bookstores — Jewish and general — are packed with exciting titles. The eager reader can now choose from a spate of volumes on every conceivable subject: Bible, Talmud, history, the Holocaust, contemporary Israel, theology, religious life, customs and ceremonies, cooking, mysticism, Hebrew and Yiddish literature and the novel in English.

Mainstream publishers, once reluctant to publish books for what seemed a small and even diminishing market, are now competing with each other to produce books on a wide variety of Jewish topics. In addition, there are now hundreds of formal programs of Jewish studies in universities and institutes of higher learning, Thousands of students are involved in Jewish scholarship — some of them intensively. What we are witnessing is the popularization of Jewish culture that includes for the first time a sizeable group of knowledgeable women. Jewish scholarship is no longer the legacy of the privileged few.

Blu Greenberg, former president of the Jewish Book Council, described this renaissance of the Jewish book as having many faces: "A doctor, whose book on Kabbalah rests beside the lounge chair in his elegant office, frayed bookmark one-third of the way through; a home-maker sitting on her front steps waiting for a carpool dropoff, reading a book on Jewish medical ethics. A promising young artist, immersed in a sociological review of Jewish life in America; a Fortune 500 president, taking a year's leave from the multimillion-dollar toy company to study about medieval Spanish Jewry; and my sister, director of social services of a large metropolitan hospital, preparing extensively for her monthly Jewish book club meeting."

This may be a somewhat rosy and overdrawn depiction, but it is in the general direction of truth. Why is all this happening now? Perhaps the answer lies in the ubiquitous paperback, the new celebration of ethnicity, the expansion of leisure time, as well as the quest for spiritual meaning in our complex and increasingly impersonal society. Moreover, there is the ever expanding Holocaust consciousness and heightened awareness of the importance of Israel. These have had a powerful impact on the self identity of many Jews — secular, marginal and religious.

This flowering of Jewish books occurs, paradoxically, when the demise of the book is being widely predicted. Sophisticated technology — such as the CD-ROM, the Web site and assorted hardware — now provides miracles. For example, the Hebrew scriptures and the entire Babylonian Talmud are now available on one disc.

Futurists argue that the human intellect is more closely in tune with the visual than the textual. Yet, the experts on the subject are divided. The introduction of TV didn't render radio obsolete, the typewriter did not eliminate the pencil and the car did not mean the end of the bicycle. Evidently, predictions about the last days of the book are simplistic and premature.

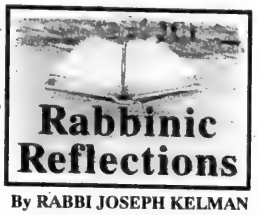
For the book reviewer the unprecedented torrent of Jewish books presents real problems. How are they to be sorted out? Which ones should be discussed? With so many worthwhile books available, it is inevitable that many will be overlooked, ignored or shunted aside. Moreover, the space allotted for book criticism in Jewish magazines and journals is limited and woefully inadequate.

The reviewer sighs with Koheleth, "Of the making of books there is no end." But he takes heart from the assurance of an old Jewish legend that every good book counts, for "whenever the shelves of the Library of Heaven are entirely full, and a new worthy book appears, all the books in the celestial collection press themselves closer together and make room."

UNDER THE ALMOND TREE

In this archival photo of turn of the century Israel, we see six young girls who appear ready to do their planting on Tu b'Shvat. [Courtesy of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary]

Jewish Life



A time of miracles

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

Although we have a few years to go, there are already many ongoing discussions about the achievements of the 20th century, especially the second half. Truly it has been a period of tremendous dramatic changes in our lifestyle. Just think of the extraordinary changes and improvements in transportation, communication and other forms of technology. From the Jewish point of view, these last 50 years have been the most significant ones of the last 2,000 years. While many people associate miracles only with biblical times and events, there have been more miracles in the last 50 years than throughout Jewish history.

The first example is the establishment in 1948 of the State of Israel, which has become a powerful, democratic state, even though it is surrounded by hostile enemies. The Six Day War in 1967 saw many miracles culminating in the age-old dream of returning to Zion and the reunification of Jerusalem.

Two unbelievable happenings have taken place in and out of what was formerly known as the U.S.S.R. One was the collapse of communism there, which resulted in a resurgence of Judaism. Today there are hundreds of Hebrew schools flourishing and many synagogues operating freely. This was not conceivable even 10 years ago.

The second miracle was the absorption of over 500,000 Russian Jews into the fabric of Israeli life. This has given the Russian immigrants a new meaning in life and helped make Israel economically strong. In North America, as well as in other Jewish communities throughout the world, another extraordinary change has taken place. Thousands of young people and their families have discovered or rediscovered their need to be committed to the Jewish way of life. This has led to study and observance.

While the *baal tshuvah*, a person returning to Torah and mitzvot has been part of our history, there have never been so many at one time who have seen fit to change their whole lifestyle.

For many *baalei tshuvah*, the return began with the Shabbat experience.

There is no question that the observance of Shabbat for all Jews, not only the *baal tshuvah*, must remain a key element in the perpetuation of Judaism.

There are many people in Toronto, especially singles, who would welcome an invitation to celebrate Shabbat with a family. When was the last time you had a guest in your home who was not a family member? Think of it as a mitzvah in itself and an opportunity to inspire your guest to a greater understanding and appreciation of Shabbat. Far too many people see it as a day of restriction rather than a day of pleasure.

Having a non-observant guest in a good Jewish home Friday night or Shabbat can open the door for his or her greater commitment to Judaism. I am sure many of you can tell stories, as I can, about what happened in my own home and my parents' home when a visitor would see the true meaning of a Friday night Shabbat experience.

While Jewish continuity may not be called a miracle, let us hope that Shabbat will be celebrated properly in our own and other communities to help ensure a strong Jewish future in our own democratic country.

Birthday party in the fridge

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

There's a birthday being celebrated in your home next week. Actually the party is taking place in your refrigerator because next Wednesday evening is Tu b'Shvat, the traditional Jewish New Year for fruit.

Not one of the major holidays on the calendar, Tu b'Shvat has always has a special significance for school kids, the pioneers of Israel and more recently, for members of the environmental movement. And perhaps because of a lack of formal liturgy associated with the day, many people have crafted new observances to commemorate it. You can find that entire range of celebrations of Tu b'Shvat on the Jewish Highway.

According to Studies in Jewish Tradition **[http://www.jajz-ed.org.il/rtub01.html]** Tu b'Shvat is not mentioned in the Torah but is one of the first issues addressed in the Mishnah. The 15th of the month of Shvat was established as the New Year for purposes of tithing fruit. But according to this site, the holiday has evolved to include many observances including the Jewish people's link to the greening of the Land of Israel **[http://www.jajz-ed.org.il/rtub02.html]**.

For several thought-provoking articles, go to Holidays with a Twist **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/holidays.htm#tub'shvat]**. The Jewish Communications Network has also created a comprehensive site at **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/tu_bshvt/index.html]**. There you'll find links to pages that explain the history of the holiday, an explanation of how the day got its name and even to a Java Jumble word-search game. (Your Internet browser must be able to handle Java in order to play.)

If you want to read up on Tu b'Shvat and brush up on your Hebrew at the same time, go to the Milah Tu B'Shvat Newsletter **[http://www.jer1.co.il/edu/milah/news.htm]**. You do not need to have Hebrew fonts loaded onto your computer in order to read this page.

Unlike that other holiday with the famous seder, Tu b'Shvat has its own lesser-known seder. This seder centres on the sampling of various fruits and the drinking of four cups of wine **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/seder.htm]**.

But there is also a spiritual and kabbalistic significance to the ceremony which has inspired people to create their own variations of the seder. Take a look at Geri Garfinkel's **[http://math.bu.edu/people/samuel/tubish-95.html]**, San Francisco's Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's **[http://www.jcn18.com/holidaytu_bshvt/hagfull.htm]** and Ari Davidow's Tu B'Shvat Seder Toolkit **[http://www.ivritype.com/toolkits/tubtk11.pdf]**. (Note: this file is in Adobe Acrobat format. In order to view it, you will need to download a free copy of Acrobat Reader **[http://www.adobe.com/supportservice/custsupport/tsfilelib.html]**.)

The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/tu_bshvt/alert1.htm]** suggests that Tu b'Shvat is the appropriate time for Jews to take action over the destruction of old growth trees in North America. For more on the coalition, see **[http://www.jtsa.edu/org/coejl/source/invite.htm]**.

The Lights in Action's Environment page **[http://www.lia.org/enviro.html]** also draws a parallel between this holiday and environmental awareness.

But above all Tu b'Shvat remains a day to savour various common and exotic varieties of fruit. Sure, you can eat them raw **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/tu-bshvat/big.htm]**. But why not really celebrate the holiday by creating your very own authentic Jewish fruitcake? **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/tu-bshvat/frutcake.htm]**

Happy birthday and shanah tovah!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Jewish Life

Many children alienated from Judaism today

In this issue we introduce a monthly column by Dr. Elliott Malamet, which will explore aspects of Jewish education. Malamet is a teacher at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and he leads a Shabbat morning service at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue called Pray and Learn.

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

What do the most important ideas and stories of Judaism really mean to Jewish teenagers, especially to those that are predominantly non-observant?

I was offered an intriguing answer to this question not long ago by a Grade 10 class with whom I was discussing the story of Akedat Yitzhak, where Abraham is called upon by God to sacrifice his beloved son. What kind of God would make such an irrational command? I prodded them. Yet I noticed that the students didn't seem terribly bothered by that question.

So in the midst of the class, I suddenly asked: "How many people here believe in God?" Twenty-five out of a possible 25 hands shot up. Good numbers, but numbers often lie. So I asked one girl what she would do if she heard the other kids badmouthing her best friend. Would she come to the defence of her friend in front of others? Absolutely, she replied. So your belief in your friend would lead you to act, and in a decisive and immediate way? She nodded. Your belief in your friend has an important daily impact on you? She nodded.

I asked again how many people here believe in God in that kind of way? Three out of 25 now raised their hands.

"O brave new world," exclaims Miranda at the end of *The Tempest*, only to receive her father Prospero's reminder, " Tis new to thee." The loss of those 22 hands is for me the symbol of a Judaism that has gone dead for many of our children and has led me to consider the "brave new world" that now confronts Jewish communities everywhere, the onslaught of modernity and the loss of meaning in our religious lives and those of our kids.

In discussing the story, the kids said things like, "Well, Abraham was a great man so God could tell him to do stuff like that and he'd listen." But underneath the ostensible piety and religious correctness of such a response, I suspected a real disengagement. So I pushed it. What if God spoke in your ear and told you to shoot your child?

Slowly, the truth came tumbling out. They thought the story was, to be honest, crazy. Then why do we learn it? Well, it's a piece of our history, one boy said enthusiastically. One student added that maybe that was the kind of thing they did a long time ago, but not now. He was correct, of course, but what he meant was that it has *nothing to do with me now*. Abraham, they were telling me, is a piece of history, a great man but not one to imitate, "if you want my honest opinion."

Students have learned the right things to mouth about the patriarchs and matriarchs, but they often remain distanced from the actual spiritual ramifications of the story. What ramifications? How to work through conflicts between authority and your own conscience, for one thing, and how and why to remain committed to something that, at times, seems to make unreasonable demands of you. Commitments like Judaism, for example.

In the coming months, this column will bring to the fore issues regarding Jewish education today. Why are substantial numbers of our children alienated from Judaism? What can parents and educators do about this, both in theory and in practice? What should be our vision in speaking to the next generation about God and Torah, about the fundamental questions of a well-examined life? I welcome your questions, your comments, your complaints and your suggestions.

Sephardic Educational Centre forms chapter in Toronto area

NORTH YORK — The Sephardic Educational Centre (SEC) – a centre for all Jews – has formed a chapter in the Metro Toronto area.

The SEC is an international movement dedicated to youth and young adults. Founded in 1980 by Dr. Jose Nessim of Beverly Hills, Calif., a Sephardi Jew from Paraguay, the SEC has a campus in the Old City of Jerusalem and chapters around the world.

The SEC holds an annual international Young Adult Convention. This year, Sépharad '96, the eighth annual convention, was held from Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 in Los Angeles. The weekend included Shabbat services, discussions on the perpetuation of Sephardi traditions in the lives of young adults and leadership workshops.

In Toronto, all Jewish young adults, Sephardi or not, between the ages of 19 and 35 are invited to join. They will have the opportunity to plan and participate in fun and interesting programs and to meet people from around the world.

A group of eight young adults and the newly appointed young adult director of the SEC, Yael Azuelos, have met to create a Toronto chapter. For more information, call Azuelos at the office 416-398-4134.

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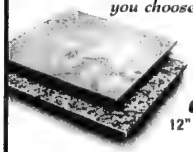

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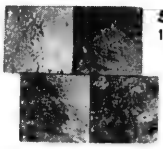

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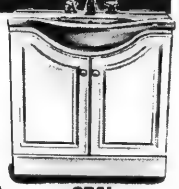

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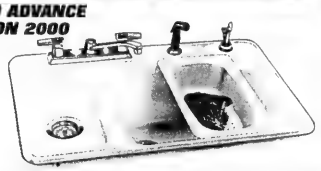

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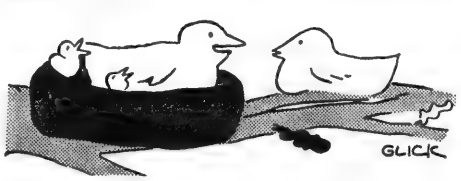
על פי משאלים שמתפרסמים בעיתונות הישראלית והזרה - הולך וגדל אחוז הישראלים שמביעים אכזבה מתפקודו של נתניהו כראש ממשלה, ובעיקר מאי תוזותו בנושא הפלשתינאי. מה רוצים ממנו? הוא נבחר כשכולם יודעים את דעותיו הניציות-ימניות. במערכת הבחירות ציטטו שוב ושוב נאומים לאומניים שלו, - ופתאום כולם מצפים ממנו שיהפוך לאיש שמאל, שיזוז מהר. בחרו בו אנשי ימין והם בצדק מצפים שיעמוד במה שאמר. אלה הם בוחריו, למען השם, וחוא נאמן להם. בחרו בו רבים שאינם אנשי ימין- והם מאוכזבים מאוד. עליהם לדעתי להיות רק מאוכזבים מעצמם ולא ממנו! הקלות הבלתי נסבלת שבה בוחרים בכל העולם המערבי משנים את דיעותיהם היא אידיוטית לחלוטין. זוכרים את תושבי אונטריו בוחרים בסוציאליסט בוב ריי כעונש נגד הליברלים? אחר כך כולם כעסו עליו כשביצע בדיוק את מה שאמר בבחירות, כולל הכנסת הפרובינציה לגרעון של 10 מיליארד בשנה. במקום לכעוס עליו היו צריכים לכעוס על עצמם, על שהם פסיכים ומצביעים בבחירות כאילו קנו אבקת כביסה ויחליפו אותה מחר. גם בישראל, לו נהגו הישראלים ביותר אחריות, היה להם היום כראש ממשלתם את שמעון פרס, והעולם היה נראה אחרת.

זכר את חברון :

חברי יורם פירוצקי ראה הצגה שמה-זה הרגיזה אותו! אז הינה יורם: יש בטורונטו מוסד שהיה פעם בית חרושת לנרות ועבר הסבה לתאטרון, וזה משביר מדוע מעלים במקום הצגות מקוריות אשר נועדו להאיר את חיי הלילה של יפי הנפש ושוחרי התאטרון הלא מסחרי בעיר. בין ההצגות המוזרות שמופקות במקום יש גם הפקות מעולות וחשובות. לכן הלכתי לפני כמה ימים לראות הצגה חדשה שנקראת Remember Hebron , וכאן אני מודה באשמה, הוזהרתי מראש שהמחזה חד צדדי, אנטי ישראלי. מצאתי עצמי לצד רעיתי באולם מלא מפה לפה ביפים ויפות, רובם ארוזים במיטב האפנה של שווקי הפשפשים או חנויות לבגדים ממוחזרים, עם עגילים, נזמים ושאר אביזרים. לאלו שלא בעניינים אציין בקצרה שהמחזה עוקב אחרי ועדת חקירה ממשלתית החוקרת את נסיבות הטבח במערת המכפלה, ובמקביל לחקירה הרשמית, עורך המחזאי עצמו חקירה פרטית בעברו, שורשיו ומורשת אבותיו היהודים כדי להבין מה גרם לפיצוץ הפיוז במוחו המעוות של גולדשטין מברוקלין. וכך דרך סוללת עדים אנו לומדים שהיהודים ובעיקר הישראלים אינם טליתות תכולות כפי שהם חושבים. לעומת זאת על יד הערבים אפילו מלאכי השרת נראים כמו עמלקים. מאחר ואינני מבקר תאטרון לא אכנס לפרטים מיותרים , אלא אצטט מהמחזה משפר טקסטים מבריקים שכמותם לא שמענו מהימים שזונדל עוד כתב מאמרים. אז יש בהצגה קטע שבו נואם סטיבן שפילברג בטקס האוסקר על הפרס שקבל עבור סרטו "רשימות שינדלר". הבמאי המאושר מודה להוריו, לשחקנים ובין חיתר לא שוכח להודות לאדולף היטלר שבלעדיו הסרט לא היה נולד. והיו אנשים בקהל שנהנו מהבדיחה!!!

בסצינה אחרת נראית נכדתו של רבין מקבלת מליון דולר כדי לכתוב ספר על הסב המפורסם. ועוד לפני שמתיבש הדיו על הצ'ק מפסקת הנערה רגליים וחוגגת במשגל כאשר ברקע עומד ערבי מסכן ומדווח על החוויות שנפלו בחלקו בכלא ישראלי, והטיפולים הקוסמטיים שקבל חנם מאנשי המוסד בעזרת סיגריות וכלי עבודה אחרים. ההצגה מסתיימת כאשר הגיבור זורק לחלל האולם את המשפט שלמד בליל הסדר (בשנוי קל): השנה עבדים, בשנה הבאה בני חורין, והמבין יבין. במחיאות כפיים סוערות הודה חלק גדול מהצופים ובעקר לובשי הבגדים המשומשים למאני ולשחקנים. ואני חשבתי לתומי מה היה קורה אם מחזה דומה היה נכתב על אחד המיעוטים האחרים. יש להניח שהמחזאי, הבמאי, השחקנים ומוחאי הכפיים הנלהבים שרובם יהודים, היו יוצאים לרחוב עם כרזות ושלטים, להוכיח לגויים שרק את עצמנו לשנוא אנו יודעים.

SHMOOZIN



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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 16, is deadline for Jan. 30 issue, and Thursday, Jan. 23, is deadline for Feb. 6. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Jan. 16

WOMEN'S CABARET

The Jewish Women's Cabaret at Bloor JCC, hosted by **Libby Scheier** and **Margie Wolfe** features authors **Rhea Tregebov, Elise Levine, Helen Weinzweig**, playwright **Susan G. Cole**, comedian **Tova Fox**, musicians **Batsheva, Marcia Beck & Friends Lisa**, and animated piece by **Joyce Borenstein,** 7:30 p.m. $4 members, $6 non-members. 924-6211.

Saturday, Jan. 18

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

Vancouver soprano **Claire Klein Osipov** returns to her native Toronto to perform An Evening of Yiddish Song at Yiddishland Cafe, accompanied by pianist **Wendy Bross Stuart**. 8 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Yiddishland Cafe, produced and presented by Toronto Workmen's Circle, receives a grant from the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Tickets $10 in advance. 498-0106 or 783-5919.

KEHILLAH AHAVAT HESED

Kehillah Ahavat Hesed Shabbat morning with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein.** Services begin 9:30 a.m. Topic of Rabbi Goldstein's lesson is Can a Person Really Change? Light lunch included. Visitors welcome. 483-3566.

Sunday, Jan. 19

INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL

At Beth Tzedec Men's Club breakfast, **Yael Varsano-Barzilay**, Israeli trade commissioner, presents an Overview of Canada-Israel Relationships in View of the Upcoming Free Trade Agreement and Current Economic Trends in Israel, and introduces **David Rubin**, Israel's economic minister to North America, who discusses Current Investment in Israel: Success of Israeli Companies on the American Stock Exchange. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10. Nominal charge for breakfast.

WELLNESS SERIES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah Sisterhood Wellness Series features bioenergist **Dror Rotkovitch**, 8 p.m., 2640 Bayview Ave. Men and women are invited. General admission $4, students $3. RSVP Carol 229-2600.

VIDEO VIEWING & REVIEW

Le Confessional (video), a movie made in the style of Hitchcock, is reviewed by **Heather Kassel** 7:30 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. $10. **Shirley** 512-9789.

MULTICULTURISM

Temple Sinai adult education committee breakfast presentation, Multiculturalism – Past, Present and Future-Where Do Jews Stand? with **Karen Mock**, national director, League for Human Rights, B'nai Brith. 10 a.m. 487-4161.

SJA ADULT EDUCATION

Secular Jewish Association adult education series presents **Dr. Jerald Bain** lecture on Humanistic Judaism. 7:30 p.m. 364-7002 for location.

Monday, Jan. 20

AMBASSADOR SULTAN

The president and board of directors of Beth Tzedec Congregation invite the community to welcome the ambassador of Israel to Canada **David Sultan** and **Mrs, Adina Sultan,** 8 p.m. Reception to follow.

Wednesday, Jan. 22

IN SEARCH OF JOY

The generation to generation subcommittee of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto is screening *In Search of Joy*, written, directed and produced by **Isabel Fryszberg** and **Tracy Thomson,** 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Fryszberg, a child of Holocaust survivors, will lead a discussion following the screening. $4.

[Cont'd on Page 19]

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From The Bakery
450 g
3.69

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What's New

[Cont'd from Page 18]

INFINITE WORLDS

Aish HaTorah's Revealed Souls lecture series continues with Infinite Worlds – The Soul World, Resurrection and Reincarnation with **Rabbi Mitch Mandel**, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

And What Else Is New

MUSICAL WEEKEND

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am musical weekend Jan. 25-26 features **Shimshon Hamerman**, of Montreal, rabbi, cantor, educator. Shabbat Shira sermon Saturday, Jan. 25, Biblical Music – Leadership or Hallucination? sponsored by continuing education commitee. Sunday, Jan. 26, following services, breakfast meeting, 9:15 a.m., A Jewish Musical Travelogue: From Babylonia to Tel Aviv, co-sponsored by Brotherhood and continuing education committee. $4 at door.

FORGOTTEN COMPOSERS

On Friday, Jan 24, in observance of Shabbat Shira, Temple Sinai's Our Musical Legacy series presents an Oneg Shabbat lecture/concert , The Forgotten Jewish Composers of Pre-Revolutionary St. Petersburg. Guest musicologist/cellist **Paula Eisenstein Baker** from Houston, Tex., will comment on the program and play cello in the string quartet which is under the leadership of **Morry Kernerman**. Services 8:15 p.m.

CAFE L'EUROPA

You are invited to join the next Cafe L'Europa program, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2-3 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4th floor, 4600 Bathurst St.

FOR SCIENCE STUDENTS

Six outstanding science students will be chosen to represent Canada this summer at The Dr. Bessie F. Lawrence 29th International Summer Science Institute on the campus of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, July 2-Aug. 1. Program is open to top students entering university in September 1997 to pursue studies in science. After three weeks at the Weizmann Institute, group shifts to a field school in the Negev. Studies are conducted in English. Information/application forms, **Edie Bayer** 733-9220. Application deadline March 1.

ASHKENAZ COURSES

Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture and the Bloor JCC offer courses January through March at Bloor JCC. Information/registration 924-6211.

Jan. 6-Feb. 24, Klezmer Music course, advanced, instructor **David Buchbinder**, artistic director of Ashkenaz. Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., eight sessions.

February 6-27, Adventures in Yiddish, **Michael Wex**, author/playwright, Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m., four sessions.

March 31-May 19, Klezmer Music course, beginner/intermediate, **David Buchbinder**, Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., eight sessions.

March 31-May 5, Yiddish Theatre course, **Alon Nashman** actor/singer, Mondays, 7-10 p.m., six sessions.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Positive Parenting – Teens, Preteens, Preschooler and School Age, begin in February; The Challenge of Anger, for women to explore ways to understand anger and to express it more effectively, begins Feb. 15; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Jan. 21. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., winter courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels. Tuesday mornings, Jan. 21-April 22 (beginners); Wednesday mornings, Jan. 22-April 23 (intermediate); Thursday evenings, Jan. 23-April 24 (all levels). Instructor for beginners **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood presents Israeli folkdancing with **Sophie Azen**, 8 p.m., Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3. $45 prepaid or $6 per session.

VOLUNTEER MUSICIAN

A volunteer musician (piano, accordian) is needed one hour every second week for a sing-along program for the senior citizens group in the B'nai Brith Building, 4266 Bathurst St. **Dora Posluns** 630-4888.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Koffler Gallery exhibit, Myths From Cyberspace: Developing a Feminist Aesthetic for Cyberculture, Part II, features artists **Maggie Dorning** and **Nancy Paterson** Jan. 16-March 2.

In the Loggia Gallery, Ferengi 90210 exhibit features artists **Roger Carter, Alexander Irving, Tania Kitchell Di Rosa, David Kramer-Michael Longford.**

BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

Aish HaTorah Bat Mitzvah Program for girls turning 12 by the start of Rosh Hashanah 1997, begins January. Program includes learning, a *chesed* project, experience leading a Shabbat group, trips, bat mitzvah brunch. **Karen Bendehan** 905-764-1818, ext. 217.

ISRAELI DANCING

Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto (BAYT) Sisterhood Israeli dancing for women only, Mondays, 8-9 p.m. beginners; 9-10 p.m. intermediate, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5 at door. 905-771-6711.

INTRODUCTORY HEBREW

Beginning Hebrew class (understand letters and learn to read) Tuesdays, 8 p.m., started Jan. 14 and runs for 11 more weeks, Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. Register 905-764-1818.

BOOK REVIEW CLUB

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood and the Smuschkowitz Library Committee Book Review Club with literary agent **Helen Heller** – Jan. 26, *Alias Grace* by **Margaret Atwood**; Feb. 23, *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels**; April 6, *You Went Away* by **Timothy Findley**. $10 per session, $25 per series.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: day trip to Scarborough Town Centre, Monday, Jan. 27; dance with **Michael Khinkis** Sunday, Feb. 9; *Ragtime* Tuesday, Feb. 11. Renew membership for 1997. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Jan. 23 Tu b'Shvat celebration features guitarist **Yitzhak Argman**. Nonmembers $2. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for vacation trip to Israel. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Trips with **Sunrise Group** to Casino Rama Thursday, Jan. 16, and Casino Niagara Thursday, Jan. 23. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Etrog Israeli club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Jan. 22 is Tu b'Shvat party. **Anna.**

Movie *Boeing Boeing*, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2:30 p.m.

An afternoon of song with **Faye Kellerstein** Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC is starting an adult co-ed choir for all singers, amateur and professional alike, led by **Harriet Wichin**, film and choir director from Montreal. Repertoire includes doo-wop, jazz, classical, ethnic, chant, Jewish and Yiddish songs. Rehearsals Tuesdays or Thursdays (depending on availability) 7:30-9:30 p.m., starting Jan. 21 or 23. JCC members $65, nonmembers $80. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors – Thursday, Jan. 16, Memories of the CNE, historic films of the old buildings, midway and more, 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, join seniors and University of Toronto Jewish students in a Tu b'Shevat seder and celebration of the New Year of the Trees, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Limited Toddler daycare spaces available at BJC. Open 12 months a year from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Kosher food, music enrichment, weekly Fun Centre Time. 636-1880, ext.248.

Michael Kurts

BAYCREST APPOINTMENT

Michael Kurts is the new director of Public Relations at Baycrest Centre. He comes to Baycrest from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services where he was director of Marketing and Communications for the past five years and also served as communications assistant to two cabinet ministers. Prior to that, Kurts was Queen's Park bureau chief for a national news service.

BETH TORAH OFFICERS

Pictured at Beth Torah's installation of new officers are (from left) Eva Zimmerman, 2nd vice-president; Steven Goldenberg, 1st vice-president; Nathan Naymark, secretary; Jack Greenberg, president; Stephen Turk, treasurer. [Mollie Rothman photo]

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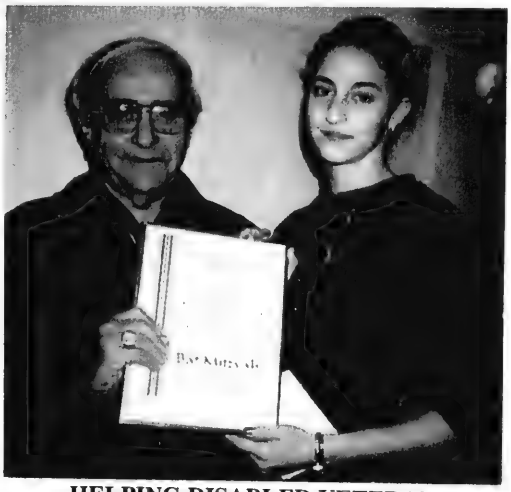

HELPING DISABLED VETERANS

Ralph Snow, president of Beit Halochem Canada presents a special plaque to Adina Weinerman from Thornhill. After her recent bat mitzvah, Weinerman made a generous donation from her gifts to help Israel's disabled war veterans. The four Beit Halochem centres in Israel provide medical and sports rehabilitation to over 47,000 disabled veterans.

Labor Zionist leader turns 90

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

Israel Appel

TORONTO —A large turnout of family and friends honored Israel Appel, a prominent Labor Zionist and supporter of Israel, on his 90th birthday at a luncheon at the Borochov Centre.

A member of the Fur Workers Union who fought for workers' rights, Appel helped to form the Independent Friendly Workers Circle and became chair of the Zerubavel branch. Later he was instrumental in making sure that newcomers to Canada also formed independent branches.

Currently Appel is still the chair of the Council of the Amielwitch-Zerubavel-Federman branches.

Born Feb. 15, 1907, in Ostrovitz, Poland, Appel went to live in Brazil at the age of 17. After two years in Brazil, he moved to Paris, where he learned the fur trade while waiting for his visa to come to Canada to join his parents, which he did in November 1926.

He joined the Poale Zion youth movement, where he met Rose, whom he married in 1928.

Together with other young families, he helped to found the Borochov School. He served on the board of the Bialik Hebrew Day School for many years.

Appel was also involved with the Achdut Avoda Poale Zion and the Histadrut and was totally committed to the founding and building of Israel.

The Appel home was always open and hosted many Yiddish cultural gatherings, where Yiddish writers and Labor Zionist figures from Israel and New York were often seen.

In 1946, when his brother Charles returned to Canada at the end of World War II, they went into the fur business together as the House of Appel which was in existence until 1986.

Appel's son, David, and daughter-in-law, Ruth, live in Israel and they have two sons in the Israeli army.

His daughter, Bayla, prominent in Yiddish circles, is married to Dr. Leo Chaikoff and lives in Toronto. They have three children. Eli, married to Melissa, is a vascular surgeon in Atlanta. David and his wife, Ellen, are lawyers, as are daughter Sari and her husband, Hal Springer.

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Bill Vasile Israel, an antique restoration artist is seen at work in his workshop. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

Craftsman employs old-time techniques to restore furniture

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If you're looking for a French inlaid table, crafted with the same techniques used more than a century ago, Bill Vasile Israel can make one for you.

In his workshop on Wingold Avenue, which he opened last year, Israel recently took one month to complete a copy of a solid wood 1754 Queen Anne table and says it would be difficult for an untrained eye to tell it from an original.

In addition to building fine furniture, such as a copy of a middle nineteenth century French table, Israel repairs furniture, old picture frames, musical instruments, antique pieces and makes and repairs inlaid floors.

Born in Romania, Israel studied furniture and cabinet making and went on to master marquetry in wood, brass, silver and wood carving. In 1966, he graduated in visual art while working for a furniture refinisher who used the French polish technique.

In 1977, he moved to Paris where he worked on fine French furniture, statues and antique pieces. He arrived in Canada in 1982 and worked for Yolles Antique furniture.

He now specializes in dove tail (no nails) reproduction pieces and prefers the French hand polish finish.

Recently, Israel created a hand-carved king-size head and footboard from two single beds and repaired a marble table. The design is an exact match, he says and defies anyone to find where it was broken.

Europeans appreciate workmanship found in antiques

European furniture, particularly French, is the finest in the world, he says, and attributes this to the many technical schools and the apprentice system in Europe.

"Almost everyone in Europe buys old or antique furniture.They appreciate the workmanship." He adds that there is a growing number of people in Canada who appreciate good workmanship.

Israel says he hopes to import pieces from Europe and open a school to teach the art of building and repairing fine furniture.

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From coast to coast

CELEBRATING RAMAH

Camp Ramah in Canada officially dedicated the new name of its Utterson, Ontario campsite last month as the Max and Beatrice Wolfe campus. Over 200 people came to Beth Tzedec Congregation to celebrate Camp Ramah, now in its 38th year of operation, with the families of Phyllis Flatt and Harold Wolfe, including rabbis and educators active in supporting the camp. The gift will be used to build a major indoor centre for drama and recreation, as well as to provide scholarship assistance each summer for many campers. A third part of this gift will create the Ramah Family Institute whose goal is to bring together families from throughout the Toronto area for Ramah-style programming year-round. Seen at the dedication (from left) Rabbi Sheldon Dorph, director, National Ramah Commission; Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director, Camp Ramah in Canada; Ab Flatt, Phyllis Flatt, Harold Wolfe, Carole Wolfe, Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor, Jewish Theological Seminary; Alan Silberman, president, National Ramah Commission. The summer dedication of the campsite will take place at the camp on July 20.

Victoria blizzard damages shul sanctuary, roof

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — The recent blizzard that dumped more than five feet of snow on Victoria damaged the roof of Congregation Emanu-El so badly that it will have to be replaced, according to synagogue officials.

Water leakage from the roof also caused damage in the sanctuary, but none of the Torahs or other sacred items were affected.

The total cost of repairs is estimated at about $10,000.

Despite the damage and inconvenience, services are continuing.

Some of the damage caused to buildings throughout the area will be repaired at federal government expense, but who gets what is still being determined, says the MP for Victoria, David Anderson The synagogue, the oldest in Canada, has been in continuous use since it was built in 1863.

Order of Canada appointments

OTTAWA — Several Jewish Canadians were the recipients last week of the Order of Canada, announced by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

Appointed as officers, the order's second highest rank, were the late philanthropist Peter Bronfman of Montreal; Toronto historian Jack Granatstein and comedian Frank Shuster of Toronto.

Appointed members were Thomas Beck of Toronto for volunteerism; arts patron Jenny Belzberg of Calgary; journalist and former MP Simma Holt of Coquitlam, B.C.; Richard Margolese of Montreal for health care; Montreal educator Sarah Paltiel; Bernard Snell of Edmonton for health care; actor Al Waxman of Toronto; and Irving Zucker, a Hamilton philanthropist.

Ottawa JCC executive director leaves position

OTTAWA — Stan Urman has resigned as executive director of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council.

Urman told *The CJN* he stepped down "for personal and professional reasons" and that he's exploring a number of options. His resignation took effect Dec. 20.

Urman took over the council from Gerry Koffman about 2½ years ago, and successfully oversaw the community's largest fundraising campaign to build a community and education centre.

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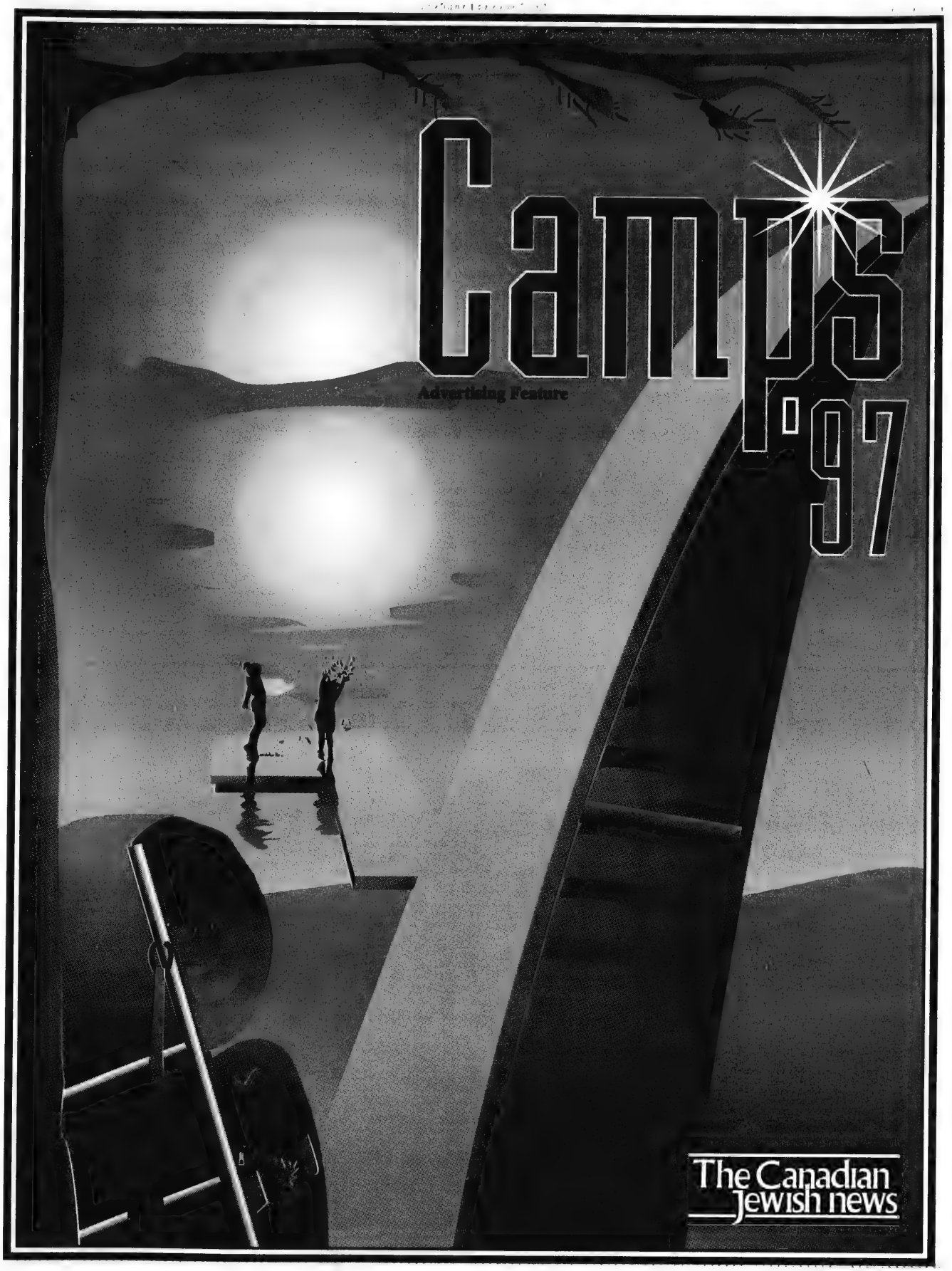
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Camp Moshava is an Orthodox, Zionist camp espousing the ideals of Torah, Avodah and Aliyah. On the premises of the 250 acre lakefront property situated in the Kawartha Lakes Region are a heated swimming pool, canoes, paddle boats, sports fields, Beit HaKnesset and a Beit HaMedrash. The camp is Shomer Shabbat and under COR supervision.

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National Shaliach: Ryan Hass. Camp Director of Camp Solelim - the largest Zionist youth movement in Canada. The Movement runs activities for children and youth throughout the year and also operates Camp Biluim Canada for 16 year old boys and girls and Camp Biluim Israel for 17 year olds.

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3995 Bathurst St., Ste. 200,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5V3
Director: Larry Polevoy
Tel: 416-630-1180 Fax: 416-630-8561
Good Fellowship Lodge provides a summer vacation experience for seniors at beautiful Maple Lake Resort in the Parry Sound district. Swimming, boating, music, dance, crafts, films, and discussions are enjoyed in a relaxed, friendly Jewish environment. All accommodations are for 2 people per room. Food services supervised by COR.

GREEN ACRES DAY CAMP
11123 Kennedy Rd.,
Markham, Ont. L6C 1P2
Directors: Leon Hochglaube, Eddy Bogomolny
Tel: 905-887-1400 Fax: 905-887-1887
Features a fabulous country site in Markham which includes 3 heated outdoor pools and an on-site waterslide park. Varied camp program includes sports, camp shows, overnight, riding, "hands-on" farm animal program, recording studio, baseball clinics, karate, ropes course. Door-to-door transportation provided by the camp.

HILLCREST DAY CAMP
59 Plymbridge Rd.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2P 1A2
Tel: 416-489-8355
Centrally located in the beautiful green Hogg's Hollow Valley at Yonge & York Mills. Our unique camp caters solely to the preschool set, ages 2½-5 ys., with a low camper-counsellor ratio. Rhythm and sound are all around with music by Kayla. Theme days, arts & crafts, pottery, drama, computers and swim program add to a well-rounded and fun-loving camp experience.

KIDSWORLD DAY CAMP (ages 3-5½)
FUNWORLD DAY CAMP
(entering grades 1 & 2)
117 Bannockburn Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 2N2
Tel: 416-785-4600
Our 17th yr. under the direction of Mrs. Weinberg, M.Ed., ECE. Instructional swimming. Door-to-door transportation, hot lunches and snacks, daily special events, personalized trained staff. Kindergym, arts & crafts, sports, theme days, professional entertainers, music.

LUBAVITCH DAY CAMP
770 Chabad Gate,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 3V9
Director: Rabbi Mendel Bernstein
Tel: 905-731-7000
We cater to children from ages 2½-12. Our camp features trips, hot lunches, crafts, sports, door to door transportation, instructional swimming, a Torah atmosphere and a creative playground. We offer a large discount for registering before March 31st and a further discount for each additional child.

MARKY'S WAREHOUSE OUTLET
7171 Yonge St., (just north of Steeles)
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 2A9
Contact: Howard or Noel Esakov
Tel: 905-731-4433 Fax: 905-731-1356
Your one stop camp shop. Everything you need from Lugger bags to name tags, rainwear to flashlights, underwear, socks, camp pyjamas, sleeping bags, sweats. Plus: Jockey, Elita, Calvin Klein, GymMaster, Converse, Fruit of the Loom, Hanes, Tiger Brand. Tons of free parking, hot coffee and smiles!

MASADA/MACCABI ISRAEL
SUMMER PROGRAMS
4 East 34th St.,
New York, NY 10016, USA
National Program Director: Phil Cohen
Tel: 212-481-1500 / 1-800-732-1266
Fax: 212-481-1513
Masada/Maccabi is the largest Israel program in North America. Each summer we bring more than 600 high school and college students to Israel, on one of our 13 programs. Programs range from 3-5½ wks. and include: Italy/Israel, adventure, scuba, diving, kibbutz, sports, and volunteer. Call for information, free video and CD Rom @1-800-732-1266.

MENORAH NURSERY
4300 Bathurst St.,
Willowdale, Ont. M3H 3R4
Administrator: Helen Jarcaig
Tel: 416-638-6910
Menorah Nursery is a place where each child has an opportunity to learn through play with other children, with appropriate toys and materials, and where their mental, emotional, and physical growth is fostered. Choosing Menorah Nursery, assures you that we will provide a warm, stimulating and secure place for your child.

REENA COTTAGE PROGRAM '97
75 Dufflaw Rd., Ste. 200,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2W4
Contact: Michelle Cole
Tel: 416-787-0131, ext. 3037
Fax: 416-787-8052
In July and August for teens (over 16) and adults with a developmental handicap. This 2 week vacation package incorporates life and social skills training into exciting and varied leisure/-recreational activities in the Craigleith community. Clients enhance their life skills in keeping with Reena's mandate: "Integrating people with developmental disabilities into the community."

RICHMOND HILL COUNTRY CLUB DAY CAMP
8905 Bathurst St.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 0H4
Director: Michael Silverman
Tel: 905-731-2800, ext. 244
Fax: 905-731-7283
Richmond Hill Country Club Day Camps are located on acres of lush greenery. The RHCC day camps also specialize in Sports camp, for 7-13 yr. olds. A Fine Arts camp for 7-15 yr. olds and Small Wonders for 2-3 yr. olds. Our L.I.T. program is designed for 13 and 14 yr. olds.

SAVEMORE SPORTS STORE
114 Queen St. E.,
Toronto, Ont. M5C 1S6
Tel: 416-368-3536
Located at northwest corner of Queen and Jarvis Sts. Attention parents, camp is just around the corner. Savemore sells everything you might need to go camping: duffle bags, trunks, tents, sleeping bags, blankets, rainsuits, canteens, ground sheets, rubber boots and insect repellant. Owner Jules Rotin supplies free parking with minimum purchase.

SHENDY'S SWIM SCHOOL
1 Markdale Ave., Unit 1,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 1S8
Director: Eric Shendelman
Tel: 416-784-0900
If you are looking for experienced and well trained instructors, small classes and a friendly atmosphere, then Shendy's Swim School is for you. We provide programs in all Red Cross and Royal Lifesaving levels. Shendy's Swim School is a commercial member of the Ontario Camping Association, and provides many leadership and recertification classes for all camp staff.

WESTCOAST CONNECTION
87 Stillwater Cres,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3S3
Tel: 416-667-1288 or 514-488-8920
Fax: 416-665-1097
Unique summer travel experience encompassing campstyle spirit. 19 tours available for teenagers 13-17 years of age and college students 17-20. Active Teen Tours, Cycling "Plus" Programs and Outdoor Adventures are featured in North America and Europe, varying in length from 2-6 weeks. Call for a free brochure.

ZODIAC SWIM SCHOOL
2788 Bathurst St.,
North York, Ont. M6B 3A3
Directors: Ellen & Rick Howard
Tel: 416-789-7946 Fax: 416-789-5525
While development of swimming skills is of course a central focus, building each student's self-esteem and confidence in Zodiac's challenging, non-threatening environment, is equally important. Qualified, caring instructors teach Red Cross, Life Saving and other programs in Zodiac's 3:1 ratio classes at 8 convenient locations (a wide variety of times are available).

Directory of Camp Advertisers Continues on Page 25

Camps

an OCA Accredited Member Camp

Summer Fun, Family Style

416 736-4443

"Camp the way you remember it. Camp the way your children will love it." Over 50 years of providing fun and safe children's day camp programs designed by experienced staff. The "best" camp swim program. For kids 4 - 15 years. Door to door transportation. Ask about Express Busing.

CAMP ROBIN HOOD

www.camprh.com March Break Programs Est. 1946

visit our campsite on the web: www.camprh.com

A FULL DAY OF BASEBALL EVERY DAY

MVP ACADEMY

BASEBALL SKILL DEVELOPMENT AT ITS BEST

An established program on our own site in Markham. Top line facilities and equipment to teach fundamentals in a safe and enjoyable way. A working relationship with Camp Robin Hood providing 50 years of experience with young people.

REGISTER TODAY

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SAVEMORE

ATTENTION PARENTS!
CAMP IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

- Duffle Bags
- Trunks
- Mess Kits
- Canteens
- Soap Dishes
- Flashlights
- Tents
- Army Pants & Shorts *(new & used)*
- Insect Repellent
- Army Boots
- Toothbrush Holder
- Ground Sheets
- Sleeping Bags
- Blankets
- Rainsuits
- Rubber Boots

***WITH THIS AD, WE PAY THE GST & PST ***

114 Queen St. E. (N.W. Corner Queen & Jarvis) **368-3536**
Monday-Wednesday 9:00-6:00 Thursday & Friday 9:00-8:00 Saturday 9:00-6:00
1/2 hr. FREE PARKING, 1 blk. W. of Jarvis (min. purchase)

Cresthaven Nursery School Inc.

17 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
46 CRESTHAVEN DR., STE. 106, WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO
(STEELES & LESLIE AREA)

Cresthaven Camp For Pre-Schoolers

For children 2-6 years of age

MUSIC
DRAMA
PUPPETRY
OUTINGS
THEME DAYS
ARTS & CRAFTS

To register call
493-1607

REENA COTTAGE PROGRAM '97

For the 5th year, Reena is sponsoring a *Summer Cottage Program* for teens (over 16) and adults with a developmental handicap.

This fully integrated two-week vacation package incorporates life skills and social skills training into exciting and varied leisure/recreational activities.

The cottages are located in Collingwood, in the heart of the Georgian Bay tourist area.

For information and applications contact:
Michelle Cole (416) 787-0131

REENA FOUNDATION

Reena is a Toronto-based Jewish social services agency providing support to individuals who are developmentally handicapped, and to their families. This support includes residential, day and recreational programming.

Kidsworld Day Camp

(ages 3-5 1/2)

Our 17th year

Funworld Day Camp

(entering grades 1 & 2)

$1,125 Full Season

$695 July
$495 August

(price includes transportation & meals)

- Instructional swimming
- Door-to-door busing w/seatbelts
- Hot lunches & snacks
- Computers
- Sports
- Music
- Art
- Kindergym
- Professional Entertainers
- Daily Special Event
- Baseball clinics

For more information, phone: (416) 785-4600

Soccer Tennis Baseball Riding
Science Dance C.I.T. Program Windsurfing Pottery Gymnastics Arts & Crafts L.T.P.
Swimming Sailing Tripping Canoeing

A UNIQUE SPIRITED CAMP FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGES 6 - 15

Celebrating 43 Years of Leadership in Canadian Camping

Camp Wahanowin

7, 4 & 3 WEEK PERIODS
Plus 10 Day Mini Sessions

- ✓ 43 yrs. Nashman Family Original Owners/Directors
- ✓ On Magnificent Crystal Clear Lake Couchiching just 1 1/2 hours from Toronto
- ✓ Complete Waterfront, Creative Arts & Landsports Facilities
- ✓ Enthusiastic and Caring Staff
- ✓ Great Food
- ✓ Shabbat Dinner . . . Friday Evening Services

FOR A COLOUR BROCHURE CALL
(416) 482-2600 or 1 - 800 - 701-3132

MENORAH NURSERY

4300 Bathurst St.
(at Reiner Rd. across from Earl Bales Pk.)
CARING FOR YOUR CHILDREN SINCE 1982

1/2 Day (3 Hour) • Full Day Programs for Ages 18 Months to 5 Years

*Computers *Crafts *Music
**Hot Nutritious Lunches & Snacks
*Low Child to Teacher Ratio *Qualified Staff
*Theme Days *Cooking *Baking

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION STARTS MARCH/97
ON A 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED BASIS

call: HELEN at 638-6910
Look for us on the Internet at www.valuenetwork.com under "Education"

Camps

Summer fun for ages 4-10

Earl Bales Community Day Camp offers well-rounded programs for kids aged 4-10, old enough to want some special summer fun, but too young for a sleep-over. We have an experienced program director and staff, and a CIT program. There is 1 counsellor for every 3-5 campers.

Regular hours are 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; new this year are extended hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., at only $20 extra per child per week. There are 2 4 wk. sessions, July 2-26 and July 29-Aug. 23. For Aug., there are also 2 and 3 wk. options. The 2 wk. sessions run July 29-Aug. 9 and Aug. 12-23; 3 wk. sessions cover any 3 consecutive weeks during the Aug. session.

We offer 4 specialty areas: arts & crafts, music & drama, nature, and sports. For every camper, there is a half-hour daily swim with Red Cross instructors, at Northview Heights Collegiate. Kids are tested for swimming skills, and put into the skill-appropriate group.

Each monthly session has a Picture Day, a cookout for each group, a special activity day each week — and a Parents' Night, where kids perform for parents.

While transportation and lunch are parents' responsibility, Earl Bales Day Camp provides daily snacks, and a car pool list on request.

For registration, call **905-707-5821**; or pick up application forms at Earl Bales Community Centre in Earl Bales Park. Orientation packages are sent out 2-3 wks. before the July and Aug. sessions.

Earl Bales Community Day Camp

Our 18th year serving the local community

- Full day, fun-filled camp program for four to ten year old children
- Located in beautiful Earl Bales Park
- Age appropriate activities include arts and crafts, cookouts, games, nature hikes, sports, swimming, waterplay, campcraft, drama, music, special events, story telling, theme days, and Parent's Night
- Experienced, enthusiastic staff
- Daily Red Cross swimming instruction at Northview Pool
- July and August one-month sessions; two and three-week sessions available in August
- *NEW* Extended hours available

For brochure and to register, call (905) 707-5821

Richmond Hill Country Club Day Camp

Richmond Hill Country Club Day Camps are located on acres of lush greenery. We offer the perfect setting for your child's camp program.

As well as the beautiful natural environment that the area has to offer, the RHCC Day Camp also includes outdoor and indoor swimming pools, tennis courts, gym, basketball court, indoor and outdoor play areas.

Door to door bus service is available to most areas of the city.

The natural environment of Richmond Hill Country Club Day Camp is an ideal setting for the multitude of programs that include swimming lessons, sports, arts and crafts, nature, drama, dance and trampoline.

The RHCC Day Camps also specialize in a **Sports Camp** that offers golf lessons, tennis lessons, basketball and baseball training, swimming, archery and trampoline.

In our **Fine Arts Camp** we offer painting and drawing, hand building with clay, drama, cartooning and swimming.

For the 2-3-year-olds, **Small Wonders** offers a special half day program for those special people.

Three quarter day programs are available for the 4-5-year-olds.

Our **L.I.T.** program is a complete counselor-in-training program for 13 and 14 year olds.

For information and registration, call Michael Silverman, Director of Camping Services at (905) 731-2800, ext. 244.

RICHMOND HILL COUNTRY CLUB

DAY CAMPS

8905 Bathurst Street Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 0H4

REGISTRATION FOR THE 1997 CAMP SEASON IS NOW TAKING PLACE

- Door-to-door transportation
- Red Cross swim instruction
- Snacks included in fee
- Day Camp - 4 to 12 year olds

CALL FOR REGISTRATION FORMS

- 3/4 day programs for 3 to 4 year olds
- Small Wonders - 1/2 day program for 2 to 3 year olds
- Fine Arts - for 6 to 12 year olds
- Sports Camp - includes tennis, golf, basketball, baseball, swimming
- CIT Program - for 13 and 14 year olds

For further information contact Michael Silverman (905) 731-2800 EXT 244

Zodiac Swim School goes to camp!!

While Zodiac's swim programs are popular year-round, Zodiac's spring programs (mid-March to mid-June) attract many "rookies" launching their swim careers and "veterans" looking to sharpen their skills for the cottage, camp or other fun summer activities!

During Zodiac's 18 years of operation, while skill development at all levels of Red Cross, Life Saving and other specialized courses has been a central focus, building each student's self-esteem, confidence and trust has been equally important. Qualified and caring instructors and supervisors, together with Directors Ellen and Rick Howard, work closely with students and parents in effectively achieving these goals.

Zodiac is also very excited about working together again with Green Acres Day Camp for the Summer of '97 in bringing Zodiac Swim School calibre swim lessons to Green Acres' campers! Many parents recognize the tremendous advantage of having Zodiac meet their children's individual swimming needs on a year round basis, both at Zodiac Swim School and at Green Acres.

For those who want to supplement the camp or other summer experience or simply want their children to benefit from having the opportunity to continue Zodiac's swim lessons during the summer, Zodiac also operates its own popular summer program and "backyard" swimming lessons!

Invest in your child's safety and fitness

LOCATIONS:

ASSOCIATED (Leslie & Steeles)
BLOORVIEW MACMILLAN (Bayview & Eglinton Site)
BLOORVIEW MACMILLAN (Sheppard & Leslie Site)
FOREST HILL (Spadina & Eglinton)
GLENVIEW (Avenue & Lawrence)
MENTOR (QEW & Hurontario)
RICHMOND HILL (Bathurst & Hwy. #7)
WINONA (Bathurst & St. Clair)

SPRING Program Begins Week of March 17

zodiac swim school limited

MAX 3 STUDENTS PER INSTRUCTOR

PROGRAMS:

Red Cross AquaTots
Red Cross AquaQuest
Red Cross AquaAdults
Life Saving I, II, III
Bronze Med/Cross
AquaLeaders/Instructors/NLS
Competitive Swimming
Private Lessons

FEATURES:

Infants to Adults
Family Students Swim at Same Time
Qualified & Caring Instructors
Free Orientation
Make-up Lessons

(416) 789-SWIM (7946)

Teen Adventure Travel

Westcoast Connection Travel Camp

Is a camp on wheels with a spirit for adventure. These unique summer travel experiences consist of a selection of 3-6 week tours of North America and Europe for teenagers 13-17 years of age as well as for college students 17-20 years of age. Over 20 tours within the following Divisions are offered: **active bus tours, beginner cycling trips and challenging outdoor adventure programs.**

North American tours feature whitewater rafting in Colorado, summer skiing at Whistler, hiking the Grand Canyon, canoeing on Lake Louise, an Alaskan cruise and visits to Disneyland, Calgary Stampede, Yosemite National Park, a live TV taping in Los Angeles, Mount Rushmore, Alcatraz, and much more. European tours visit the Louvre, Champs Elysee, Vatican City, and partake in horseback riding in the Loire Valley, a gondola ride in Venice, caving in Interlaken, rock climbing in Gap, hiking in Chamonix, skiing in Val D'isere, living on a boat in Switzerland and much more.

Prices start at $2299 cdn. For more information and a free brochure, call **416-667-1288** in Toronto or **514-488-8920** in Montreal.

• GRAND CANYON • DISNEYLAND • CALIFORNIA • BANFF • YOSEMITE •

SAN FRANCISCO'S ALCTRAZ • HOPSEBACK RIDE LOIRE VALLEY

FISHERMAN'S WHARF • COLORADO RIVER RAFTING

For Teens 13-17 YRS

College Students 17-20 YRS

WESTCOAST CONNECTION
CANADA • USA • EUROPE

"THE SUMMER OF A LIFETIME"

10% off on registration before Feb. 28/97

- ACTIVE TEEN TOURS
- CYCLING PLUS PROGRAMS
- OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Call Now For Our 1997 Brochure:

(416) 667-1288 (514) 488-8920

• HIKE THE ROCKIES • CYCLE CAPE COD • SKI WHISTLER • VENICE GONDOLA •

Camps

Israel Summer Programs 1997 - summer has never been so much fun!

The Canada Israel Experience Centre offers a wide variety of Israel Experience Programs for teenagers and university students. This summer give your teenager the gift that lasts a lifetime — a summer in Israel. They will have the opportunity to explore Israel, experience Israeli culture and meet people of their own age from all across Canada and around the world. The following are some of the programs that are designed for 16 and 17 year olds.

Israel Dimensions is an extensive touring program. For 40 days our expert staff will lead you through the diverse beauty that is Israel. Explore the spiritual side of Judaism in Jerusalem. Taste the life of an Israeli soldier during a 3-day army program. Experience the country's natural beauty on a 3-day outdoor sea-to-sea adventure in the north. Work as a member of a kibbutz for a week. See the sunrise from atop Massada. Sleep under the stars in a Bedouin tent. Relax in a waterfall in a desert oasis. Haggle in an open-air market in downtown Tel Aviv. Welcome the Sabbath at the Western Wall.

Israel Encounter is an opportunity for those teenagers who, in addition to touring Israel, wish to contribute something valuable to Israel and want to make a difference. You will travel off the beaten path with an itinerary specifically designed to encompass experiences not available to tourist groups. You will have the opportunity to form lifelong friendships with Israeli BBYO teens during a week of fun, introspection and a joint learning experience. Additionally, you will help preserve the land of Israel through a meaningful and exciting hands-on environmental activity and share in the rewards of participating in volunteer assignments in Israeli Communities.

Biluim Israel is the culmination of the Young Judaea camping experience. Graduates of the Biluim Canada program move on to Biluim Israel for an unforgettable Israel Experience. Biluim Israel is an intensive program designed to cover all of Israel by including extensive touring, Special Activities Week, Gadna, Kibbutz or a sea-to-sea hike, leadership seminars and a special Jerusalem component. Biluim Israel is open to non-members of Young Judaea.

The Canada Israel Experience Centre is also your resource centre on all types of Israel Experiences long and short term programs. For more information please contact us in **Toronto** at **(416) 398-6931**, in **Montreal** at **(514) 345-6449** and in the **rest of Canada** at **1 (800) 567-4772**. We look forward to hearing from you.

CANADA ISRAEL EXPERIENCE CENTRE

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

ISRAEL '97 SUMMER PROGRAMS

AGES 16 & 17

ISRAEL DIMENSIONS $4495
JULY 2 TO AUGUST 11, 1997
"All You've Ever Dreamed of...and More"

ISRAEL ENCOUNTER $4495
JULY 2 TO AUGUST 11, 1997
"Making a Difference"

BILUIM ISRAEL $5050
JULY 6 TO AUGUST 18, 1997
"A Canadian Young Judea Experience"

For more information on any Israel Experience Programs call:

CANADA ISRAEL EXPERIENCE CENTRE
Toronto (416) 398-6931
Montreal (514) 345-6449
Rest of Canada 1-800-567-ISRAEL (4772)

CAMP SOLELIM
A CANADIAN YOUNG JUDAEA CAMP
Affiliated with Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada

For boys and girls in Grades 8 & 9
Give your child a summer they will remember!

June 29 - August 14, 1997

Arts & Crafts, Bama, Shira, Kikud, Full Land Sports, Windsurfing, Kayaking, Canoeing & Tripping, Maccabia, Sailing, Nature Lore, Cookery, Full Zionist and Judaica Program. NEVER A QUIET MOMENT!!!

A TOUCH OF ISRAEL IN ONTARIO'S NORTH!

New programs: Waterskiing and Horseback Riding

Request the new Solelim video!

Biluim Israel
July 6 - August 18
Boys and Girls Age 17

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS
CAMPERS FROM ALL OVER CANADA
Gadna; Sea-to-sea hike; Bedouin experience; Massada by daybreak; Security week in the north; Repelling; Water parks; Seminars and Much More!

"The Most Unique Way To Discover Israel"

Biluim Canada
Young Judaea's Leadership Institute
In the Beautiful Laurentian Mountains
Boys and Girls Age 16

Tennis, Ba... Wate... ...sraeli ...rts Program, ...nd Much More

SOLD OUT

The Perfect Mixture of Summer Fun and Leadership Training

For More Information About Our Camps Or Our Programs Call
Canadian Young Judaea's National Office
416-781-5156 1-800-804-6661

Camps

SAFE SUPERVISED FUN

The City of North York Parks and Recreation Department have been providing unforgettable day camping experiences for 42 years. Some of the best memories of childhood and youth come from summer camp. And North York offers the most memorable camp adventures around.

Consider North York's six specialty camps: **Arts Discovery, Computer Camp, Fine Arts Camp, Kids Camp, Gymnastics and Sports Camp**, where young people develop their talents in everything from softball to dancing, computers to gymnastics. All of the camps are well-rounded, with skill development in a specialty area complimented by a full lineup of traditional activities like swimming and games. Or **Camp Naorca**, where campers enjoy the wonders of nature amidst 697 acres of rolling hills, groomed fields, rustic hiking trails and woods, a sandy beach and a cool lake.

Located on the grounds of Seneca College's King Campus. Camp Naorca is the most enduring Parks and Recreation day camp. Naorca encourages appreciation for nature and the environment, while offering all the best-loved camp programs.

Campers are led by experienced and enthusiastic counsellors, selected based on their skills and abilities to relate to and teach young people.

For more information about any North York Parks and Recreation Camps, call the Camp Hotline at 395-7818.

Come to our Camp Fair
Will be hosting one Camp Fair for prospective campers and their families to meet camp staff and gain camp information.

April 2, 1997
6–8 pm
Goulding Community Centre
45 Goulding Ave.

North York

For Camp Naorca and Specialty Camps only

CAMP HOT LINE 395-7818

Crestwood Valley "Mid-town Jewel"

Crestwood Valley Day Camp, located in a beautiful wooded valley at Bayview and Lawrence Avenues, brings children ages 2 1/2—10 close to nature while providing them with the comforts of home.

"We are fortunate to have such a fabulous site located right in the middle of town," says camp director Rochelle Wise.

Campers are encouraged to explore the valley in which the camp is located. Campers are also introduced to nature through experience on the camp's own miniature farm, which features a vegetable garden and many animals including pigs, ducks, chickens and rabbits. "Our campers enjoy visiting the farm," says Wise. "It is exciting for the younger campers for whom the animals become such special friends."

The camp experience at Crestwood includes supervised arts and crafts (featuring a full pottery program), drama, dance, performance art, puppetry and a dynamic athletic program. Pre-schoolers are offered a full sports program including T-Ball, soccer and co-operative games, helping them develop hand-eye co-ordination and motor skills. An exciting archery program is always a favourite of the children.

"Crestwood has a professional swim program. We overhire qualified swim staff," Wise says, "because we want to ensure that our campers have the best swim instructors available, with small instructor-camper ratios." Crestwood has 5 heated swimming pools on site.

The computer Clinic is a favourite at Crestwood challenging campers with innovative programs.

Crestwood's Baseball Training Camp encourages campers who have completed Grade 1 and up to take part in an intensive program focusing on the development of skills and confidence, coached by experienced instructors. Campers in this program enjoy baseball in the mornings and join the rest of the camp for regular activities for the afternoon.

New for '97 - the basketball clinic for campers ages 7—10 promises fun, action and excitement.

Campers are encouraged to participate in an in-camp overnight which features a cook-out and a traditional campfire and sing-a-long.

Crestwood also introduces its campers to the joys of camping out. Campers completing Grade 2 and up have the option of participating in a 4-day trip to an overnight camp.

Campers never long for the conveniences of home while they experience the great outdoors. They are provided with convenient door-to-door transportation and are served full catered nutritional lunches. Crestwood's air-conditioned rooms and gymnasium are available for inclement weather.

Wise adds that campers revel in "the cozy, family atmosphere" of Crestwood. "Our (180) staff members are very close, and very spirited, building lasting memories for our children."

BAYVIEW GLEN

Recipe for a Happy Camper

INGREDIENTS:

1	Camper	1 Bottle of labelled Sunscreen
1	Camp Bag	1 Sun Hat
2	Towels	1 Plastic Bag
2	Swim Suits	1 Camp Bus
1 pair	Shorts	1 Good Breakfast
1 pair	Underwear	1 Terrific OCA Accredited Camp
1 pair	Socks	many Hugs and Kisses
1 pair	Sneakers	many Smiles and Waves

DIRECTIONS:

- Enrol child at Bayview Glen, a terrific OCA accredited day camp.
- Feed child a nutritious breakfast. Dress child in swim suit. Apply sunscreen generously. Add t-shirt, shorts, sun hat, socks and sneakers. Put aside.
- Place towels, extra swim suit, underwear and bottle of sunscreen in camp bag. Add plastic bag.
- Accompany child outside to wait for camp bus. Exchange hugs and kisses prior to arrival of bus. Greet bus counsellor. Wave good-bye to child until bus is out of sight.
- Enjoy the day. Greet the child at end of day. Listen to stories and songs of camp. Hear all about new friends, activities and experiences.
- Check camp bag for notes, wet swim suits and towels.

This recipe yields one happy camper!

BAYVIEW GLEN DAY CAMP (416) 449-7746

CRESTWOOD VALLEY DAY CAMP

In the fabulous wooded valley at Bayview and Lawrence

- Superior camp experience
- Warm caring qualified staff
- Advanced programming for 7-10 year olds
- 1/2, 3/4 or full days
- Door to door transportation
- Wholesome lunches and snacks provided
- Five heated pools
- Red cross instruction
- Land Sports
- Fine Arts
- 4 day overnight camp experience

BASEBALL TRAINING CAMP
BASKETBALL CAMP
COMPUTER CLINICS

Rochelle Wise - *Director*
(416) 444-9595

OCA

Camps

Let Shendy's help you feel at home in the water

Swimming is a total fitness exercise for the whole body, using every muscle including the heart. Swimming improves strength and motor co-ordination in children and adults; and it is an ideal exercise for many people with physical challenges, because buoyancy in water eliminates the strain of weight.

Swimming is also part of fun at camp; and all water sports are more fun for a kid who is fit, safe, and comfortable in the water. At Shendy's Swim School, there is an emphasis on both fitness and safety. Eric Shendelman and his staff have helped many students develop their swimming skills, including children and adults with long-standing phobias.

Shendelman, who teaches for the York Region Board of Education, has been actively teaching swimming for 14 years and has been involved in the camping field for over 20 years. He will be bringing this experience to his new position as director of Camp Arrowhead this coming summer.

Shendy's instructors keep a 1:3 ratio to students. The teachers are well trained and utilize creative methods to keep the classes fun and students motivated. The staff are always approachable and keep parents up to date on their child's progress throughout each session.

Shendy's offers a wide range of Red Cross and Life Saving programs for all ages. The new Red Cross Aquaquest program was a great success in the fall session. Many students had their first experience learning the butterfly stroke, which helped to improve their strength and co-ordination.

Once again, Shendy's Swim School, as a commercial member of the Ontario Camping Association, will be offering various leadership and recertification courses throughout the winter and spring sessions. Many camp staff from all over Ontario have accessed these programs to update their skills and qualifications.

For a great learning experience in a friendly and professional aquatic environment, call Eric Shendelman at **(416) 784-0900**.

SHENDY'S SWIM SCHOOL

THE ART OF AQUATICS

presents

WINTER & SPRING SESSION '97

LEARNER/INSTRUCTOR RATIO 3:1

* Red Cross/Royal Life Saving levels *(ages 3 and over)*
* Bronze courses
* Red Cross Aqua-Leaders Program *(must be min. 14 yrs.)*
* Red Cross/Royal Life Instructors Course *(New AquaQuest training)*
* N.L.S. Course
* Aquatic Emergency Care
* C.P.R..First Aid
* Recertification Courses

Call Now to reserve your space

Eric Shendelman SWIM DIRECTOR 416-784-0900

Hillcrest: fun for youngsters

Centrally located in the beautiful, green Hogg's Hollow Valley at Yonge and York Mills. Our unique camp caters solely to the pre-school set ages 2½ to 5 years.

We provide an enriched, creative and nurturing environment while maintaining the highest safety standards.

A low camper/counselor ratio helps to ensure each child is made to feel comfortable and secure in what is often their first camp experience. Our staff is comprised of Hillcrest teachers, student teachers from the Early Childhood Education Program and mature, experienced counselors.

The rolling camp grounds and the adventure type playground provide a setting for exploration and fun. Our trained Red Cross swim staff are sensitive to new and experienced swimmers, providing your child with a feeling of security and confidence in the water.

In our pottery, arts & crafts and drama programs your child's imagination will blossom with our creative and stimulating "hands-on" experience. Our computer program will add an additional element of fun and learning.

Music is one of the highlights at Hillcrest Day Camp. The music program is directed by our music specialist, Kayla.

HILLCREST CAMP

Hillcrest Summer Camp provides a safe and secure environment geared to the needs of your preschoolers.

AGES 2½ - 5½

- Counsellors drawn from E.C.E. programmes
- Full and half-day programmes available
- Two week sessions available in August
- Red Cross Swim Instructions (on site)
- Sportball Program
- Door-to-door transportation

- Special Days
- Creative Movement
- Carnivals
- Drama
- Arts & Crafts
- Cookouts
- Computers
- Pottery

♫ ♪ MUSIC WITH KAYLA ♪ ♫

489-8355

Queenie Spindel - Camp Director

Hillcrest is located in beautiful Hogg's Hollow Valley (Yonge & York Mills)

Another Exciting Year at Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa

Our director, Steve Forman is back with many of CBB's popular programs and will be introducing some dynamic NEW PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES. For the 1997 camp season, we again listened to valuable input from both campers and their parents. A structured Tennis Program will be introduced for each unit and the Swimming Program, which occurs at our Olympic sized swimming pool will offer a heavy emphasis on regular instruction.

Our Head Staff Jeff Kanter, Sherri Gennis, Elayne Schacter, Cathy Indig, and Ida Firestone are already gearing up to make this the best summer at CBB ever.

Our strict hiring guidelines ensure us mature, and responsible staff. We have an intensive training program for all staff the week before camp starts. A variety of specialists including psychologists work with all staff to ensure that they are well qualified to ensure a safe and nurturing environment.

The summer of '97 will offer a new and exciting CIT training program involving leadership development from special guest speakers focusing on leadership, health and safety, and personal interest.

One of the most spectacular features of Camp B'nai Brith is our magnificent waterfront where waterskiing, canoeing, kayaking, windsurfing, and sailing happen daily. Campers feel right at home at our scenic property where all our landsports and special camp programs are held.

Camp B'nai Brith offers much more than athletics. We are proud of our arts and crafts, performing arts and Judaica programs.

You can find Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa on the Internet at http://www.ottawa.net/~saul/camp.html. Check it out.

For those who like more information than you can find in a printed brochure, copies of the new camp video are now available at no charge. You can contact our Director, Steve Forman at **1-800-488-6431**, or order it directly from our home page on the Internet.

If you're looking for your friends this summer, we know where they are.

CAMP B'NAI BRITH OF OTTAWA

COMPARE OUR FACILITIES!
COMPARE OUR PROGRAMS!
COMPARE OUR PRICE!

CAMP B'NAI BRITH OF OTTAWA

THE BEST VALUE IN JEWISH CAMPING

TOP RATE FACILITIES:

OLYMPIC SIZE POOL	FOOTBALL FIELD	FOOTBALL	TENNIS
INDOOR GYMNASIUM	REC HALL	BASEBALL	SOCCER
TENNIS COURTS	DANCE HALL	NEWCOMBALL	BASKETBALL
SOCCER FIELD	SANDY BEACH	VOLLEYBALL	BADMINTON
PLAYGROUND	BASEBALL FIELD	FLOOR HOCKEY	SOCCER BASEBALL
KOSHER KITCHEN	INFIRMARY	ROLLERBLADING	TETHERBALL
BATHROOMS & SHOWERS IN ALL BUNKS		HORSEBACK RIDING	ARCHERY

EXCELLENT LANDSPORTS PROGRAM:

ON-SITE WATERFRONT PROGRAM WITH CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS:

WATERSKIING CANOEING KAYAKING TRIPPING
SAILING WINDSURFING SWIM INSTRUCTION

JUDAICA, DRAMA, ARTS & CRAFTS, DANCE, ROCKETRY
TAUGHT BY QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS

PRIVATELY OWNED AND OPERATED CAMP B'NAI BRITH OF OTTAWA
IS PROUD OF ITS **60 YEARS** OF TOP QUALITY SUMMER CAMPING

CAMP B'NAI BRITH OF OTTAWA
IS A REGISTERED CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION
A PORTION OF CAMPER FEES IS *TAX DEDUCTIBLE*

FOR INFORMATION CALL STEVE FORMAN (CAMP DIRECTOR): 1-800-488-6431
IN MONTREAL CALL: (514) 488-6431
NOW IN THE INTERNET: http://www.ottawa.net/~saul/camp.html
VIDEO SENT ON REQUEST

Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa is an Accredited Member of the Ontario Camping Association

Camps

Top camping at low costs

Camp Eitan has been directed by Rabbis Michael Levine and Moshe Weinberg for the past 18 years.

Both teachers at Eitz Chaim Schools, they offer the most in camping for the lowest price. The prices are the same as last year and include door-to-door bus transportation within a designated area, hot kosher lunches (under COR supervision) and basic instructional swimming.

Also included are gymnastics, overnights, computers, arts & crafts, weekly trips and a varied sports program. The camp is located in Eitz Chaim Schools and offers modern air-conditioned indoor facilities for rainy day activities.

A recent innovation in our boy's division is our baseball camp, offered at our same low price. Coaching, video instruction, practice and game situations are aimed at helping campers at the lower skill levels, as well.

Our girls' division has been divided into two levels to better meet the needs of each age group.

In our preschool division, special daily events, preschool classrooms, playground equipment, a weekly theme and a caring staff provide the younger child with a safe and happy summer experience.

For more information, or a brochure please call (416) 781-2333.

ד'וס

Camp Eitan

Quality camping for tots to teens

JULY or AUGUST: $495
BOTH: $855

Same price as last year!

Includes: •Door-to-door transportation
•Hot kosher* lunches •Computers •Sports •Gymnastics
•Overnights •Basic instructional swimming •Trips
•Basketball clinics
•BASEBALL CAMP

**Under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of Toronto*

Call for brochure: **(416) 781-2333**

Centre Camp for fun to remember

Director Karen Nusbaum describes Centre Camp at the Bathurst Jewish Centre as "a lot of choice in just one place." The outdoor grounds encompass 5 acres, and the indoor facility comprises 250,000 sq. ft. There is something here for every kid!

Now in her 9th year as Camp Director, Karen has been with the Centre 10 years; she also directs Community and Family Services. "I became a camper at 3," she says; "and camps have been my life ever since."

In Karen's words, Centre Camp offers every child "a fun and memorable summer." Every child's unique skills and interests are nurtured; and kids with special needs participate fully.

There are half-day programs for kids 2 1/2—4, full-day for kids 4—15, and specialized computer, sports or arts programs for senior campers 8—12. Centre Camp's major component, the all-round program, offers crafts, drama, dance, sports, Judaica, music and nature study.

The break camps are all-round programs: Winterlude for winter break, Gimme a Break in March, and Passover camp. Jewish culture is integrated into all programs and special events.

Full-day campers have two swims daily, one instructional and one recreational. Juniors get to play in the indoor Fun Centre; and seniors have the option of overnight camp. To meet the needs of every family, full-day summer camps offer free transportation, and extended day service if required.

Every child receives personal attention. For pre-schoolers, there is 1 counsellor to 4 children; 4 and 5 year-olds, 1:5; 6 and 7 year-olds, 1:6 and for children 8 and over, 1:7. Also, kids 13—15 work with counsellors, training as Leadership Campers; and there is a Counsellor-In-Training program for campers that have completed Grade 9.

Staff are chosen both for their rapport with kids, and for their professionalism. A registered nurse is always on duty; all staff are First Aid trained; and senior staff are CPR-certified. Centre Camp is accredited with the Ontario Camping Association.

"Shop around," Karen smiles, "and you'll come to Centre Camp." It's minutes away from your front door, at 4588 Bathurst, on the west side north of Sheppard. Call **(416) 636-1880**, ext. **378**.

THE JEWISH CAMP COUNCIL OF TORONTO
3995 Bathurst St., Suite 200
Downsview, ON M3H 5V3
(416) 630-1180

• CAMP NORTHLAND - B'NAI BRITH
-country camp for boys & girls 7-15 located in the beautiful Highlands of Haliburton
-a creative Jewish environment offering a wide range of activities: swimming, waterskiing, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing, tripping, nature study, tennis, basketball, baseball, soccer, floor hockey, tether ball, arts and crafts, theatre
-introductory program for first time campers
-excellent camper/staff ratio

• GOOD FELLOWSHIP LODGE
-a summer lodge for seniors located on a secluded lake near Parry Sound, Ontario
-a social and recreational program in a Jewish environment, featuring indoor and outdoor sports, cultural programs, and nightly entertainment
-accommodations in newly redecorated twin rooms with private bath

• FRIENDS OF NBB
-alumni and others provide fundraising support for Camp Northland-B'nai Brith
-"mini-camp" August weekend exclusively for "Friends" and their families

REGISTRATION NOW UNDER WAY

All programs provide tasty and nutritious meals and snacks under the supervision of Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto

Medical staff on premises

CENTRE CAMP

An exciting and adventurous camp program located in a beautiful woodland setting only minutes from your front door.

- Daily Instructional and Recreational Swim
- Nature • Sports • Drama • Dance
- Music • Arts & Crafts • Judaica
- Half Day Pre-school Program
- Specialty Camps
- Depot Transportation
- Extended Hours
- Computers • Indoor Play Centre
- Full Time Registered Nurse
- Caring, Qualified Staff
- And Much More

Bathurst Jewish Centre

United Way

For more information please call Penny in the Camp office at ***(416) 636-1880*** *ext 378*

Camps

Lubavitch Day Camp

It is our belief that a camp should do a lot more than just provide fun and games. A Jewish camp should be a place where children can also experience the richness, excitement and warmth of Judaism in a truly enjoyable and unforgettable atmosphere!

We provide hot lunches, door to door transportation, instructional and recreational swimming, a warm Jewish atmosphere, creative playground, arts & crafts, dance, martial arts, sports and much more, for children 2 1/2—12.

The daily schedule runs from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. Monday—Friday, for children ages 5 1/2—12, for 3—5 1/2 year olds the camp day is from 10 a.m.—3 p.m. and our morning program for 2 1/2—3 1/2 year olds runs from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

We offer large discounts for registration before March 31st and a discount for each additional child.

To receive more information or to register please contact our camp director Rabbi Mendel Bernstein at **(905) 731-7000** or 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill, Ont. L4J 3V9.

BEFORE AND AFTER

by Amy Auster, Italy Leadership Training Program

So I'm the stereo-typical Jewish girl from Long Island who decided to spend 5 weeks of her summer in Israel.

It's June 30, 12:30 a.m. and I'm sitting in my diner, sharing a plate of fries with one of my best friends. We're talking about all the gossip in my town and about the summer experience I'm about to have. I tell her that I think I'll change, because everyone who goes to Israel says it's a summer of a lifetime. She then convinces me I won't - that it's all psychological. So, basically I think, I'm leaving for Rome in 12 hours and I'm really confused! (Besides the fact that my luggage is too big for me to carry!)

A week into the trip, I find myself writing that same friend a letter, telling her she was wrong. The week I spent in Rome and on the boat was amazing. I then go on to explain to her how much I'm learning and all the great friends I'm making, in an attempt to make her understand how lucky I am and how I wish she could be here experiencing these things too.

I always knew that I'd spend a summer in Israel and it would be fun, but it is so much more than that. I also feel like I'm growing and even though I'll still go home a Long Island girl, I'll be a more mature, educated Jewish girl, who has a greater understanding of her history.

MASADA Maccabi
Israel Summer Programs
EXPERIENCE A SUMMER OF A LIFETIME!
12 UNIQUE PROGRAMS - GROUPED BY AGES 13-23
CALL FOR FREE VIDEO, BROCHURE & ORIENTATION DATES
(212) 481-1500 Out of NY 1-800-732-1266

Green Acres offers a "swim school calibre" aquatics program

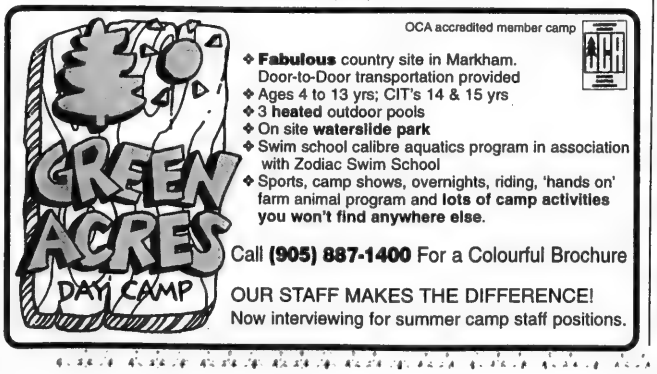
Green Acres has always been a Toronto leader in the day camp field combining creative camp programs and concepts with first class facilities in a beautiful country setting in Markham.

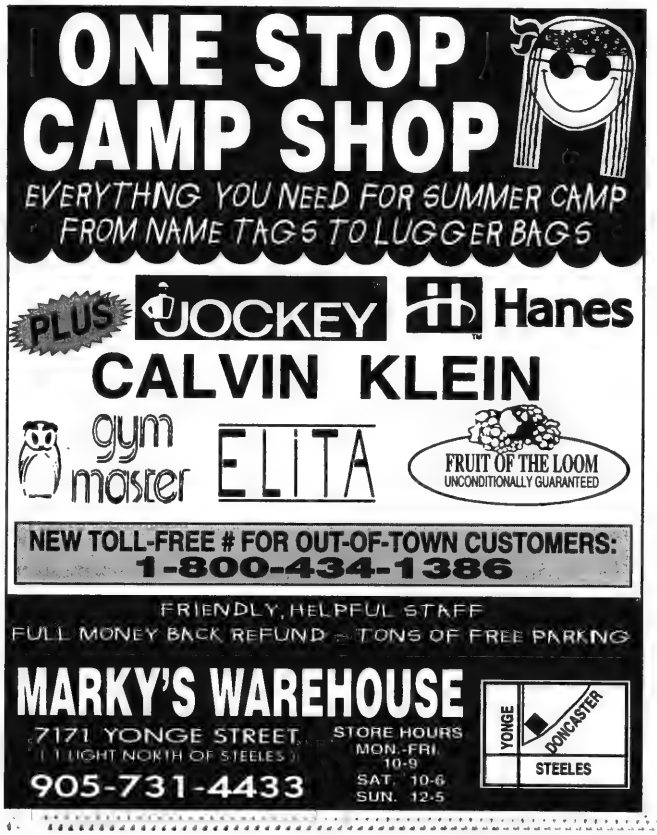
The camp is famous for its aquatics facilities and swim instruction program. Swimming is a fun recreational activity that provides an important foundation for other aquatic activities. It is also an important life and safety skill - one which requires ongoing reinforcement, development and practice.

Working together with Zodiac Swim School, Green Acres Day Camp swim staffers provide a 'Swim School Calibre' aquatics program at camp. Under the direction of Ellen Howard and the expert hands-on supervision of Zodiac Swim School professionals, Green Acres swim instruction provides continuity in the summer for the many children who participate in swim programs during the school year.

The Red Cross has introduced a new and improved system of swimming levels and instruction. All Green Acres swim staff have been or will be fully trained and requalified under the new Aquaquest system.

Green Acres also offers an extensive sports program, camp shows, overnights, riding, 'hands on' farm animal program and lots of camp activities you won't find anywhere else. (905) 887-1400.


GREEN ACRES DAY CAMP
OCA accredited member camp
❖ **Fabulous** country site in Markham. Door-to-Door transportation provided
❖ Ages 4 to 13 yrs; CIT's 14 & 15 yrs
❖ 3 **heated** outdoor pools
❖ On site **waterslide park**
❖ Swim school calibre aquatics program in association with Zodiac Swim School
❖ Sports, camp shows, overnights, riding, 'hands on' farm animal program and **lots of camp activities you won't find anywhere else.**
Call **(905) 887-1400** For a Colourful Brochure
OUR STAFF MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!
Now interviewing for summer camp staff positions.



Camps

Hashomer Hatzair / Camp Shomria

Camp Shomria offers a dynamic and exciting summer camp experience for youth aged 8-16 from Canada and the United States. A variety of challenging sports, theme days, educational and cultural activities, create an atmosphere designed to build life-long friendships. It is located on Otty Lake on a beautiful waterfront ideal for a wide selection of fun-filled water activities.

Camp Shomria promotes deep love for Israel and the North American Jewish community. It is run by the Hashomer Hatzair Youth Movement, established over 80 years ago, and is active within the Jewish community. There are weekly activities available throughout the school year in Toronto and a 6-day residential winter camp during December.

Camp Shomria activities include dance, arts & crafts, drama, hikes, trips (please see directory). Grade 10 graduates participate in a leadership training program called Yedid Plus, which includes an intensive five-week itinerary in Israel.

The staff are dedicated and committed, and most were Shomria campers themselves. Camp Shomria has its own full-time registered nurse, and many staff members are trained in first aid. An excellent hospital with modern facilities is located just minutes away. To learn more about Camp Shomria, please call Yehuda or Miriam at 416-736-1339.

SUMMER - 5 weeks

WINTER - 1 week

Camp Shomria (416) 736-1339

Camp Ramah inspires today's youth

Camp Ramah, on Skeleton Lake offers a quality camping program in the framework of traditional Jewish practice. Under the directorship of Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, Ramah offers the total camping experience for children in grades 3-10. Our safe and comprehensive waterfront program staffed by certified instructors is a highlight for our camper's. Sports is an integral part of every camper's development, focusing on skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Arts activities allow each camper to realize their creative potential through projects, performances, and individualized instruction. Outdoors programs take full advantage of the camp's beautiful setting while raising our camper's environmental awareness. A new ropes course gives campers and staff a chance to work together towards shared goals.

Judaica, Hebrew, and Israel programming are a regular part of the camp day. Jewish texts are taught by young adults in an informal setting. Hebrew is spoken, heard and often becomes second nature at camp. Shabbat, prayer and ritual observance assume special qualities when experienced and shared with friends.

Ramah continues to offer a unique one month program for campers with special needs. The Tikvah ("Hope") program gives adolescents ages 12 and older an opportunity to enjoy every aspect of camp while defining their own Jewish identity.

Staff is often former campers who return to Ramah because of the deep-rooted commitment to the Ramah environment. Young people develop skills and leadership, enduring friendships and a Jewish consciousness that help them become vibrant members of their family and home community.

CAMP RAMAH IN CANADA

The Max and Beatrice Wolfe Campus

Outstanding Waterfront Program • Athletics
• Mature, Trained Staff • Arts & Crafts • Hebrew Milieu
• Drama and Music • Tripping and much more in an
Observant Jewish Community

Call our office now to schedule an appointment with the Director,or to view our video at home.

• RAMAH FAMILY CAMP, for parents and children to share a Ramah camping experience together:
August 20-24, 1997

Coming This Fall: **Ramah Family Institute**
Exciting new programming for teens and families

Camp Ramah in Canada
491 Lawrence Ave. W., Suite 400, Toronto, Ont. M5M 1C7
Telephone (416) 789-2193 • Fax (416) 789-3970
RAMAH – The Camping Arm of Conservative Judaism

Camp Shalom, unique among camps

Camp Shalom, on beautiful Lake Muskoka at Gravenhurst, Ontario, has established its reputation as the premier Jewish residential summer camp in Muskoka.

Since its founding in 1948 by the Toronto Zionist Council, thousands of boys and girls, completing grades 2—7, have experienced the joys of a Camp Shalom summer, with wonderful memories and lifelong friendships forged under the care of a well-trained staff (3:1 camper-staff ratio) and full-time medical staff.

As a non-political, non-profit Zionist camp affiliated with Canadian Young Judaea and accredited by the Ontario Camping Association, Camp Shalom imbues its campers with a sense of Jewish history, cultural values and the centrality of Israel in Jewish life. The Camp Shalom ethic promotes the ideals of mutual respect, sharing and fair play in interpersonal relationships.

Camp Shalom is unique among camps in its individualized program wherein each camper chooses from among some 18 daily activities including canoe, sailing, ropes, baseball, tennis, and many other land sports, instructional swim, waterskiing, kayak-ing, Jewish cooking, drama, arts & crafts, journalism, tripping, photography, Israeli singing and dance.

Abe Levy will return for his 4th season, to produce his Glatt Kosher "I can't believe it's camp food" meals and snacks. (Parents and visitors can sample his superb cuisine on Visitors' Day.)

The Toronto Zionist Council is committed to maintaining the lowest possible fee structure for the camp in order to keep it accessible to as many youngsters as possible, with no compromise in its tradition of excellence in programming and physical maintenance.

The Camp Shalom staff look forward to the summer of '97 and the privilege of sharing another wonderful season with the '97 contingent of fortunate campers.

Camp Shalom '97

•A premier residential camp on beautiful Lake Muskoka for ages 8-13

•Jewish values, history, Zionism

•Highest standards of programming & staffing

•Red Cross Swim instruction daily

•Full land sports, tennis, waterskiing, sailing, kayaking, canoeing, ropes course, arts & crafts, drama, cooking, archery, photography, self-defence, dance, gymnastics, guitar, tripping and much more

DIRECTOR: ISAAC GELBER
ASST. DIRECTOR: JONATHAN RICHMON
ADMINISTRATOR: MALKA KLEIN
INFORMATION: (416) 783-6744

Camps

Summertime news for your wintertime blues

Situated in the scenic Kawartha Lakes region of central Ontario, Camp Moshava provides a full range of sports activities, swimming, canoeing, hiking, nature study, arts & crafts, drama, shira, and special programs and events.

To achieve our goal of fostering a commitment to the Bnei Akiva principles of love of G-d, love of Torah and love of Israel, we assemble and train a staff of exceptional young men and women to work with our campers in a warm, supportive, Orthodox Zionist environment.

What makes Camp Moshava unique goes far beyond facilities, events and personalities. The *ruach* or atmosphere that exists amongst our staff and campers is truly special. Dancing and singing on Shabbat are experiences not to be missed! This along with our full range of daily activities contribute to a living experience in Torah V'Avodah. Camp Moshava's ability to incorporate experiential learning into all aspects of our program clearly sets us apart.

Call our office at **(416) 630-7578** to find out what Camp Moshava has to offer you.

Camp Moshava

Fun, growth and lifelong friendships.
39 years old and growing strong
** Come meet our new Director **

NEW
BEIT HAMEDRASH —ARTS & CRAFTS
MOUNTAIN BIKING — BASEBALL
— CANOEING —SWIMMING
— TENNIS — COLOUR WAR

Camper and staff applications now being accepted. For more information call Lawrence Weinberg at (416) 630-7578.
Look for us soon @ www.campmoshava.org

Israel camp for girls fosters individual growth

Overnight camps have long been recognized as an excellent supplement to a year-round Torah education. Camping fosters varied opportunities for individual growth. Group living, independence, formal as well as informal learning, song, dance, drama, swimming, etc. are just some of the benefits offered in this natural surrounding

But ... a new dimension has been added at N'Vei Ashdod. For the past 13 years N'Vei Ashdod has provided all these things, and more ... in Eretz Yisrael where everything takes on a special flavour.

Lively, *frum* girls from all over the world come to Camp N'Vei Ashdod and forge lifelong friendships. It is indeed rare to find so many girls from so many places, blending so naturally. Perhaps it is the love for Eretz Yisrael which brings them so close together.

Situated in beautiful central Israel, in a tranquil, fully enclosed, modern campus with an enormous pool and beautiful grounds, N'Vei Ashdod combines learning, sports, fun and excitement with extensive touring throughout Israel.

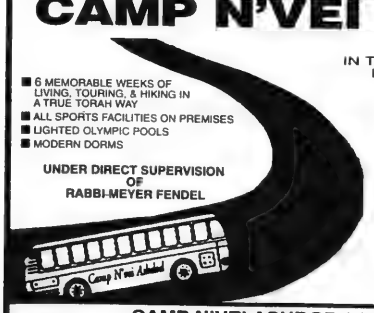
The girls travel across the country in air-conditioned buses with the finest tour guides available. The whole time, security is top priority.

Shabbos, whether in camp or outside, is particularly special; picture Shabbos in the old city of Jerusalem, or in the *Ir HaKodesh* of Tzfat, guest lectures, *Talmidei Chachomim*, authors and well known Torah personalities add an extra dimension to the Israel experience.

N'Vei Ashdod, the touring camp for girls ages 10-17 in Israel is now in its 13th summer.

For information call **(718) 261-4322** or **1-800-2-ASHDOD**.

CAMP N'VEI ASHDOD



- 6 MEMORABLE WEEKS OF LIVING, TOURING, & HIKING IN A TRUE TORAH WAY
- ALL SPORTS FACILITIES ON PREMISES
- LIGHTED OLYMPIC POOLS
- MODERN DORMS

UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF RABBI MEYER FENDEL

"AT BEAUTIFUL T.O.M. IN THE SHARON NEAR NETANYA" FOR FRUM GIRLS AGES 10-17 JOIN GIRLS FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR OUR 13th YEAR OF THRILLING EXPERIENCES!

IN NEW YORK CALL
718-972-3347
OR 718-261-4322
1-800-2-ASHDOD
OR WRITE TO:
141-24 71st RD.
FLUSHING, N.Y. 11367

A SUMMER OF "AWESOME" EXPERIENCES

CAMP N'VEI ASHDOD * * SUMMER 1997
CALL FOR EARLY BIRD SPECIAL NOW
PRE-REGISTRATION SPECIAL
THANKS, GIRLS, FOR YOUR OVERWHELMING EARLY-BIRD RESPONSES

Day camp offers exciting activities

Camp Katonim is a fabulous summer day camp located by the shores of majestic Lake Simcoe. In a beautiful country setting, only 40 minutes away, children enjoy an enriching camp experience with full waterfront facilities.

We offer a well-balanced program with instruction in all waterfront activities, including instructional swim, sailing and waterskiing. As well, land sports and creative arts are an integral part of the Katonim experience. We have the facilities for overnight and offer canoe trips.

Camp Katonim offers 2, 4, 6 and 8-week sessions for children between the ages of 3—16. Buses are available from Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora, Newmarket and surrounding areas.

Our mature and qualified staff bring camping experience, a love for children, energy and dedication. For 51 years, Camp Katonim has continued to provide lasting summer memories.

For information and staff applications, please call: Director, Rob Fishbaum **(416) 222-6914**.

On beautiful Lake Simcoe only 40 minutes away

CAMP KATONIM

A Day Camp with Overnight Facilities

AGES 3-16 YEARS	LAND SPORTS
DRAMA	WATERSKIING
TENNIS	CANOEING
ARTS & CRAFTS	SAILING
THEME DAYS	SWIM INSTRUCTION
ONEG SHABBAT	OVERNIGHTS
2, 4, 6 & 8 WEEK SESSION	CANOE TRIPS

Bus service for children 6 years & older in areas of Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Newmarket and Aurora

BALFOUR BEACH, KESWICK

For information call: Rob (416) 222-6914

Camps

Camp Kadimah — an unforgettable summer experience

Camp Kadimah is located in rural Nova Scotia and offers a unique, dynamic and distinctly Jewish summer experience for all who attend. Once a camp that catered to the Maritime provinces, Camp Kadimah has evolved into an international camp, one that draws campers and staff from all across Canada, the United States and beyond. Camp Kadimah is one of the fastest growing Jewish summer camps in North America and there is no better time to join the Kadimah family than now.

Camp Kadimah is known by all who attend as a "second home", one which fosters friendships that last a lifetime. Not considered a large camp, Kadimah's 260 campers and 75 staff provide the ideal setting for a child to spend his/her summer.

Our 6 week camp offers a wide variety of traditional activities and programs, as well as many innovative special programs that are not duplicated at other camps. Our campers range from age 7—16 including a comprehensive C.I.T. program.

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A camper who attends Kadimah will leave knowing more than just how to sail or throw a baseball, he/she will depart having grown as a person. In addition to the traditional camp skills, Camp Kadimah encourages openness, understanding, co-operation, and many other qualities that will enable a camper to mature as an individual, while at the same time remaining an intricate part of Camp Kadimah's "chevra".

Even though Camp Kadimah is located in Nova Scotia, our fees (including airfare) are still comparable to those of our competitors. Camp Kadimah is a not for profit organization and is committed to just one goal — providing all who attend with a meaningful and fun filled summer.

For those of you who are looking for a special place to send your child for a summer experience they will not forget, Camp Kadimah is waiting to welcome you with open arms. There are still a few places left in our younger age sections and C.I.T. age program. Please contact our offices in **Toronto (416) 780-9095**, **Montreal (514) 747-8485** or **Halifax (902) 422-7491** to obtain 1997 camper applications.

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Camp Gesher is situated on beautiful Pringle Lake in Ontario's Land O'Lakes region, approximately 100 kilometres north of Kingston. **Gesher** provides a unique camping experience where campers explore Jewish life and culture through a multitude of camping activities. Our camp offers a number of sporting and water activities as well as an intensive leadership training program for those campers who have completed Grade 9. It is an accredited member of both the Ontario and Canadian Camping Associations.

So what brings all the campers to **Gesher**? It is the unique atmosphere that we create year in and year out. **Gesher** creates that home-away-from-home. We manage to stay "small" even though we are getting bigger. **Gesher** is a place where the Ruach (spirit) is high and the friendships are everlasting. Our nighttime activities and special programs are designed to create close relationships and warm feelings between the different age groups. Our uniqueness is also created through our informal use of Ivrit (Hebrew), our special link to Israel and our unforgettable Oneg Shabbats!

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But the fun doesn't stop when camp is over. During the year activities for your children are held in all the major cities. Recently, we held our annual Fall Seminar Reunion. It was a resoundingly successful weekend.

Shabbat dinner was energetic as 80 campers and 30 counsellors from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton, and other places were reunited with each other for the first time since camp ended. We also held our annual football game, which we ended up playing in the first snowfall of the season! The weekend was enjoyed by all, and everyone left with their environmentally friendly burlap bags which they constructed over the weekend.

Our next reunion seminar will be in February. Watch for details!

During the summer, a select staff of experienced counsellors are chosen to provide careful and individual supervision to each camper. All our counsellors, many of whom have grown up with **Camp Gesher**, have completed at least grade 12 with most being in University. In addition, our staff includes Shlichim (emissaries) from kibbutzim. They create a living link between the camp and Israel.

The attraction for your children to attend **Gesher** is that it offers them the opportunity of doing something different and a chance to meet new Jewish friends from Canada, Israel, the United States and Europe. For parents it is a way of affording a summer of fun for your children. So don't be disappointed – REGISTER NOW!

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From coast to coast

Professor chronicles history of Auschwitz

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

WATERLOO, ONT. — An off-the-cuff answer during the 1984 defence of his doctoral thesis marked the beginning of architect Robert Jan van Pelt's professional interest in the Holocaust.

Now a professor at the University of Waterloo's School of Architecture, van Pelt, 41, put in almost a decade of work on *Auschwitz, 1270 to the present*, the recently published book he co-authored with Debórah Dwork, professor of Holocaust History at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.

As a doctoral student at the University of Leiden in his native Holland, van Pelt had researched the Temple of Solomon (the First Temple). When an examiner asked him to name a contemporary building that would stimulate the same kind of speculation as the Temple, he replied, "Probably the crematoria at Auschwitz."

Unlike that spontaneous answer, the almost 400 pages of *Auschwitz* – dense with photos, architectural plans, charts, statistics and poignant personal stories – reflect exhaustive research by the two authors.

A 1990 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada enabled van Pelt to do extensive on-site research to try and place the concentration camp in a broader social and historical context.

Robert Jan van Pelt

A myriad of details in the book attest to the one-time ordinariness of Auschwitz and the non-genocide-related aspects of its wartime history. Ironically, the existence of such "apparent contradictions [not necessarily those in the book] allow Holocaust deniers to make the insane assertions that they do," van Pelt said.

"The SS leaders themselves did not anticipate in 1940 what they wrought in 1944," the book asserts. "Yet, step by step, blueprint by blueprint, the architects, at the behest of their bosses, came to plan and execute the horror we call Auschwitz..."

Despite the authors' contention that the Holocaust was not inevitable, survivors have indicated to them that reading the book allowed them to make sense of their experience.

Van Pelt and Dwork joined forces several years ago after pursuing independent research (Dwork's area being the Holocaust experience of Jewish children, the subject of her book *Children with a Star*.)

Both authors had themselves lost relatives in the Holocaust. Van Pelt, the son of a Jewish mother, considers *Auschwitz* "in some way my way of saying Kaddish" for an uncle who perished in the concentration camp and for whom he was named.

The experience of van Pelt's father, a non-Jewish physician, also motivated his research quest. Van Pelt senior, who attended medical school in Holland immediately after the war, studied the now-infamous Nazi medical experiments as part of a 1946 medical ethics course.

In architectural circles, however, van Pelt encountered an absence of analogous professional knowledge. "If doctors in 1946 were talking, why didn't anyone know who the [crematorium] architect was? Why wasn't this an issue?"

He attempted to make it an issue at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, where he was an assistant professor from 1985 to 1987. His colleagues, however, "*plotzed*" at his suggestion that the Auschwitz crematoria be included on a list of important buildings with which architectural history students should be familiar.

While continuing to deal with the issue in his lectures and publications, including one chapter of a book he co-authored with a Virginia colleague, van Pelt was inspired by Dwork's intensive research among Holocaust survivors and decided to undertake his own "massive historical detailed empirical research." By focusing on the architectural aspect, he felt he had been sidestepping the broader issues of the camp itself.

His current projects include a four-month teaching stint at Clark University's new PhD program in Holocaust history to join Dwork in training the next generation of Holocaust historians.

Multiculturalism Week set

VANCOUVER — British Columbia's Multiculturalism Week, Feb. 16 to 22, will feature programs in work places, schools and community centres throughout the province.

In 1985, the first Multiculturalism Week was organized by the Affiliation of Multicultural and Social Service Agencies (AMSSA), with the assistance of the B.C. Teachers Federation. Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region is a member of AMSSA.

By 1986, with the support of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, over 35 municipal and regional districts had joined the program.

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WEEK 3	14 WILD WATER KINGDOM	15 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND	16 AFRICAN LION SAFARI	17 ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE	18 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLERSKATING
WEEK 4	21 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND	22 WASAGA BEACH BLUE MOUNTAIN SLIDE RIDE (OVERNIGHT TRIP) ◆	23 ◆	24 CENTRE ISLAND	25 ONTARIO PLACE
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WEEK 7	11 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND	12 MARINELAND WET 'N WILD WATER PARK (OVERNIGHT TRIP) ◆	13 ◆	14 ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE	15 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLERSKATING
WEEK 8	18 ONTARIO PLACE	19 WILD WATER KINGDOM	20 AFRICAN LION SAFARI	21 CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION	22 CENTRE ISLAND
WEEK 9	25 PLAYDIUM SEGA CITY	26 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND	27 WASAGA BEACH BLUE MOUNTAIN SLIDE RIDE (OVERNIGHT TRIP) ◆	28 ◆	29 CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

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From coast to coast

Arab press

[Cont'd from page 1]

he continues to stay in touch with the Arab world by reading a number of their newspapers that are easily available at stores in the Arab community. He is particularly incensed with the anti-Jewish attacks he has noted in recent years. "I know they attack Israel and Zionism," he said, "but when they say 'Jews' or 'Jewish people,' I get upset about it."

An Oct. 9, 1996 article in the *Al-Miraat* (*The Mirror*) newspaper, which is printed in Arabic in Montreal, focused on the opening of the Jerusalem tunnel, adjacent to the Temple Mount. The opening prompted rioting in which dozens were killed and wounded.

The article was headed, "We respect your stones, you the people of Palestine," and said "you won't be safe near the Jews" and that "history has taught us that you cannot trust their side."

Sasson is also upset by a poem that ran in the May 15, 1996 issue of *Al-Miraat*, titled *Rachel and Her Sisters*. The poem refers to the retaliatory Israeli artillery attack on Palestinian rocket launchers in south Lebanon in which 91 civilians near the rocket launchers were killed.

The poem said "they entered Cana over our bodies and raising the Nazi flag in the southern land...Hitler burned them in the gas chamber and they came after him to burn us. Hitler exiled them from Eastern Europe and they from our land exiled us. Hitler couldn't find time to eliminate them and wrest the earth from them and they came after him to annihilate us...."

Sasson said he has written to *Al-Miraat*, but his letter has not been published. He has also taken his concerns to Canadian Jewish Congress. Bernie Farber, Congress' director of community relations, said the *Al-Orouba* article "is vitriolic anti-Semitism of the worst order." He said Congress was concerned about all three articles and that "we have a plan of action that will involve at the first level meetings with the editors. We will put forward in the strongest possible terms that what they're printing may be in violation of Canada's anti-hate laws."

The linkage of Jews and Nazis was a major theme of the Sabbagh article in *Al-Orouba*. Referring to the extradition of alleged war criminal Erich Priebke from Argentina to Italy, the article states he was "a German officer in a unit called the SS while he was fulfilling his military service in Italy..."

Noting Priebke was 83, the article suggests he was at the time on trial "under Jewish spitefulness." Why haven't human rights groups protested this, the article asks. "Isn't it proof that these organizations are falling under Jewish influence which controls and drives the media in these countries.

Saadi Al-Malih, editor and owner of *Al-Miraat*, said although the weekly paper may print articles criticizing Israel or Zionism, "we never run something anti-Jewish."

"I have a lot of Jewish friends and in my opinion, there is nothing different between Jews, Christians and Muslims," he said.

Al-Malih said the poem, *Rachel and Her Sisters*, was written by a world-renowned poet, Nazar Kabany, and originally ran in *Al-Hiyat*, an Arab newspaper in England. He said "there is nothing anti-Jewish in the poem," insisting it is anti-Israel.

Referred to the stanzas in which Hitler is cited, Al-Malih maintained the poem is saying "they're doing to us what Hitler did to them."

Despite repeated calls from *The CJN* to *Al-Orouba*, the paper's editor, Sobhi Kallil, was unavailable for comment.

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Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Doron Aronson invites you to a **Tu b'Shvat Party.** Celebration & Song, Thursday, January 23, 1997, 10:00 pm at Golan Restaurant, 389 Steeles Ave. West. Tickets: $6.00 Advance/$8.00 Door. Please Call for tickets: **(905) 889-9516.**

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From coast to coast

Seeing ourselves in the plight of Aboriginal people

By STEPHEN STATE
Special to The CJN

The recent publication of the findings of the Canadian Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples has brought the Native Question, temporarily at least, to the forefront of Canadian public attention. How should Jews respond? Need there be a distinctive Jewish response at all?

Guest Voices

The situation of Aboriginal peoples in Canada and elsewhere is in important respects surprisingly similar to the situation of world Jewry. That similarity, if nothing else, is grounds for sympathy and support. Just as Jews in the context of Israel express a spiritual connection to Ha'Aretz so do Aboriginal Canadians express a spiritual connection to their land. Just as Jews struggle to maintain their identity, their language, their traditions in the face of a seductive and sometimes threatening otherness, so do Aboriginal Peoples seek to maintain and in some cases recover their traditions and languages.

The recent commemoration of Sepharad, "the golden age of Spanish Jewry," points out for us the significance of the year 1492. More than any other year it marks the utter destruction of what had been an extraordinary Jewish culture. From that point, to be a Jew in the Iberian peninsula was to die, to lie or to leave; Jews were burned at the stake, forced to practise in secret as Marranos, expelled from their homes.

The year 1492 has a similar resonance with North American Aboriginal peoples. It marks the beginning of a massive cultural displacement. The very concept of a New World, an entirely Eurocentric construct, conceals and negates the old, established world whose destruction fed this hemispheric innovation. From that point to the present Aboriginal peoples were killed, marginalized, oppressed and confined. Their languages were repressed, their religion demeaned, their children taken from them, their culture subjected to the regulatory yoke of foreign legal codes. Much of this, moreover, was done with the paternalistic enthusiasm of a misguided civilization intent.

Neither 20th century Jews nor, for that matter, 20th century Christians are responsible for what was enacted centuries before they were born. Some churches have indeed issued apologies for the actions of their predecessors (see for example, Long and Dickason, *Visions of the Heart: Canadian Aboriginal Issues*, Harcourt Brace, 1996, p. 27) but the locus of any plausible guilt must reside in the present. Guilt associated with documented crimes of child and sexual abuse in the context of residential schools where many Native children were sent is an obvious case. A particular case that raises serious questions about racism in Canadian society is the murder of Helen Betty Osborne. Not only was she brutally raped and murdered because of her native origin but a widespread conspiracy of silence has to this day obstructed the pursuit of justice in apprehending the perpetrators. But in what sense can Canadians in general or Jews in particular be held responsible?

The question answers itself insofar as it gives rise to the hasty retort: "We didn't know what was going on." We cannot as Jews make use of that response for reasons which do not need to be elaborated. The fact is that Canadian public policy has ghettoized native reservations; not in the sense of creating a separate space for Aboriginal peoples to live. A separate culture and a separate space is what many First Nations have said that they want. Reservations are ghettos in the sense of being impoverished and often lethal places in which to live. They are expressions of systemic racism.

By reference to virtually every measure of human welfare — sanitation, sewage treatment, potable water, education, nutrition, health and mortality — the situation of Aboriginal Canadians on reservations is qualitatively inferior to the general population.

The cause of this comparative misery will not likely be found at the level of intentions; it will be found at the level of public policy — the unintended consequences of how the system works. The system does not work very well for Aboriginal Canadians despite our Constitutional commitment to provide "essential public services of reasonable quality to all Canadians".

The sin for which guilt is appropriate here, is the sin of omission. Public policy in a democracy is modified when those in power sense a widespread and vocal concern. Minorities by themselves are typically unable to muster the requisite numbers and it is up to others to speak up in support of justice. All Canadians have that civic obligation; Jews have as well a religious obligation to pursue justice.

The other obvious Judaic hook arises from our self-understanding as a covenant people. We are enjoined to keep our word, to keep our bargains. The relationship between Canada and its Aboriginal Peoples was expressed from the beginning in the language of treaties, the language of contract and agreement. Some Canadians are now invoking, inappropriately, the language of equality in order to deny Aboriginal People any special status or entitlement. If everyone is equal why should Aboriginal People get anything not on offer to everyone else? This seemingly moral discourse of equality and universality is inappropriate in the present context because it negates explicit treaties and covenants undertaken by Canadian governments in the past.

Aboriginal Canadians constitute a special case for reasons additional to those which arise from contract. The case is predicated upon an argument of original possession, long term occupancy and a spiritual connection to the land. These arguments, coupled with a desire to preserve their distinctive culture, are arguments with which Jews are familiar in the context of Israel. To articulate these arguments for ourselves entails that we concede their use by others.

As Jews we pride ourselves on remembering. Let us also remember and respect the treaties which have structured the relationship between Canada and its Aboriginal Peoples. And let our respect for consistency give a hand to Aboriginal aspirations for a special homeland within Canadian borders.

Stephen State is a writer in London, Ontario.

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Campus *news & views*

QUEBEC WINTER FUN FOR ONTARIO STUDENTS

Forty Jewish university students from Ontario embarked on a recent ski trip to Quebec's Laurentians. The trip was organized through Kol HaStudentim, the Ontario Jewish Student Voice. Smiling through the cold were [inset, from left] Jen Gotlieb from the University of Toronto; Naomi Singer (York U); Leat Galimidi (top, McMaster U); Batya Grundland (bottom, York U); and Miriam Steinman (York U) [Jason Young photo]

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Campus conundrum: groups forming, participation declining

By JESSICA PELT

Across Canada, Jewish groups and organizations are forming on campuses, in an effort to attract students and meet their needs while they are in university. Religious, social and special interest groups are offering a variety of activities.

Although there is greatly increased programming, along with wider availability and accessibility, however, committed participation seems to be steadily decreasing.

Through my experience over the past year and a half with *Images* in Toronto (the student paper), I have become aware of how reluctant students are to volunteer their time.

Today's students are products of "busy-ness" and time constraints. Our time is at a premium, as we are always trying to improve our chances for a future job and career.

Unfortunately, there are prevailing misconceptions about the word "involvement." People associate involvement with commitment and having to give large amounts of time. I must say that this is not so. While the presidents and leaders of campus groups do spend a fair amount of committed time with the group, this is not necessarily the case for all involved. There are various levels of involvement, each with its own time allotments.

Student input

During high stress weeks, programming is quite sparse. Attending, organizing or leading programs, requires too much from students. Student leaders understand other people's time restraints.

With so many Judaism-based activities now available on campuses, from "religiously oriented groups such as Kedma, Koach and Kesher, to "social" groups such as Kol HaStudentim to "something for everyone" JSUs and Hillels, as well as projects such as *Images*, students can choose from a wide array of programs.

Students, however, must cooperate by realizing that once in awhile, there must be time for involvement. The variety of programming cannot continue without student input. Hopefully, we will soon realize the variety that is being offered to us and become involved in any of the multitude of programs available to us.

Jessica Pelt is the editor of Images, *the Jewish student newspaper in Greater Toronto.*

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Hebron deal not assured in cabinet

By LEORA EREN FRUCHT
Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may have reached an agreement with Yasser Arafat, but he has not reached one with his own cabinet where there is growing opposition to the nearly-completed Hebron deal.

With the signing of the accord imminent, members of Netanyahu's coalition are threatening to scuttle the agreement and even topple the government. Members of the National Religious Party (NRP), Tsomet, the Third Way and Israel b'Aliyah – as well as some Likud MKs – are upset over the Israeli commitment to withdraw the IDF from most of the West Bank by mid-1998. Last week, Netanyahu pledged he would not yield to Palestinian demands for a firm date on a pullback.

According to the original Oslo accord, the three-stage withdrawal was to have been completed by September 1997. The mid-1998 date was a compromise proposal put forward by Jordan's King Hussein.

"Netanyahu fell into the trap prepared by Arafat," charged Shaul Yahalom of the National Religious Party. "There will be international pressure to complete the second and third pullbacks before reaching an agreement on the final status. With every withdrawal, we surrender territory that we will not be able to regain in the final agreement. That's exactly what Arafat wanted – to establish facts before the final settlement. The government must reject the agreement outright."

In the National Religious Party, views were split on what action to take. Hanan Porat, the accord's most strident opponent, urged his party to topple the government and press for new elections. "It is no longer just a Hebron agreement," said Porat. "It is now an agreement in which a government – which calls itself nationalistic – obligates itself to a near total withdrawal from Judea and Samaria."

But Education Minister Zevulun Hammer disagreed. "It would be a great mistake to topple the government. The alternative is much worse," he maintained. "The NRP has an important historical role to play in the next year and a half in shaping the final agreement, and in applying our interpretation to the third pullback."

Agriculture and the Environment Minister Rafael Eitan, a longtime opponent of the Hebron accord, vowed that his Tsomet party would vote against the agreement.

Both the NRP and Tsomet were to meet earlier this week to coordinate opposition to the accord. Meanwhile the Third Way and Israel b'Aliyah adopted a slightly more moderate stance. "Neither party will support the agreement unless the prime minister guarantees that there will be no return to the 1967 borders and no withdrawal from the Jordan Valley," said MK Yehuda Harel, spiritual leader of the Third Way.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said the party "opposes the third pullback in which 85 percent of territory in Judea and Samaria are to be transferred to the Palestinians, thereby jeopardizing Israeli security." But Kahalani added that the original Oslo accord, which called for a withdrawal in nine months time, "would have been suicide. Delaying it to mid-1998 gives us breathing space and a chance to test mutual commitment to the agreement."

If, despite growing opposition, the accord is ratified by the cabinet, it must then be sent to the Knesset for approval. Ironically, the prime minister can count on stronger Knesset support from the opposition than from coalition members. Likud MK Ruby Rivlin already announced he will reject the Hebron deal, calling it a violation of the basic ideology of the Revisionist movement. However, Labor and all left-wing parties have pledged unconditional support for the agreement.

Safety of Hebron Jews not guaranteed: Mordechai

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The emerging agreement on Hebron cannot provide absolute safety for its Jewish residents, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said recently.

"If someone thinks that there is a safe solution in Hebron, they are, in my opinion, either mistaken or misled. There is nothing absolute in Hebron. In the same city where a group of Jews live among a Palestinian population, who live right next to each other, house touching house, where they travel the same roads, move in the same places, there is no technical way to make a separation and certainly not give total security," Mordechai told a gathering at the Israel Press Club in Tel Aviv.

"The best way I see for living in Hebron is for both sides ...to come to a situation where they know how to coexist, with mutual respect," Mordechai said. "Anything else will bring about friction and conflict and bloodshed and can be very dangerous."

"Hebron is part of a process that was agreed upon and we have to progress in order to reduce the friction and conflict as much as possible," he added.

Mordechai also said that the civilian and military details of the Hebron deal were wrapped up and written down during a 10-hour meeting at the home of U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk.

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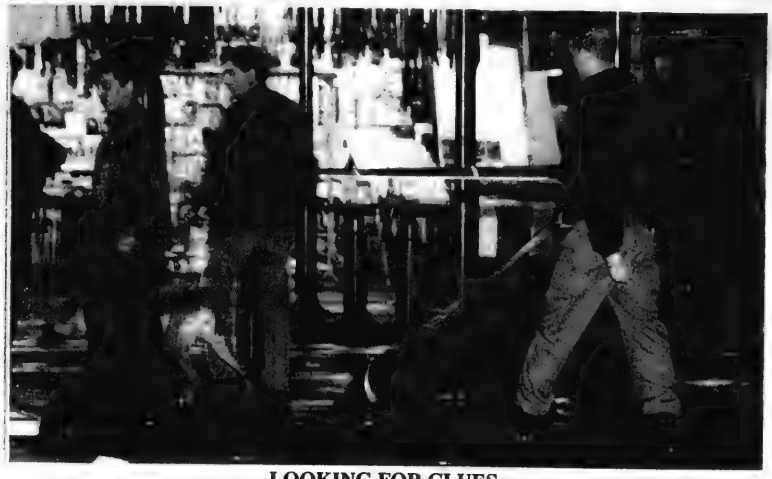

LOOKING FOR CLUES

Police inspect the ruins on a Tel Aviv street after two bombs exploded in the south part of the city on Jan. 9, wounding 13 people. Abu Ahmed Fuad, chief of the military department of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said the bombings were a response to the shootings in Hebron although he refused to confirm or deny his group's responsibility for them. [RNS/Reuters]

Jordan's Hussein pushes completion of Hebron deal

[Cont'd from page 1]

At the heart of the controversy was the question of whether the two sides could find common ground on the issue of future IDF pullbacks from the West Bank beyond a Hebron deal.

Arafat has wanted all pullbacks to conclude by September as called for in the Oslo 2 accords. Netanyahu's proposal was for a third pullback by the end of the interim period, ending in the spring of 1999, so that it would overlap with the deadline for resolving final status issues.

For Arafat, a Jordan-brokered agreement would underline the commitment of King Hussein to the Israel-PLO Oslo accords, which he did not like when they were first announced. It would emphasize that the Hebron agreement was a multilateral affair rather than a bilateral agreement.

For Netanyahu, a Hussein-brokered agreement would help to restore his initial warm relations with the monarch, which turned frosty after the Western Wall Tunnel crisis.

Arafat told visitors last week that he interprets the Oslo 2 agreement as giving him no less than 80 percent of the West Bank before the final status talks begin. Netanyahu has yet to put forward his government's interpretation. According to Oslo 2, by the end of the three pullbacks, Israel would redeploy settlements and "specified military locations."

The U.S. Embassy had announced that Ross would be leaving the region on Sunday, because the Palestinians had yet to put forward a counterproposal and the Ross talks in Cairo were deemed unsuccessful.

But Hussein arrived in Gaza City by helicopter, was welcomed by Arafat and whisked by limousine to Arafat's seafront office, where a band played the Jordanian and PA anthems.

It was Hussein's first visit to Gaza since 1967 and the first by an Arab head of state. It was also the first visit by a foreign leader to Gaza that was not a side trip after a visit to Israel.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Barak wins key vote on internal Labor elections

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor leadership candidate MK Ehud Barak emerged victorious from the recent party convention where his proposal for "closed primaries" was adopted, possibly paving his way to the party leadership.

MK Haim Ramon, who decided not to run for the party leadership after his proposal for "open primaries" was rejected, declared after the meeting that he would support whoever is elected Labor leader, but in the race for the party leadership he supports MK Yossi Beilin.

In a restrained, "statesmanlike" speech, Barak called on the delegates to adopt closed primaries — for party members only — to elect the party's new leader and candidate for prime minister.

"I asked myself, what is the right way? How was the late Yitzhak Rabin, who led us to victory for the first time in 20 years, elected? By closed primaries.

"Talks with hundreds of party members made it clear to me that we must not weaken the party, especially in view of the direct elections for prime minister. Don't take away the party members' power to determine our candidate for chairman and prime minister by transferring this power to anyone in the street," Barak said.

He won stormy applause from the delegates when he urged them to abandon "the tendency to bash each other and tear candidates' legs and arms off. We'll only be able to persuade the public that we are attentive and open to all its sectors if we practise this at home. Only when we form a team and a captain who convey freedom of thought, pluralism and unity in action can we ask the public to give us its confidence in the elections in the year 2,000, and preferably earlier."

The drama in the convention was provided by Ramon, whose address was punctured by frequent catcalls and "boos".

He warned Barak not to listen to the party functionaries "whispering in your ear, trying to create a dependency on them which will prevent you from reaching the broad public. You think you'll be able to shake yourself free of them.

"You are a literary man," Ramon continued. "And I know you must have read "Gulliver's Travels." You remember that picture when thousands of tiny Lilliputians wrap Gulliver with thin threads and he thinks he can easily rip them off. You too will think that, but you won't be able to break the threads and reach the public."

He called for open primaries so that "300,000, 400,000 or even 500,000 can vote for the best candidate. He will be the captain and we will all unite around him. The one elected by so many will be elected prime minister as well. But one who is elected only by the party functionaries, will be only party chairman, not prime minister."

Barak commented later, "I am not Gulliver, and I'm not surrounded by dwarves. I'm a captain with a team."

At the opening of the convention Labor Chair Shimon Peres called for unity in the party and urged the leadership contenders to act with restraint and refrain from causing a rift in the party.

A mini-drama preceded the convention, when it became apparent that all the speakers wanted to address the delegates last. At the end, convention presidium chair David Liba'i held a lottery, and Ramon won, with Barak winning the slot of one before last.

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NEW YORK — The Bronfman Youth Fellowships is now accepting applications from Jewish organizations that are interested in hosting a Yozma fellow for 10 months, beginning in the fall of 1997.

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For applications, contact the Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, Yozma Fellowship Program, 17 Wilbur St., Albany, N.Y. 12202-1716, Fax: 518-432-8984, email: acharne-@albany.net.

Burg refuses to meet with top Swiss official

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg refused to meet with a senior Swiss foreign ministry official last week, who wanted to discuss the issue of Jewish Holocaust-era assets in Swiss banks.

Burg said negotiations with the Swiss over funds belonging to Holocaust victims could not continue until former Swiss president Jean-Pascal Delamuraz retracted his remark that Jewish demands for a compensation fund were "blackmail."

In a letter to Swiss ambassador and task force head Thomas G. Borer, Burg said that "under the present conditions, I am not interested or able to meet with you."

Burg said Delamuraz's statement has created a reality that prevents his colleagues in the negotiations with the Swiss banks from meeting official representatives of the Swiss government until such time as the appalling statement made by the former president is retracted.

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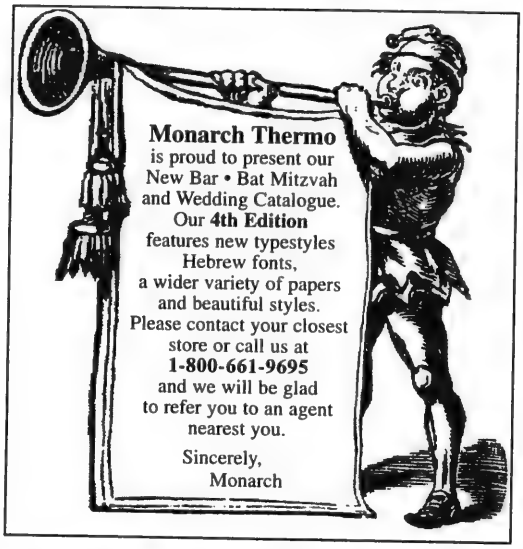

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Unity government may be in the works

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Is it simply media hype, or an idea whose time has come? The notion of a national unity government in Israel has been bandied about since last May's televised debate between Benjamin Netanyahu and Shimon Peres. But of late, with polls suggesting that a majority of Israelis are in favor of it, the concept has gained a greater degree of currency.

Netanyahu initially raised the question during his debate with Peres on the eve of the general election. Netanyahu said that if elected, he would turn to the Labor party to form a unity government.

It isn't entirely clear why he brought the idea up in the first place. Perhaps he assumed that he would be unable to cobble together a government without Peres. But once safely in office, Netanyahu shelved the idea, letting it gather dust.

In November, however, Netanyahu resurrected it in a speech to the Council of Jewish Federations in Seattle.

Expressing a wish to establish a broad "national consensus" after Israel's redeployment from Hebron, Netanyahu said: "What we need to do is to...reach out to one another and to seek a dialogue...between all parts of the Israeli political spectrum."

The inference was clear, but why had Netanyahu returned to the topic once again? In all probability, for external and internal reasons. The negotiations with the Palestinians over Hebron were going nowhere, and consequently, Israel's relations with the Arab world were fast deteriorating. And within his own caucus, two of his most influential colleagues, Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, were arguing that a Likud-Labor coalition would be better equipped to deal with domestic and foreign challenges.

Netanyahu scotched the proposal, explaining that his call for national consensus should not be confused with the formation of a unity government. "For such a government, we need joint policy guidelines," he said, putting his finger on the crux of the problem.

Although Likud and Labor both concur that Jerusalem should be Israel's undivided capital and that Israel should not return to the pre-1967 lines, they differ sharply on a number of other territorial issues.

Despite these differences, and despite Netanyahu's putative rejection of a wall-to-wall coalition, the idea lingers on, feeding rumor mills that a unity government may well be in the works.

The speculation, much of it promoted by the Hebrew press, has been fuelled by a series of high-level and relatively discreet meetings between Likud and Labor politicians.

Participants have included Peres, Sharon, David Levy (the foreign minister), Haim Ramon (the former health minister and Histadrut director), Yossi Beilin (Peres' confidant and a foreign policy strategist) and Michael Eitan (a Likud member of Knesset).

Sharon, his hawkish views notwithstanding, appears to be the most ardent advocate of a unity government, having described it as "a prime national necessity."

Peres, his interlocutor, has not been as consistent. In November, he was quoted as saying that "the good of the state demands unity." But in his most recent statement, delivered less than a month ago, Peres declared unequivocably, "I'm not looking for ways to join the government."

Should this be taken at face value? Probably not. According to the cynics, Peres has no desire to leave politics, and his advocacy of a unity government masks a determination to pre-empt a takeover of the Labor party by Ehud Barak, the leading contender for his job as opposition leader.

Not surprisingly, Barak opposes a unity government — not only out of a desire to thwart Peres' apparent ambitions, but out of the conviction that he can handily defeat Netanyahu in the next election.

Within the Likud, the chief opponent of unity is Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordecai, who fears that he would lose his position in a realignment of Israeli politics.

Realizing that they would be rendered redundant in a Likud-Labor alliance, the Orthodox religious parties, as well as the staunchly secular Meretz party, are also against a broadly-based coalition.

Is a unity government, three of which have been formed with mixed results since the Six Day War, imminent?

Netanyahu may ultimately opt for one, especially if he loses the confidence of his own ministers, a plurality of whom are less than keen about the Oslo peace process in general and about a withdrawal from Hebron in particular.

By last count, a majority of his colleagues in cabinet were either opposed to or doubtful about a redeployment from Hebron because of its linkage with two Palestinian demands: fixed dates for three further Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank and an armed Palestinian presence at the Tomb of the Patriarchs.

Netanyahu has promised not to yield to these demands. But if he changes his mind, he may yet consider the possibility of a unity government.

The Week in Israel

Jan. 6

• An Arab Israeli lawmaker, Abdel Malek Dahamshe, became the first Israeli to make an official visit to Jordan's parliament. Dahamshe met for 90 minutes with the speaker of Jordan's Upper House.

Jan. 7

• Switzerland's foreign minister phoned David Levy to apologize for the harsh remarks of the outgoing Swiss president concerning the creation of a compensation fund for Holocaust victims who deposited funds in Swiss banks during the war, and for their heirs. Last week, Jean-Pascal Delamuraz called Jewish demands for the creation of a compensation fund "blackmail."

• Finance Minister Dan Meridor met with Histadrut chair Amir Peretz to discuss plans to open the economy to more competition. Under the proposed measures, busing, cellular telephone and gas station services may soon have competitors.

Jan. 8

• According to a survey by the Nablus-based Centre for Palestine Research and Studies, four out of five Palestinians support the peace process with Israel, but an increasing number also support attacks on Israeli targets.

• At least three Israeli soldiers were wounded by a roadside bomb planted by Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

• David Levy told the Knesset that discreet efforts were underway to restart negotiations with Syria.

Jan. 9

• One soldier was killed and eight were injured in clashes with Hezbollah forces in south Lebanon. A Katyusha landed in the Galil; there were no injuries.

• Car thefts in Israel increased to a record high. In 1996, 36,732 cars were stolen compared to 33,050 in 1995. Most of the cars wind up in or near the territories.

Jan. 10

• Roni Bar-On, a Jerusalem lawyer and Likud party activist, was appointed attorney general replacing Michael Ben-Yair who recently resigned. *(On Sunday, Bar-On decided not to accept the appointment.)*

Israel & the Jewish World

Croatian Jewish community faces difficult challenges

This is the second part of a two-part series on Croatia's Jewish community. The first part dealt with the shifting relationship between the Tudjman government and the country's Jews. The second part focuses on the challenges confronting the Jewish community as it strives to survive.

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ZAGREB, Croatia — Croatia's Jews observed Chanukah this year by celebrating the 190th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish community here in the Croatian capital.

The Festival of Lights is a perfect example of the "ever-renewed miracle of the survival of the Jewish people, their resilience, optimism and courage," Paris-based historian Diana Pinto wrote in a letter to the Zagreb community on the occasion.

"If even the smallest quantity of oil could last eight days, so even the smallest of Jewish communities has within itself, provided it wants to, the power to endure," she wrote.

Decimated by the Holocaust, constrained during the Communist era and buffeted by the war in the former Yugoslavia, the 2,000-member Croatian Jewish community is struggling to endure.

Like almost all Jewish communities in former Communist Europe, it has undergone a revival in the past decade as people have attempted to rediscover their Jewish roots.

"We are very small in number," said Igor Francetic, the Zagreb community's vice-president, "and thus have trouble finding Jewish marriage partners. We have not had a rabbi for the last 50 years. And then there is the question of identity. Still, we are trying to preserve Jewish culture and Jewish traditions."

These three issues – demographics, identity and the lack of a rabbi – as well as a lack of financial resources, are key to the community's continuity and loom foremost in local Jewish policy.

Although the chief challenges for the Croatian community are internal, the country's Jewish revival is taking place amid social and political conditions that also have an impact on the community's development.

The bloody breakup of the former Yugoslavia destroyed the Yugoslav Jewish federation and cut long-standing links between Jewish communities in Croatia and Serbia.

A wave of Jewish, as well as non-Jewish, refugees from the war in Bosnia came to both Croatia and Serbia. The war also prompted many younger Jews to emigrate as part of what one community member called a "very intensive" brain drain.

In addition, the nationalism of Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has raised concern about apparent efforts to rehabilitate the World War II Ustashe regime, the homegrown Croatian fascists who ruled wartime Croatia as a Nazi puppet state.

The issue remains problematic, despite efforts by the government to demonstrate support for Jewish causes.

Nonetheless, said historian Ivo Goldstein, "there is little open anti-Semitism in Croatia."

Some, particularly older, community members are skeptical of the chances of survival. Other members and observers are more optimistic.

"There is a community here which is aware of its roots, aware of how much damage has been done to those roots and, though it doesn't have all the answers, has some pretty good idea of how to repair some of that damage," said British Rabbi Walter Rothschild, who travelled to Zagreb to take part in the anniversary celebrations.

"It has invested a lot in recent years in communal infrastructure and in developing some very competent lay leadership, one that is honest enough to admit the gaps," he said.

Croatia had 25,000 Jews before World War II, most of them prosperous and largely assimilated. Some 20,000 were killed by the Nazis or the Ustashe regime.

Post-war Communist Yugoslavia was not a member of the Soviet bloc, and local Jews were not persecuted or isolated, as were Jews in other Communist states.

But they further assimilated into society and lost contact with religious life.

Of the community's 2,000 members today, about half are older than 60, and many are poor and alone.

Some 80 percent of community members are believed to be children of or partners in mixed marriages.

"What is happening today was unexpected and unforeseeable," said Dunja Spraic, secretary general of the Zagreb Jewish community.

"The descendants of mixed families in the first, second, and even the third generation are coming to the Jewish community, with which they feel an inexplicable bond, and are working persistently to affirm their identity."

Although aware that some members may not be accepted as Jews elsewhere, Croatian community leaders took a definite decision to open its doors to people in this situation.

"The Jewish world must understand that the Jewish community here will not survive if they have no mixed marriages," said Melita Svob, who has done in-depth research on the Croatian Jewish community.

Some 1,400 of Croatia's Jews live in Zagreb, with the rest scattered in eight other small communities.

The community centre in the heart of the city includes a small prayer room, a bar, a clubroom, an auditorium and an exhibition gallery. There is also a library, a Jewish kindergarten and a computer center sponsored by ORT.

But Zagreb is virtually the only Jewish community of its size in former Communist Central Europe that does not have a rabbi, and community leaders and members feel this lack acutely.

Currently, an Israeli teacher conducts Hebrew classes and leads services Friday nights and holidays.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Full alert declared following Lebanon fighting

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — IDF and South Lebanese Army troops remained on full alert in the security zone, as tension remained high in the region following heavy fighting last week in which an IDF soldier was killed and eight were wounded. At least one Katyusha rocket hit western Galilee.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee was to convene to discuss Israel's complaint over the rocket attack, the second on the same region in three weeks.

No organization has admitted responsibility for the recent incident nor for the previous attack on Dec. 13. Israel blames the Lebanese government for failing to prevent flagrant breaches of the understandings, to which it is a party, that ended the cross-border fighting during Operation Grapes of Wrath last April.

Hezbollah itself denied any involvement in the two attacks.

Uri Lubrani, the government's coordinator on Lebanon, told the *Jerusalem Post* that there were several possibilities.

He stressed, however, that "very little happens in the areas north of the zone from where Katyushas are fired at us without Hezbollah, in one way or another, being aware or involved in it."

The rocket attack followed a clash between Nahal Brigade troops on ambush duty in in the Taibeh region of the zone and a squad of gunmen from the Amal Shiite movement.

St.-Sgt. Ori Biton, 21, of Moshav Yakir in Samaria, was killed in the clash.

Three of the gunmen from the Amal squad were killed in the clash. Their bodies were removed from the field by troops from UNIFIL's Finnish battalion.

UNIFIL officers said that IDF soldiers who were at the scene fired warning shots at the Finnish soldiers who left the scene, but returned later to recover the bodies.

Army sources denied the claims, however, saying the IDF had informed the UN that the area was not quiet and had asked the UN soldiers to leave for their own safety. The IDF, said the sources, does not fire at UN troops in any region or under any circumstances.

Initial inquiries by Northern Command into the clash itself revealed that the Nahal troops had spotted the Amal gunmen and opened fire on them first from distances as close as 40 metres. One of the gunmen, however, was unhurt and managed to let off a single burst of automatic fire, hitting and killing Biton and wounding the five other soldiers.

There were also difficulties in evacuating the casualties from the field because of the danger of the rescue helicopter itself being hit by other gunmen in the field who managed to escape.

It is believed that another squad, from Hezbollah, was also operating in the area, either by coincidence or in coordination with the Amal unit, and these gunmen later fired several Sagger anti-tank missiles at the region where the soldiers were holed up.

The Amal squad, which probably consisted of another three or four gunmen, was apparently en route to attack an IDF or SLA patrol or convoy in the zone. The gunmen were heavily armed and well equipped and also had communication devices.

Compromise proposed on Shabbat traffic

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's High Court of Justice has asked the nation's transportation minister to consider a compromise on Shabbat travel on a road that cuts through religious neighborhoods.

An expanded panel of seven justices Sunday suggested closing Bar Ilan Street during prayer times on the Sabbath. In exchange, the court said, another street would be open to link the main entrance to the city with the northern neighborhoods.

Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy is expected to give his decision within the next week. Until then, the street will remain open on Shabbat.

Shabbat traffic on Bar Ilan has led to a series of often-violent demonstrations. Haredim want the street closed for the Sabbath; secular Israelis view its closure as an infringement on their freedom.

The justices offered the proposal after secular groups complained that Levy would only partially meet the recommendations of a public committee formed to review the matter. The committee had been created at the recommendation of the court.

Petitioner Lior Horev said Levy would close Bar Ilan during Sabbath prayer times, as the committee had recommended.

But, according to Horev, Levy would not fulfil the committee's other stipulation: that public transportation be provided on the Sabbath.

Haredim protest

Horev said he and other secular petitioners accepted the justices' recommendation in principle. But they have additional conditions, Horev said.

"We want to know that no other roads [in the capital] will be closed in the future," Horev told Israel Radio.

Horev also said the petitioners wanted assurances that no further violence would result.

Over the weekend, some 150 Haredim protested Sabbath travel. Two men were detained after being accused of damaging a police van.

Representatives of the Haredim community said they would not accept the court's compromise.

"We will not agree to any Sabbath violations, on any road," Yehuda Meshi Zahav told Israel Radio. "There is no [Haredi] who will agree to open one road in exchange for closing another one."

ERIC WAUGH

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Nerve gas antidote tested on IDF soldiers

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The IDF has admitted that it has been testing a nerve gas antidote and other drugs on soldiers for decades, but dismissed charges that soldiers are forced to participate in the experiments.

Army Surgeon General Brig.-Gen. Yehoshua Shemer said recruits today are being used in medical experiments, but only on a voluntary basis and soldiers must sign a waiver to participate.

"There are no secrets here," Shemer said, adding that the drug being tested was Pirsiglobin. "It protects against the very grave effects of nerve gas. If you take it before being exposed it neutralizes most of the serious effects of nerve gas."

Shemer's statements came following a report on Israel Radio that in the 1970s and 1980s, soldiers were forced to take drugs, some of which were reportedly banned. Recently, Givati soldiers have been involved in the latest experiments and their parents have urged them to quit, Israel Radio said.

The army declined to comment on the matter and referred all queries to the radio interview given by Shemer. Shemer said any and all medical research in the IDF is first approved by the Helsinki Commission on Human Rights. He also admitted that there were other experiments being conducted as well.

He said the nature of the drug demanded that soldiers be tested in pressure situations and that recruits presented the best suitable group.

Gulf War

He said medical checks were done two months after the experiments to determine if there were any side effects, but none were found.

"We are six years after the Gulf War. At that time, when we did not have solutions to the threat [of chemical attack] we were very severely criticized. It is important for the public to know that we continue to increase our capability to present a package of protection that not only protects, but also neutralizes" the threat, Shemer told Army Radio.

He said that soldiers had the right to refuse to participate and that 30 per cent had chosen not to be part of the latest experiment.

But some participants said those who volunteered for the experiments were absolved from guard duties and were not bothered by the base sergeant major, which was a form of payment.

Following the initial report, dozens of people telephoned the radio station saying they too had been subjected to the experiments and that any trace of the research had disappeared since it was not noted in their medical file.

"They forced us to take these pills three times a day," said Alex Shamir, who was in the armored corps in the early 1970s. "The commanders stood and watched to make sure we swallowed them." Shamir said he suffered from diarrhea and nausea.

"We didn't sign any consent form. They just took us as guinea pigs and forced us to take it," Shamir said.

Shemer said records today are meticulously kept, but he couldn't speak for what happened 25 years ago.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the dates that Mazel Tov will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than 25 words.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Joel and Itty Ross are very happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Nicole to Alan, son of Wilf and Bonnie Kotzer. Proud grandparents are Mollie Futerman, Libby Ross and Betty Shulman.

Hayley Jill Herman, daughter of Dr. Steve & Mindy Herman and granddaughter of Murray & Faye White and Dr. Morris & Joy Herman, recently celebrated her 13th birthday.

Ryan Belz celebrates his third birthday on Jan. 21. Auntie Jodi & Uncle Stuart wish their monkey a very happy one.

Mazel tov to Jerusalem on your bat mitzvah from proud parents Addisu & Genet Tesfay, brothers, Gezachew & Isaac, and proud Aunt Beyene.

Mazel tov on the engagement of Amanda, daughter of Andrew & Sandi Vajda to Adam, son of Claire & Barry Horowitz. Grandparents are Maurice & Katie Freilich, Eva Vajda, Arnold & Goldie Sprecher and Sylvia Horowitz.

Jeff Spodek & Jessica Nadler were married in Montreal on July 1. Proud parents are Ruth & Larry Spodek and Paul & Eva Nadler. Grandparents are Jakob Spodek, Mr. & Mrs. Mirko Kohn and Rose Nadler.

Mazel tov to Charlotte & Jerry Belz who celebrated their 35th anniversary on Jan. 4. Beloved parents and grandparents of the Shulmans, Belzes and Pasternaks.

Happy 50th anniversary on Feb. 16 to Rena & Murray Shapiro. Wishing you many more years of health and happiness together. Love, your family.

Mazel tov to Morry & Shirley Naster on their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 19. Love from your children Paul, Jay & Veronique and grandchildren Benjamin, Emma and Jeremy.

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Health care funding slammed

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Health care funds are not being allocated to those most in need, according to a local administrator in the field.

Mark Adler, president of Ontario Community Support Association and executive director of St. Clair West Services for Seniors, says he deplores the recent funding increase given to physicians, especially since they come at a time when seniors and other vulnerable groups are experiencing cutbacks in both health care services and drug benefits.

Adler recently spoke to the Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order about reforming Ontario's health care system

"The government isn't interested in reforming those areas of health care that need reforming... No government is willing to tackle the basic problem" of the fee-for-service method of paying doctors, a major financial drain on health care resources, Adler said.

Thousands of health care practitioners like nurses and orderlies are getting laid off while doctors are pocketing more money, he said.

He said the quality of hospital care is deteriorating as a result of cost-saving measures such as the replacement of registered nurses by health care staff with less training.

The problem is made worse by a growing trend to contract out nursing services to private agencies who are paying RNs considerably lower wages than the hospitals do, he added.

To reduce expenses, others in the health service sector are also turning to private companies to provide home care services because private sector workers are paid about 30 percent less than their government-funded counterparts, he said.

Adler advocates that physicians become salaried workers. A "truly-socialized" medical system entails that physicians be employees of the state, he said, describing the current system as "capitalistic." The government is "essentially an insurance company" which funds "self-employed practitioners," he said.

The restructuring and closing of hospitals in Metro is necessary because the area is over-serviced, he said. "It is a good policy to re-allocate services where they are needed."

He also suggested deploying resources more effectively: hi-tech medical equipment should be available around the clock and hospitals should designate a number of beds for care at the nursing-home level.

Many of the financial flaws in our health care system are the result of "a distribution problem," Adler said. "We can afford a good system, [but] the federal and provincial government have to understand the prerequisites of the system."

ICRF FUNDRAISER

Israel Cancer Research Fund's Young Associates fun event, "Get Funked at The Docks" raised over $33,000 which goes towards cancer research in Israel. Seen here are volunteers (from let) Ronnie Caplan, co-chair; Jody Brandman, president, Young Associates; Alan and Andrea Obront, co-presidents; and Janice Besner, co-chair.

Menopause program helps women deal with realities of mid-life

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Fifty million North American women are about to turn 50, says Debbie Cowitz, a certified adult educator who has created a series of programs to help women understand and cope with the myths and realities of mid-life.

"Menopause is not a disease," Cowitz says. "It is a transition to freedom, creativity and opportunity."

Trained at OISE and Jewish Family and Child Service, the 63-year-old mother of four and grandmother of five has organized groups in the Toronto area and at the University of Guelph for 10 years. Mid-life is just another change is the lesson she has taught hundreds of women between 40 and 60 who have had to deal with many changes in their lives.

"I teach them that mid-life is a positive, natural and exciting experience," Cowitz says.

Recently, at a workshop at the University of Guelph, she presented a program titled Women, Self-Esteem and Sexuality. After the seminar, a young women was so impressed that she gave her mother a gift of enrolment in a future workshop.

On Jan. 26, Cowitz will present an all-day seminar titled Mid-Life, Menopause and More: A Day of Exploration. It will include strategies for dealing with change, goal setting, looking at what you are saying goodbye to and what you are saying hello to, and exploring the three stages of menopause.

The peri-menopause, or early signs of menopause, which could start as early as your late 30s, may be accompanied by sleep and mood changes. Cessation of menses is explored with its accompanying sense of loss. And post-menopause requires decision making on lifestyle changes and hormonal therapy.

"Sometimes you feel so lousy, you wish you could find out how to feel better. Now I know," wrote one of the participants after a recent session.

Cowitz, who is married to lawyer Ron Cowitz, has appeared on television and recently presented a session at the McGill Club.

She says she knows how to cope with change. "This was a new beginning for me — a new identity, a new way of being — serene, peaceful and passionate about life."

Changing careers is nothing new for Cowitz, who has worked as a nursery school supervisor, a membership coordinator for B'nai Brith Canada, a professional matchmaker and now, as a mid-life educator.

Although she has concentrated her efforts on women, she says that men also face mid-life changes and she is planning to present sessions for men as well.

"My perspective is a non-medicalized model which helps women feel comfortable and empowers them to make informed decisions about the alternatives available to them."

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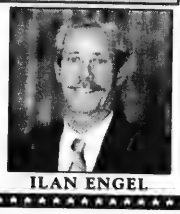

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Sports news

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
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Hockey hopefuls vie for spot on Maccabiah team

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It was kind of late in the season for an evaluation camp, but none of the 48 players on hand seemed to mind. Some had flown in from Vancouver and Winnipeg and there was a core of skaters present from Toronto and Montreal.

Following a warm-up and some preliminary drills, they settled down to an intrasquad scrimmage that saw its share of bone-crunching hits, nifty dekes and top-notch goaltending as the hockey hopefuls showed their wares in a bid to make the team that that will represent Canada at next summer's Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Goalie Jon Grand takes a break between periods of a Maccabiah intra-squad game.

The talent level was high and did not fail to impress head hockey man Charles Henry, governor of the Hull Olympiques major junior team and the man charged with assembling Canada's entry at the Maccabiah.

"I'm pleasantly surprised," Henry said part way through the try-out at a North York rink. "There are a lot of guys here who've played pro or were drafted by the NHL."

Skaters whose credentials had been vetted by the Maccabiah organizers took part in the three-hour workout and scrimmage. Of the 48 prospects who skated in Toronto, about 23 are expected to survive the cut. Thirteen skaters from Montreal who made the trip had already survived one round of cuts in Quebec.

Those hoping to wear the Maple Leaf at the Maccabiah will face one or perhaps two further evaluation camps before the final roster is selected, said Gideon Lee, Maccabiah's hockey man in Ontario and the West.

Those who make the final cut will form a core group that will be supplemented at a later stage by professional, major junior and college players who were not available for the mid-winter tryouts, Henry added.

Judging from a random selection of four players, Henry had reason for some optimism. Montrealer Jon Grand, for one, has plenty of professional experience. The 24-year-old goalie laced 'em up last season for the Empire State Cobras in the Roller Hockey International league. Before that he played for Lakeland Warriors of the Sunshine Hockey League, based in Florida. In 1995, he made a Team Canada squad selected from among players in minor pro leagues, including the International, American, Colonial, East Coast and other leagues for a tournament in Las Vegas.

Grand was enthusiastic about the prospect of playing in Israel: "It would defintely be a good opportunity to see [the country] and an experience I'll never forget. It's a good opportunity through hockey to see Israel."

Earl Morris, 31, a 6-foot, 183-pound centre, hails from Montreal but now lives in Toronto. In his younger days, he played for Longueil and Drummondville in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, one of the three top junior leagues in Canada. As a 15-year-old midget, he skated in the Air Canada Cup for Lac St. Louis Lions.

Morris was high on the prospect of wearing Canada's jersey at the Maccabiah Games. "I like the idea of representing my country," he said. "I represented my province already."

Andy Marcus, 29, lives in Toronto but he played four years of college hockey at the University of Guelph. A 6-foot-1 defenceman, Marcus said he loves to play high level, competitive hockey. "A big part of the drawing card" is combining that with a trip to Israel, he said.

If he makes the final cut, Simon Margolis will no doubt be one of the veterans on the team. At 39, Margolis acknowledged he'd be considered "an oldtimer. This could be a bit of a lark. I wanted to find out if I could make this thing, to see if I could stack up," he said.

A 6-foot centre who weighs 175 pounds, Margolis plays recreational hockey for the Arbutus club in Vancouver, but as a younger man he skated in a more competitive league, playing Junior A for the Vancouver Junior Canucks.

"This is the first time for hockey in the Maccabiah Games," he said. "I thought, what the hell, it'll be a lot of fun. I've known guys who've gone before and they said it's a great expereince."

There was some pretty good talent on the ice and some exciting close-in action when 48 hockey hopefuls tried out for a spot on the team that will represent Canada at next summer's Maccabiah Games in Israel. [Paul Lungen photo]

Another player boasting strong credentials at the tryout camp was Randal Shore of Winnipeg. The speedy centre plays for the Charleswood Hawks, champions of the Manitoba junior hockey league.

Creating a strong attachment to Israel has always been one of the raisons d'être of the Maccabiah Games. And while Canada has won its share of medals, the inclusion of hockey for the first time has opened up the opportunity for some of the Jewish community's best athletes to participate.

In addition to those who tried out in Toronto, who will make up the bulk of the team, spots are being left open on the team for professional players — if they want them. One former pro, Torontonian Brian Wilks, was on hand at the rink helping supervise the practice and coaching one of the two squads in the scrimmage (along with George Benton and Bill Purcell). Wilks, who had stints with the Los Angeles Kings and Cape Breton Oilers, said he'd love to play in the Maccabiah and perhaps serve as a player/coach.

"It's something that would be a great experience. I've never been to Israel. I think it'll be a lot of fun," he said.

With Jacques Demers, Montreal Canadiens' Stanley Cup-winning coach, behind the bench, Henry heading the management team, and Jean Beliveau serving as Maccabiah's honorary chef de mission, several professional players may be enticed to signing on for the Maccabiah Games. That, in turn, could reinforce the image of hockey as the Canadian team's glamor event in Israel.

Canada will face off against the United States, Israel and Russia in the four-team competition, which will be held in July on the new Olympic-size ice surface in Metulla.

CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our third annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings about Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different students in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* on March 20. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a cheque for $25.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be too small. Please paint, draw or color bright, bold, colorful pictures. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.
Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 1997.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication as "winners". The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing and the way it tells an aspect of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, March 7, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The "winning" pictures will be published in *The CJN* of March 20, 1997. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

TAB news

'Open skies' aids Israel's economy

BY HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel's Transportation Ministry has revealed the findings of a study that indicated that the "open skies" policy brought in an additional $54 million for the national economy, even if it meant a loss to El Al.

By open skies, the survey was referring to the change in government policy in November 1994, which opened competition between airlines, allowing charter companies to operate with greater freedom, enabling foreign airlines to carry a greater percentage of the passengers to and from Israel, and easing restrictions on fare slashing.

The study examined the effects of the change in policy on airline fares and tourism to Israel. It showed that El Al's income from ticket sales had dropped by $15 million, as a result in the reduction of income per passenger.

The study also showed that the policy had resulted in an increase by six percent in the number of tourists from western Europe, due to lower fares and better airline service.

The lower fares, Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy said, had made Israel a more attractive tourist destination.

Between 1993 and 1996, the study showed, a record number of countries had signed new aviation agreements with Israel, establishing regular flights between Israel and Jordan, South Korea, India, Thailand, Slovakia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Belarus and China.

Mega mall in the works

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Usually, it doesn't take much prompting to get Montreal developer David Azrieli to sing the praises of his ever-expanding empire of malls in Israel.

In describing his fourth and latest venture, the Shalom Project, however, Azrieli lets the numbers speak for themselves. It will be the largest office and commercial complex (over eight acres) ever built in Israel (and, for that matter, the Middle East), and the third largest office and retail complex in the world.

Its three office towers, ranging from 34 to 42 storeys high and built in the shapes of a circle, square and rectangle, will encompass over 1.3 million square feet in expandable office space by the time the last tower is topped off (expected by the year 2000).

The towers will be connected at the base by a shopping mall, expected to be opened by the spring of 1998, consisting of over 250,000 square metres of retail space, enough to accommodate 160 stores. There will be parking for 3,600 cars.

The total cost? Over $600 million (Cdn), financed by a consortium headed by Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi.

For Azrieli's Canit Hashalom Investments, which over the last decade has erected successful "Canion" malls in Ramat Gan, Beersheva and Jerusalem, the Shalom Project, despite being delayed by a lengthy legal battle between Azrieli and a former partner (which Azrieli eventually won) and a glut of Tel Aviv office space, is now running on schedule and no gamble at all, Azrieli said.

"It is not a concern," he said in an interview with *The CJN*. "I have the best product, a quality location, the best technology, everything."

Azrieli was alluding to what will be the office complex's state-of-the-art systems, ranging from the latest in high-speed elevators to service infrastructures.

These factors, he suggested, are what prompted Bezek, Israel's national telephone (and largest domestic) company, to recently lease 22 storeys of the "triangle" tower.

Another factor was location. The Shalom Project is being built at a hub intersection of Israel's national highway, between Tel Aviv's centre and key travelling routes and urban centres in all directions. There will also be easy pedestrian access via Israel's bus and train systems.

Azrieli said Bezek's decision to go for Canit's bid came as a surprise to industry handicappers, who were betting that Bezek would move from its current location in Ramat Gan's "diamond district" to a new office tower being built by Ashtrom, almost right across the street.

Azrieli also noted specific Canadian elements in the Shalom Project.

Montreal-based Magil Construction Ltd. won the contract to build the complex's concrete frame.

"Anchor" stores at the shopping mall will include Supersol, owned by the Israeli arm of the Bronfman family's Montreal-based Claridge Ltd., and Superpharm, owned by Torontonian Murray Koffler.

The mall selection of retail and commercial outlets, not surprisingly, is expected to draw most of the public attention in Israel's consumption-driven culture.

Besides having such by-now mandatory features as a food court and cinema complex (with nine theatres), Azrieli said a special effort is being made to draw prestigious haute couture outlets, so as to make the mall, in the words of its glossy brochure, the "fashion boulevard" of Israel.

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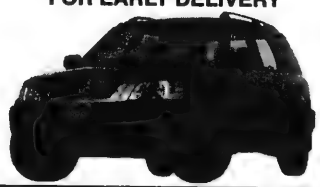
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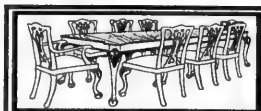
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Authors Read, Musicians Play At Women's Cabaret

Jewish Women's Cabaret

• The Jewish Women's Cabaret, a nightclub-style event slated for Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bloor JCC, features loads of musical, literary and cinematic talent, beginning with hosts **Libby Scheier**, noted critic and writer, and publisher **Margie Wolfe** of Second Story Press.

The evening also features musicians **Batsheva**, who brings a feminist sensibility to her performance of Yiddish songs, and **Marcia Beck & Friends Lisa**, who play original, political hard folk music; stand-up comic **Tova Fox**; authors **Rhea Tregebov**, **Elise Levine** and **Helen Weinzweig**; Academy-award-nominated filmmaker **Joyce Borenstein**; and journalist and editor **Susan G. Cole** of *Now Magazine*.

(**Marc Glassman** of Pages Bookstore and Scheier are chair and vice-chair respectively of a new cultural arts group that plans to bring quality arts events to the Bloor JCC. This cabaret is the group's first offering.)

750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor, Toronto. $4 members, $6 non-members. 416-924-6211.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• Folksinger, pianist and lecturer **Naomi Bell** presents *From Poverty to Protest: Songs Of Work and Struggle*, in association with Friends of Yiddish. "In this fascinating panorama of songs from Yiddish labor history, Naomi Bell takes her audience, through lecture and song, from the mid-19th century to its end, tracing the changing attitudes and growing militancy of oppressed Jewish workers...a musical lecture to stir the soul and nourish the mind."

Earl Bales Community Centre, Jan. 19, 3 p.m. Members free, non-members $3.

• Vancouver soprano **Claire Klein Osipov** returns to her native Toronto to perform *An Evening of Yiddish Song* Jan. 18 at the Yiddishland Cafe, sponsored by the Toronto Workmen's Circle. With piano accompaniment by **Wendy Bross Stuart**. Tickets $10, available in advance by calling 416-498-0106 or 783-5919.

More Musical Events

• Soprano **Valerie Siren** sings with her piano accompanist **Karen Shumka**. Music for a Sunday Afternoon at the Koffler Centre Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York, Jan. 19, 3 p.m. Admission $5. 416-636-1880, ext. 354.

Museum Tours

• The historical and exhibitions committee of the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation has organized a series of behind-the-scenes visits to Jewish museums, archives and collections, with talks by curators and collectors of Judaica. The next visit is to Beth Sholom Synagogue to see a portion of the Rotman collection and to hear a talk by **Morry Rotman**, Judaica collector and antique dealer for some 40 years.

Individual visit is $8, series of six visits $30. Beth Sholom, Jan. 28, 8 p.m. To register, call Carol at 416-789-3213. Registration limited.

In the Spotlight

• **Barry Brown**, 42, Toronto-based freelance journalist and one-time student council president at Forest Hill Junior High, was recently dubbed an "Ed Sullivan for the '90s" by a local newspaper. The reason? Brown, who has always dabbled in show business, was host of a popular Sunday night variety show at the Poor Alex Theatre.

To cope with the show's success, Brown has upped the scale, moved the venue and changed the night. Now called Maximum Cabaret, it's playing weekly at the Bloor Street Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W., east of Bathurst. Brown's talent search is non-ending: singers, musicians, comics, dancers, actors, authors and poets are encouraged to call 416-778-8606. Call the same number for showtimes and other details.

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Poet's songs pluck Jewish heartstrings

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A sold-out cabaret audience of 200 responded warmly to songs of Mordecai Gebirtig, the Polish poet murdered in the Krakow ghetto in 1942, who knew so well how to pluck the heartstrings of Jewish life.

A carpenter who composed songs at his bench for his wife and three daughters, only to have them passed from one person to another because they were so valid, Gebirtig touched every base of the working persons' world.

A mother who frets that her young son, Yankele, still wets his bed at night though no doubt he will grow up to be a learned merchant; a father who wonders if he'll be lonely after marrying off three daughters, a headache though that proves to be; a mother who scolds her son for wanting *kartofl zup mit shvomen* (potato soup with mushrooms) enjoyed by the rich when she has only *knobel* (garlic) soup to offer; a paen to a Jewish pickpocket, Avremel; a Jewish woman who advises her non-Jewish goat shepherd friend to find himself a gentile girl. All these are among Gebirtig's tales.

And they were vividly interpreted to the Yiddishland Cafe audience by folksinger Batsheva, clarinetist Martin Van de Van and accordionist Sasha Luminsky. The concert, produced by Tania Reinhartz, was presented by the Work-

[Cont'd. on page 41]

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by Bill Gladstone

More Fairy Tale Roads

Rising from a knoll deep in a Hessian forest, Schloss Sababurg is ringed by a distinctive old hedge of brambles, through which the Grimm Brothers were forced, nearly two centuries ago, to cut a path in order to reach the castle, which was then a noble ruin. (The castle dates from the 14th, the brambles from the 16th century.)

Collectors of fairy tales and legends, the Grimms were quick to identify the castle with Sleeping Beauty — the fairy-tale princess who, having fallen under an evil spell, sleeps for 100 years in a castle that also sleeps, only to be awakened by a kiss from a prince who has hacked his way through the thickets.

Today, half of Sababurg is still an eerie ruin ringed by brambles, its vast sward a nature park in which bison, elks and wild horses wander. Newly awakened, the castle's other half has been converted into a deluxe honeymoon hotel set in a romantic stone tower. Much in demand, its eight rooms are decorated with antique spinning wheels, tapestries, four-poster beds and plush rugs. (Daytime visitors may have coffee and cake, or a full meal in the hotel restaurant.)

Some 30 kilometres south, the Grimm Brothers Museum in Kassel illustrates the immense influence of Jacob and Wilhelm on world literature; the fairy-tales they gathered from simple peasants have been traced back to Eastern Europe, India, Persia and the Middle East. The Grimms also pioneered an early German dictionary and thus influenced the shape of the language itself.

Towns on Germany's so-called Fairy-Tale Road, such as Gottingen, Alsfeld and Marburg, have enshrined the Grimms in historic sites, statuary and plaques. Along this or any other route in Germany, readers of this column may find many other points of interest, some inevitably pertaining to Judaic themes.

While I strolled past the many half-timbered houses and medieval structures of Gottingen's picturesque downtown, for example, my eye was drawn to an ordinary street-sign: Judengasse (the street of the Jews). Several blocks along this nondescript boulevard, which seems to tell nothing of its past, the town museum beckoned. Three marks gave admittance to a labyrinthine suite of rooms in which the region's history was chronologically laid out from the prehistoric to the post-war periods.

Far from being overlooked, the most barbaric era was covered extensively. Photographs showed mass rallies outside the town hall, bedecked with the odious red-black-and white regalia. Relics of the former Jewish community — religious objects, Torah curtains, items from destroyed synagogues — filled two rooms.

Housed in a former brewery once owned by a Jewish family, the town museum in Alsfeld contains a Torah ark, rescued, the local guide explained, from a torched synagogue the day after Kristallnacht. I offered to translate the Hebrew inscription: *Yodea leifnei mi atah omed*, Know before whom you are standing. Later, seeing my interest, the guide took me to a nearby 19th-century Jewish cemetery, which he and others have labored to restore.

In Marburg, the remains of a medieval synagogue were unearthed three years ago during the routine excavation of a former parking lot. In use from about 1250 to 1450, the building was evidently rectangular with a central sexpartite vault; one of the recovered vaults features a keystone carved with a star of David.

"This," a guide exclaimed proudly, pointing into the rectangular pit, "is by far the most exciting excavation in Marburg."

Remnants of only about a dozen medieval synagogues of that size have been found in Central Europe, according to Ulrich Klein, an official connected with the dig through the Freies Institut fur Bauferschung und Dokumentation.

"The new excavated building in Marburg is a more important example," he said.

It is also an important example of how modern Germany is doing all it can not to forget its history and to recover its Jewish history in particular.

Guidebook recommendation: Despite the newsprint-quality paper and a lack of color pages, *The Rough Guide to Germany* ($23.99) provides about the most extensive maps and information available, including details on accommodation, restaurants, nightlife and special-interest activities.

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Poets' songs aimed at working people

[Cont'd. from page 40]

men's Circle with aid of a grant from the Jewish Federation's continuity committee.

"Gebirtig wrote not for the posh salon but for the workers," said chair Aaron Feiner. "It was his lyric of the burning town (*Es brent*) that became his best known. He wrote it in 1938 after the Polish pogrom of Pshytik and sounded a call of alarm of a coming apocalypse. His concerns were for the destiny of the Jewish workingman and his desire for a better world."

The themes of Gebirtig's work were warmly embraced by Batsheva who had no hesitation in identifying with her opening number March of the Jobless. In Yiddish she sang: "They have no home or bed; still they share with each other whatever they possess. They, the creators of wealth for others, are repaid with hunger, poverty and unemployment."

That Batsheva enjoys her work is much evident in her rousing rendition of the song about the argument between a wife and husband over which side of the family the next baby will be named and its resolution in the hope that twins will be born.

TAB news

Osem food products exported to more than 30 countries

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Customers of Marks & Spencer who purchase the British department store's own crackers, sold under the St. Michael label, are likely unaware that they may be eating a product manufactured by Israeli food giant Osem.

The crackers are even kosher, although some of the company's private label products don't bear a *hechsher*, said Dan Propper, managing director and chief executive officer of the Osem Group of Companies during a fall visit to Toronto. Propper, president of the Manufacturers' Association of Israel, was brought here by State of Israel Bonds to speak on a panel.

Osem, established in Israel in 1942 as a pasta manufacturer, is also known for its biscuits, snacks, dehydrated soup mixes, condiments and frozen products making up some of the more than 1,500 products it manufactures. In most categories it has a market share of over 50 percent, according to a company information sheet.

Propper, a graduate of Technion-Israel Institute of Technology with a degree in chemical engineering and food technology, represents the third generation of his family in the business.

In 1892, Propper's grandfather established a pasta factory in the Czech Republic. His father eventually took over its management, and after immigrating to Palestine in 1938 started his own small pasta manufacturing facility with a partner the following year.

Two more partners joined them and an eventual total of seven families, five of whom remain involved with the company, established Osem in 1942.

In 1990 Canadian-owned Claridge Israel Inc. bought 33 percent of the company's shares.It became a public company in 1992; 25 percent of its shares are traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. This year Claridge sold its shares to Nestle, which now owns 40 percent of the shares, Propper said.

Today almost 3,200 people work in 11 Osem production plants throughout Israel. Sales have quadrupled since the mid-1980s to $355 million (US) in 1995 and were expected to exceed $410 million in 1996. Over the years it has acquired, among others, Froumine (bakery products) and Mitzli (juices and nectars).

Osem products are marketed in over 30 countries. A joint venture in Egypt is being discussed, Propper said. The company already has plants in China and India in cooperation with local business partners.

Canada is considered a major export destination – number 5 or 6, said Propper – but the company's three main export markets are the United States, the United Kingdom and Eastern Europe.

Propper, 55, attributes Osem's success to "a bunch of very good people, a lot of energy, a good company culture and a lot of hard work."

New products, which constitute about 15 percent of the product range, are introduced only after fine tuning and much testing on focus groups. "Therefore our rate of success is quite high," said Propper.

One of Osem's most successful products in Israel has been a vitamin-fortified children' snack called Bamba, said Propper. Also popular in its snack-food line is Bissli, which is available here.

In recent years, Osem has introduced a number of low-fat product lines, although the company shies away from health foods because "they never taste like the original one," Propper said.

Dan Propper, CEO of Osem, holds a box of his company's soup croutons. [Frances Kraft photo]

An oat bran cracker, developed because of oat bran's cholesterol-lowering properties, was off the market within a year. "The craze was over and so was the product," summed up Propper.

"People love to eat, and eating is not just a story of fulfilling hunger [but] part of the enjoyment of life."

Story of anti-Nazi resistance told

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Helmuth James von Moltke, the scion of a distinguished German family, was one of the founders of the Kreisau Circle, a clandestine group dedicated to the overthrow of the Nazi regime.

A conservative aristocrat whose forebears had faithfully served Germany, von Moltke was driven into opposition by the sheer weight of his conscience.

Having decided he could no longer pay obedience to a state dedicated to committing atrocities in Germany's name, von Moltke made the fateful decision to resist Hitler.

Witness Against Hitler, to be screened by Vision TV on Jan. 23 at 8:30 p.m., dramatizes the circumstances which prompted him – and others – to break with Hitler.

The film, a British production starring James Wilby as von Moltke and Helen McRory as his loyal wife Freya, unfolds over an eight year period starting in 1937.

Von Moltke, an international lawyer in the employ of the government, is first seen on his estate, relaxing in the company of his pregnant wife. All seems idyllic.

The scene shifts forward to 1940. Von Moltke is no longer content. He is disgusted by Germany's dictatorial policies and its conduct of the war, particularly its attacks against neutral shipping.

The Kreisau Circle is formed, and at its first meeting, the participants exchange visions of a post-Nazi Germany and decry the pagan racism into which German nationalism has sunk.

Witness Against Hitler than moves toward its climax. It is 1943 and Von Moltke has become totally disenchanted with the Nazis. Yet, naively enough, he is opposed to violence as the means by which to rid Germany of Hitler.

At this juncture, there is a reference to the persecution of Jews, when a Kreisau Circle member states that a democratic Germany will reinstate the rights lost by its Jewish citizens.

When von Moltke next appears, in January 1944, he is in prison, having been arrested on suspicion of being a political dissident. In the wake of the July 1944 plot on Hitler's life, von Moltke is charged with treason and with the crime of having helped Jews escape from Germany.

As he languishes in a dank cell, growing despondent, Freya comes under SS pressure to betray him. She does not. *Witness Against Hitler* ends as he bids farewell to her on the day of his execution.

This is a slow, low-budget film, but well worth a viewer's time. North Americans scarcely know anything about the anti-Nazi resistance movement in Germany, and while *Witness Against Hitler* can hardly be described as definitive, it is a fairly good introduction to the topic.

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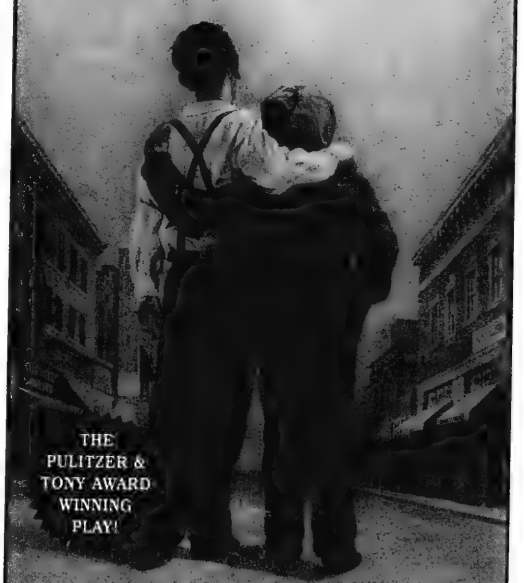

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RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST SHEPPARD $229,000
3 bdrms, 2 bths, 2 kits, fin. bsmnt.

BLUE FOREST AREA
5 bdrms, 4 bths, fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble drive, gar.

BATHURST SHEPPARD
2 bdrm bung, comb liv & din, gar., A-1 buy & location.

SHEPPARD WILMINGTON
Commercially zoned, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, fin. bsmnt, lge lot.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

NESTLED IN THE HEART OF CEDARVALE
19 Chiltern Hill Rd. is just a short walk to synagogues, day schools and great shopping. This bright 4 bdrm., 4 bth., center hall features eat-in kitchen, finished basement, main floor powder room, hardwood floors, new roof, new furnace, professionally re-painted and wonderful landscaping. $429,000.
Call
NIGEL S. WAIN, *Sales Rep.*
RE/MAX UNIQUE INC.
928-6833

At Glencairn & Bathurst
A real beauty! 5-level 3200 sq. ft. custom on private mature lot. All plaster walls, ceramics & hardwood throughout. Move-in condition, lowest level basement apt w/separate entrance. $499,900.
Call **S. Cohen**
Remax Realtron
905 - 764-6000

BATHURST LAWRENCE
Reduced $50,000. Excellent location, 5 bdrm, central air cond., hardwood, fam. size new kit, fin. bsmnt w/sep entr.
MIRA NAHMAN 905-881-5551
TRANSWORLD 100% INC.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bloor/Yorkville, beautiful, lux., 2,200 sq. ft. condo., valet pkg., 24 hr. sec., lge. liv./din. layout, 2 bdrm., 2 1/2 baths, marble fireplaces, wet bar, pool & sauna, close to subway, furn. avail. Private. $525,000. 925-1667.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Above the Cut! - Luxury 3 bdrm. + sol., liv. rm., din. rm., 6 appls.,hrdwd. flrs., eat-in kit., 2 full baths,2 car indoor pkg., etc. $1,450./mo., refs. req.663-6198

Bath./Centre, 2 bdrm., 2 baths, sun room,corner apt., eat-in kit., all appls., amen. & cable, $1,300./mo. 905-889-8750.

Bath./Finch, Torresdale, 2 bdrm., 2 baths, luxury condo., spectacular park view, avail. Jan. 1st, $1,300./mo. Call (416) 636-9355.

Bath./Lawr., lux. lge. 2 bdrm. + fam. rm., 2 baths, sol., new renov., pkg., secur., rec., immed., $1,525./mo. 787-6886.

Bath./Neptune,vacant,elegant 3 bdrm, 2 bath, reno'd, close to TTC, $1200./mo. 783-6796.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Prof. couple, very reliable with quiet child in school, need a 2 bdrm., furn. + equip., Feb.15-May 1, while new house is being renov. N/smokers, no pets, refs. avail. Susan, 537-1741evgs. or 504-5400 days.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Yonge/Clark, looking for a roommate to share Th'house, $365+util,nr.TTC.905-707-5130

Looking for roommate to share duplex, male or female, Yonge/Elgin, n/smkr.,707-7980.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student, n/smokers. 789-5980.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The **SKYMARK** *Specialist*

I WISH ALL MY CLIENTS AND FRIENDS A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Selection of 1 bdrm. + sun den to a 2 bdrm. + terrace (approx. 2,400 sq. ft.)

SANTEE LEUNG, FRI
FELLOW REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Real Estate Advice costs nothing until a sale is made; Then it costs no more for an Expert than a novice.

Santee Realty Inc.
441-2003

PROMENADE TOWERS
Luxury 2 bdrm. + sol + balc, ground fl. Ideal for Shomer Shabat
JASON ATKINS
905 889-8008
SUTTON GROUP
Towne Centre Realty Inc.

BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY
Lovely 2 bdrm + den, Fab. layout - approx 1400', 2 prk. & 5 appls.
PAULINE GOLD - 905-889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

Condo. at Yonge/Finch (Skyview), 1 bdrm. & solarium, 1 1/2 baths, 1141 sq. ft., new renov., pkg. 416-250-0913.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST
Bathurst & Steeles

RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS
REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS

Call for appointment
445-8811

WYCLIFFE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIMITED

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
Highrise.
Only 6 apts on each floor.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Shepp.,1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. March 1st, 635-5031.

Lawr./Allen, 1 bdrm. bsmnt., steps to subway & shops, quick access to 401,close to shul, pkg.,lndry.,$600.+util.,780-0174

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE SIMCOE BIG POINT AREA
OPEN HOUSE
SUN. JAN. 19 – 1 - 3 P.M.
Come feast your eyes. 125 ft. of unobstructed view. 3000 sq. ft. 2 storey home. *(Conc. 13 Innisfil to lake to signs).*
Liz Worrall, *Assoc. Broker*
Royal LePage R.E.
Toll Free 1 800 367-2037

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

BAL HARBOUR
Florida - Fabulous furnished 1 bedroom, 1½ baths, eat-in kit. Minimum 4 Months.
Call
Lillian Cooper
(416) 418-0199 Immediately.

Century Village, Pembroke Pines, furn. condo.,2 bdrms., 2 baths, full rec. facil., secur., Avail. immed. for mthly. or bal. of season with options for future yrs. 905-881-9174.

Hallandale, 1 bdrm. conv., 1 1/2 baths, Feb.& Mar. 783-9862

Delray Villas, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, close to shul. Season. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Condo. for Rent, Delray Beach, Fla., immediate occupancy. Call 416-486-4425.

Hollywood, oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, avail. Mar. & April, $2,000./mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

REAL ESTATE Section

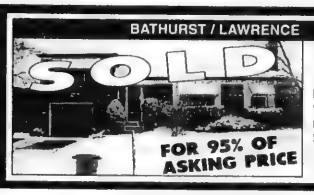
5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

WE HAVE MORE ANXIOUS BUYERS WHO WANT TO LOCATE IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING YOUR PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL US!

BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Spacious 3 bedroom bungalow 55 foot frontage, hardwood floors, SOLD basement, asking $259,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

MIAMI BEACH — GRAND OPENING!
$116,900 U.S. PUTS A FABULOUS ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD AND THE SEA AT YOUR FEET

Luxury 1 + 2 bdrms. available at pre-construction prices, starting at $116,900 U.S. Fabulous central location. For more information call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON RENTAL / REDUCED
Spacious 4 bdrm. sidesplit, fam. room, in-law suite, eat-in kit., fab. loc., $1,800/month.. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

ATTENTION BUILDERS: BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Two lots side by side, each 32.5 x 132 ft., only $179,000 each! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — MUST SEE!
Spacious custom exec. home! 4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. rm., library, dream kit., immaculate, 9 ft. ceilings, loaded with upgrades, a MUST SEE at only $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN

A pleasure to show! 2 yrs. new, custom design, 3/4" oak hardwood floors on main floor and 2nd level, approx. 3,300 sq. ft., + fin. bsmt., loaded with upgrades, only $529,000. ACT NOW!. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES CONDO – REDUCED
Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $199,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON — RENTAL
Spacious 3 bdrm. apartment, w/o to balcony, only $1000 / month. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, asking $389,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK

Detached 3 bdrm., 3 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, fabulous location close to park, quiet cul-de-sac. ACT NOW! Only $229,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Custom built exe. home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge fam. room w/ fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded w/ upgrades, only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – PRESTIGE PLUS!

Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

200 OFFICE SPACE

Sheppard & Wilmington, Ground Floor, 2000 sq. ft., suitable for office, bonus 2000 sq. ft. basement storage, steel construction. $1,300./mo., own hydro. Call 636-2386.

205 INDUSTRIAL/ COMMERCIAL SPACE

Excellent Business Opportunity
Commercial Building for Sale
Corner Location
Under Power of Sale
Building previously used as a cleaning business for over 50 yrs., current zoning is for multiple residential; commercial zoning possible for mini-mall, several stores and/or offices. Ample pkg. with free city pkg. adjoining. Bldg. is 4400' sq. ft., location is Cambridge, 1 hr. west of T.O. Asking price: $130,000. For further info. call 416-531-7749.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cook required. Jewish day care. Hours: 7:30 am - 1:30 pm. Monday - Friday. Call 905-764-6663.

Part-time, exper., telesales rep. req'd., (Bus. to Bus.). Computer literate, 416-782-6012, voice mail 12.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Exper. well-presented sales rep. req'd. to market gift baskets to corporate companies. Own car & English speaking a must. Fax resumé to: 905-707-7853.

Ghostwriter wanted for a biography. 633-6780.

247 DAY CARE

Jewish home day care, exper. E.C.E. teacher plus assistant, nutritional kosher meals, Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

European cleaning lady, exper., reliable. 698-6905.

Exper. lady seeks position taking care of elderly, also housekeeping. Refs. 248-5738.

Exper. Polish lady can clean your house or apt., $10./hr., Sat., Sun. or aftns. 742-5736.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS **NEED A NANNY?**
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Mediwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish cleaning lady seeks job to clean houses. I have a car. 398-6454.

Top quality service: companion, housekeeping, house sitting. Excell. refs. 778-7929.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exper. Babysitter/housekeeper, for wonderful family (infant & 2 school-age children), must be caring, loving, responsible & reliable, live-out, n/smoker, refs. req'd. Immed., Bath./Clark area. 905-881-7725.

Nanny/Housekeeper share req'd. for 2+ days, Bath./Lawr. area, please contact Yona at 416-256-0176.

Housekeeper/Nanny/Driver to supervise 3 bright kids' homework, piano & Hebrew. Cooking & errands, live-in, excell. English, legal, good driving record, exper., refs. req'd. Reform household, exceptional benefits for exceptional person, Bath./Steeles, 905-881-0368.

258 HEALTHCARE

DENTISTS
Exceptional Opportunity
Bathurst/North
Located in a high traffic health care facility. Turn-key situation can include practice management & marketing. For more information, please call
(416) 590-1333

Grad Nurse seeks position with elderly or handicapped in their home, live-out. 754-2808.

Exper. lady seeks job taking care of elderly, disabled, chronically ill. Day or weekends, also nights. Refs. avail. 421-9594.

Exper. Nurses Aide seeks position taking care of elderly, live-out, avail. 7 days/wk., refs., housekeeping also. 539-9410.

Kind caregiver for elderly to take to appts., shopping, Forest Hill. Refs. avail. 416-423-4656.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Connections. Make the *right* **connection** this year! Photos. 905-889-3900.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1230** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***SOULMATES** Do you sometimes feel Toronto's too small? Do you see the same people everywhere you go? Now you can meet fabulous, interesting Jewish people from all over Canada, the U.S & Europe by joining **SOULMATES!** What's wrong with a Dr. from NY? Evelyn, 905-709-3868.

Don't read this unless you want **personal,dedicated** service, great **selection. Bringing People Together.** 905-731-5204.

Start the New Year right at **A NEW CHANCE** Jewish Dating Service. **Photos/Bios.** Call (416) 398-3991 Now!!!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

59 yr. old widow (in my head I feel around 35!), ready to put my life together again. I work & I'm independent, I enjoy theatre, movies, dancing, travel, dining out on special occasions, dining in by candlelight. I don't smoke or drink, I'm romantic, compassionate & a good listener. I'd like to share my energies & zest for life with a "gentle man" who has the same values. Please reply with a ph# and let's talk. CJN Box 6872.

Charismatic, creative girl of 55, longs to communicate with intelligent said business man, with humour & passion for quality relationship. Call 484-1766.

SJM, English/Cdn., 35 yrs., 5'8", take charge kind of guy, self-employed bus. man, friendly, outgoing, handsome, seeking 30-35 yrs., fun loving, marriage minded, good-natured pretty girl to light up my life! Call 416-636-0828.

THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK!!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Gentleman looking for lady for long-lasting relationship. Serious callers only. 488-4782.

Tall, handsome prof. male, 46, seeks marriage-minded family-oriented female, 30-39. Attractive, down-to-earth, intellectual women please reply to CJN Box 6871.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

330 OBITUARIES

ROCHWERG, Nathan David - on December 27, 1996, late of 22 Artstan Dr.

DAVIS, Sophie - on December 28, 1996, late of Baycrest Home For The Aged.

BETRAM, Albert - on December 29, 1996.

MANILLA, Frances - on December 29, 1996.

KOVSMAN, Alexandre - on December 30, 1996, late of 120 Sheppard Ave. E., #105.

KIDECKEL, (Beder) Kate - on December 31, 1996.

LEVE Sarah - on December 31, 1996, late of 330 Spadina Rd.

LEE, Rohama - on December 31, 1996.

LEVINE, David - on December 31, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.

GROSZ, Franz - on January 1, 1997, late of 141 Shelborne Ave.

KHALIMSKI, Chana - on January 1, 1997, late of 4455 Bathurst St.

SOBEL, Morris - on January 1, 1997, late of 12 Unicorn Ave.

WALLACE, Lena Rebecca - on January 1, 1997.

JACOBS, Samuel - on January 2, 1997.

KUCHINSKY, Moe - on January 2, 1997, late of 35 Canyon Ave.

NEMIROVSKY, Anna - on January 2, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

FRANKO, Tsilya - on January 3, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St..

GRUNFELD, Reneé - on January 3, 1997, late of 3636 Bathurst St.

JAMES, Helen - on January 3, 1997.

VOLPE, Ruth Vera - on January 3, 1997, late of 3 Daleberry Pl.

FRIEDBERG, Harry - on January 4, 1997, late of 7471 Yonge St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

Widower, seventy-ish, prof., fit & active, financially independent, traditional, wishes to meet widow with similar attributes. CJN Box 6869.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRUISE, Buenos Aires to Rio (Carnival Time) Jan. 28 - Feb. 11/97, Special Group rate. Call Ruth, 416-739-1868.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bernie & Mary-Fran Zeldman and **Ted & Joli Chester** are thrilled to announce the birth of **Shifra Menucha,** to **Michael & Melanie Zeldman,** in Jerusalem on Jan. 1, 1997.A sister for Aviva Simcha and Chana Leah.

Sam & Evie Zeifman are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Lisa,** to **Daniel,** son of **Jack & Malka Balaban,** of Calgary. Proud grandparents are Lily Zeifman, Sarah Wingold, Henry & Fanny Balaban & Zalman & Esther Deutsh.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Full length Mink coat with fur hat, size 12-14, $750.00.
Rich dark brown sheared **fur jacket,** made in Paris, size 10-12, $495.00.
Private. 416-636-0818.

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE
PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

FESTIVAL OF DOLLS

Israeli singer David Broza is surrounded by some of the children who came to the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel for the Festival of Dolls. The dolls, donated by Sheraton hotels worldwide, were auctioned to raise money for UNESCO and WIZO. Broza, who was recently appointed ambassador for the Israeli committee of UNICEF, composed a song *Together* especially for the organization. [ISRANET photo]

338 SHIVA CATERING

milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
789-7651
3457 BATHURST ST.

330 OBITUARIES

SHERMAN, Louis - on December 26, 1996, late of 14 William Morgan.

GELMAN, Morris - on December 27, 1996, late of 3905 Bathurst St., #210.

KAY, Samuel - on December 27, 1996, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.

KASNER, Charles - on December 28, 1996, late of 51 Pinnacle Rd.

ROSSMAN, Hy - on December 28, 1996, late of 115 Antibes Dr., #803.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

LUNTZ, Henry - on December 29, 1996, late of 57 Woodland Ave.

RAKOWSKY, Stanley - on December 29, 1996, late of 625 Roselawn Ave., #206.

LERMAN, Irving - on December 30, 1996, late of 150 Heath St. W., #1002.

MORGENSTERN, Bella - on December 30, 1996, late of 3705 Bathurst St.

NEWMAN, David - on December 30, 1996, late of 173 Strathearn Rd.

ARSHOFF, Bernard - on January 2, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W., #514.

ROZENBLAT, Sylvia Airst - on January 2, 1997, late of 12 Windley Ave.

SWARTZ Rose - on January 2, 1997, late of 490 Coldstream Ave.

KUTNER, Nat - on December 31, 1996, late of 100 Canyon Ave., #504.

STEINBERG, Albert - on December 31, 1996, late of 375 St. George.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

YUTZ'S
CATERING & SERVICE
• DAIRY PLATTERS
• DELI PLATTERS
• TRADITIONAL DINNERS
• LIGHT LUNCHES
CALL US FOR YOUR
FUNERAL, SHIVA or UNVEILING NEEDS
We deliver
(416) 487-4506
Same day service - open7 days
346 Eglinton Ave. W. (at Avenue Rd.)

THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS
CANNOT ACT AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE ADVERTISER AND ITS CUSTOMERS AND PUBLICATION BY US SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE OFFERED.

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call 391-1836
for information on rates

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About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I enjoy working with children and would love to get a job as a camp counsellor. Should I start calling camps or is there an easier way?

Dear Reader,

You can get on the phone and speak to camp offices or if you are 17 years old, or older, you can contact your provincial camping association and see what they can do to help you out. The Ontario Camping Association, has a staff referral service that makes job hunting easier.

For a fee of $18, your name, some of your experience and/or qualifications and the type of position you are looking for is sent to Ontario Camping Association accredited member camps who are looking for staff. Your name is sent on the first business day of each month, from January to June, along with the names of all the other applicants who have registered for this service.

If a camp director wants to see your resume, or meet you, they contact you directly. Jobs are available in day camps and residential camps in all areas including counselling, administration and senior staff. The Ontario Camping Association can be reached at (416) 781-0525.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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VEAL ROAST ORIENTAL

3 lbs. lean veal shoulder (flat), boneless
2/3 cup soy sauce
2/3 cup plum jam
2/3 cup honey
1 1/2 tsp. fresh ginger, minced
2 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 cup white wine

Pierce both sides of roast with a fork and place in a large plastic bag. Thoroughly combine soy sauce, jam, honey, ginger and garlic. Pour into bag over roast. Press out air and tie bag securely. Turn bag several times to coat meat well. Refrigerate for at least 8 hours, turning bag occasionally.

Preheat oven 325°F. Remove meat from marinade, reserving liquid. Roll and, using string, tie meat tightly. Place on a rack which has been placed in a shallow pan of water. Brush generously with marinade. Bake for 2 hrs. or until meat thermometer registers 170°F.

Brush several times with marinade while baking. (Check to make sure there is always water in pan.) Cover loosely with foil for last 30 minutes or if top is browning too quickly. Combine 3/4 cup remaining marinade with wine, heat until boiling and simmer 1 min. Spoon sauce over roast or serve on side. Yield: 6-8 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Taking stock of Operation Grapes of Wrath

By GERALD M. STEINBERG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The number of Hezbollah attacks and incidents of IDF retaliation in south Lebanon is increasing again and the impact of last year's Operation Grapes of Wrath is still being hotly debated.

Opinion

Some military officials and analysts argue that the massive IDF effort that followed the attacks on Israeli civilians and soldiers strengthened Hezbollah. Others point to the Israeli campaign, including the attacks in Beirut, as an effective deterrent against another major round of conflict.

In considering options for a response to the current situation, the case for both these views should be studied.

Those who argue that Shimon Peres' pre-election military campaign did more damage than good point to the increased strength of Hezbollah and its allies in south Lebanon.

The Iranian-supported and trained fundamentalists reportedly now control at least 90 percent of south Lebanon, leaving only a very small wedge of villages aligned with Israel. Hundreds of local residents provide the information used in preparing attacks.

This wider support network has enabled Hezbollah to increase its intelligence capabilities regarding the movements and operations of IDF forces in the region. The terrorists are also able to move more freely, mounting effective attacks and causing greater Israeli losses.

Iranian deliveries of weapons to Hezbollah forces in Lebanon have also increased, with reports of large-scale shipments of anti-tank missiles and longer-range Katyushas via Damascus and Cyprus.

The Iranian foreign minister's visit to Damascus a few weeks ago signified the increasing cooperation between the fundamentalist regime in Tehran and that of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.

These deliveries have enabled Hezbollah to replenish its stockpiles and build new underground storage sites, allowing it to withstand Israeli air attacks. In addition, newer and more powerful anti-tank weapons and rocket launchers have enhanced Hezbollah's military options.

Yet these developments provide an incomplete and potentially misleading picture.

Operation Grapes of Wrath did hurt Hezbollah significantly, exposing its vulnerabilities.

The operation ended suddenly after the IDF mistakenly shelled a UN camp where hundreds of civilians had sought refuge. Hezbollah terrorists had used the outskirts of the camp to fire rockets into Israel, drawing a massive artillery response. This tragedy and Peres' planned trip to Washington to bolster his election campaign ended the IDF attacks prematurely.

At the time, the IDF succeeded in finding and destroying a number of terrorist ammunition storage sites and brought activity in Hezbollah strongholds to a halt. There is good reason to conclude that in another round, without the political limits dictated by elections, the Netanyahu government would maintain pressure longer and pursue the Hezbollah forces with even greater intensity.

In Grapes of Wrath, the politicians and investors in Beirut were reminded of the cost of allowing fundamentalist terrorists to operate freely. The deep bombing raids on Beirut, including the attack on power stations after a transformer in Kiryat Shmona was hit by Hezbollah rockets, constituted a considerable setback to the efforts to rebuild Lebanon and Beirut, particularly after the long civil war.

The tens of billions of dollars that have been invested in this reconstruction effort by Lebanon's leading families, including the prime minister's, were put at risk. Beirut was cut off from south Lebanon and hundreds of thousands of refugees moved into the capital.

Since then, there have been signs of tension in Beirut, including protests against the Syrian occupation and even bombings against Syrian targets.

Another, more extensive round of fighting in Lebanon would be very costly, frightening off investors and stopping the reconstruction program.

The Lebanese leadership is advertising Lebanon as "open for business again," but further IDF raids would have a more powerful impact than any PR would. Investors would lose hundreds of millions of dollars. Lebanon's efforts to get taken off the U.S. government's list of dangerous locations would be halted.

Hundreds of thousands of Syrian workers employed in reconstruction projects would suddenly be out of work, becoming a liability for the government in Damascus. The level of tension between Beirut and Damascus would climb.

Both the Lebanese and Syrian leaderships have a strong interest in preventing renewed fighting from reaching the level of last year's campaign. They know that if the IDF is provoked, the response will last longer and be more intensive than Grapes of Wrath. If fighting begins, escalation could not be ruled out. Ultimately, instability and conflict could also weaken Syria's control of Lebanon, reviving the local opposition to the Syrian occupation.

Hezbollah may have increased its tactical and operational capabilities in south Lebanon; but in a wider sense, both politically and militarily, it is more vulnerable than last year.

The risks of escalation are high. If the attacks continue, Syria, Iran, and Hezbollah could come under pressure from both outside and inside Lebanon to reach an agreement with Israel, one that would disarm the terrorists and allow the IDF finally to withdraw.

Gerald Steinberg is a senior associate at Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies.

Dry Bones

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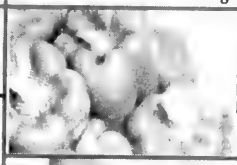

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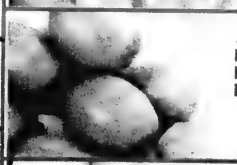

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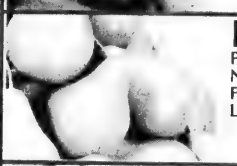

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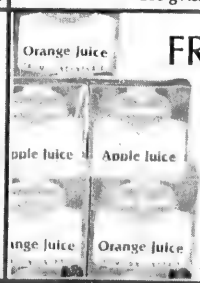

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This Week
Greater Toronto Area

Ontario budget cutbacks raise palliative care costs. *Page 3*

Deportation cases against alleged war criminals allowed to resume. *Page 5*

Coast to Coast

Jerusalem Post will return to the mainstream, Norman Spector says. *Page 28*

Health

New book helps young brain tumor patients and parents discuss concerns. *Page 33*

Arts

York University student, Limore Twena, 19, presents exhibition of oils on canvas Life Through Colour. *Page 34*

Education

Heschel School enrolment expected to double next year. *Page B6*

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Shevat 16, 5757
Havdalah: 6:02

Arafat enters Hebron

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

HEBRON — In a conciliatory speech to the people of Hebron, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat last Sunday told a crowd of some 50,000 that all the Israeli people had made peace with the Palestinians and the Palestinians seek no confrontation with the town's Jews.

He made no allusion to the fact that 20 percent of Hebron is still under IDF control. "Hebron," he said three times, "is liberated."

Arafat flew into Hebron by helicopter. Fears that only a small crowd would greet him were soon dispelled, as people poured out of the grounds of the former Israeli military headquarters, where he spoke from the balcony.

"We have made a peace agreement with all the Israeli people – Likud, Labor, Meretz, Shas, Kahalani," Arafat said. "There were 87 votes in the Knesset for peace, 87, 87, and that is something new in the Middle East...Therefore I say that all forces of peace in Israel have voted for this decision and together we will make a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East."

Arafat went on to say that, "I tell the settlers in Hebron we do not want confrontation."

Arafat's words contrasted with those of West Bank Preventive Security Chief Col. Jibril Rajoub. Rajoub told a crowd of 3,000 that the settlers have no place in Hebron and are "a stone on our chest."

A statement by senior Israeli security officials condemned Rajoub's words as "grave incitement and a blatant violation of the spirit of the agreement, which Rajoub took part in reaching."

Referring to Jerusalem, Arafat spoke guardedly. Hebronites, he said, had protected the Arabness of Jerusalem, referring to the large number of Jerusalemites of Hebron origin.

"A promise is a promise, an oath is an oath unto Jerusalem," he added, and later he spoke of his hope to pray both in Hebron's Ibrahimiye Mosque (the Machpela Cave) and Jerusalem's Al-Aksa Mosque.

"Hebron is the beginning of the process which will bring us areas B and C and will lead to an independent Palestinian state," he said, but did not specifically mention the area of the state nor did he mention Jerusalem as its capital.

In previous speeches marking the handover of Palestinian towns to his control, Arafat always strongly emphasized the matter of Jerusalem, usually repeating over and over that it is the capital of Palestine.

Arafat repeatedly referred to a comprehensive peace that must include Syria.

"If Israel fulfils all its obligations, we shall fulfil ours," Arafat said, repeating almost word for word Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's own demands.

Arafat gave the impression of being satisfied with the accord struck with Netanyahu. "In the agreement for the first time there is a letter of assurance from the United States," he said.

In a spot interview with CNN, he said of Netanyahu, "Now we can say we are friends and we are

Continued on page 21

FOR LIFE AND FOR MEMORY
These young children recently planted trees on a hillside near Beit El in memory of Ita and Ephraim Tzur who were killed last month by terrorists. On Tu b'Shvat, which we celebrate today, planting trees is poignant and appropriate. *[Reuters/RNS]*

Jewish groups may face overhaul

By DAVID LAZARUS
and RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporters

TORONTO — As *The CJN* went to press Monday, the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) Canada was wrapping up a two-day meeting here to discuss, among other things, the very future of national Jewish advocacy agencies.

CJF Canada officials provided no details of the closed-door sessions. UJA-funded national organizations were represented, including Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS).

The CJF, Canadian Jewish federations' umbrella body and CJC's main funder, set off shock waves recently when a memo it sent to CJC leaders contained several controversial proposals. They included moving CJC's national office to Ottawa and absorbing CJC regional offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver into those cities' local federations.

The proposals were later downplayed by CJF Canada president Richard Vineberg, who said they were merely intended to aid CJC in its "strategic planning process" and were nothing more than starting points for discussions (*CJN*, Jan. 2).

Vineberg told *The CJN* last Friday the meeting would focus on "strategic planning issues."

"Any major change has to be seriously discussed. [Because it is controversial] doesn't mean you can't talk about it."

In anticipation of the CJF meeting, a sense of urgency was close to palpable at last week's CJC Quebec region's executive meeting in Montreal, where members unanimously vowed to fight the possibility of a move of CJC's national

Continued on page 30

INSIDE

The CJN introduces Martin Himel, our new monthly columnist from Israel. Himel is the Middle East correspondent for Global Television. Please see page 10.

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Bibi: No negotiations over Golan — please see page 29

The News in Brief

World Jewry 1996

95 percent of the world's Jews live in the following 13 countries, listed in order of population: (UIA)

United States	5,800,000
Israel	4,600,000
France	600,000
Russia	550,000
Ukraine	400,000
Canada	360,000
United Kingdom	300,000
Argentina	250,000
Brazil	130,000
South Africa	106,000
Australia	100,000
Hungary	80,000
Belarus	60,000

CANADA

Hebron Agreement

OTTAWA — Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, expressed support for the agreement reached between Israel and the Palestinian Authority on Hebron, saying that it "constituted a fair solution to a very complex situation" and that it should contribute to the heightened sense of trust essential in the peace process.

ISRAEL

Mideast Earthquake

JERUSALEM — A strong earthquake whose epicentre was near Cyprus was felt last week along the coast of Israel from Nahariya in the north to Ashkelon in the south.

No damages or injuries were reported from last Monday's quake, which measured 6.2 on the Richter scale.

Tremors were also felt in Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan.

Gay Partner Benefits

JERUSALEM – A Tel Aviv court has ordered the Israel Defence Force to grant the homosexual partner of a deceased IDF career officer all the benefits awarded surviving spouses.

In its precedent-setting ruling, which forces the IDF to recognize gay unions, the court's appeals committee accepted the appeal of Tel Aviv resident Adir Steiner.

Steiner had appealed to the committee on the grounds that he was publicly known as the companion of Col. Doron Maisel, an officer in the medical corps who died of cancer in 1991.

WORLD

Manual on Gays

NEW YORK — The Union of American Hebrew Congregations has published the first manual for synagogues on gay and lesbian inclusion.

The manual is a "how-to guide with step-by-step instructions on creating programs and educating lay leaders and congregants," in order to better include gay and lesbian congregants and their families in synagogue life.

Author Honored

BONN — The Bonn-based *Journal for German and International Politics* has decided to award author Daniel Goldhagen its annual Democracy Prize for his book, *Hitler's Willing Executioners*.

In August, the book sold out its first German edition of 40,000 copies in less than a week.

For many Jews in Germany, the book's value lies in that it tells non-Jewish Germans that the Holocaust did not begin in the gas chambers and was not perpetrated solely by SS officials in the death camps.

Mural Competition

LOS ANGELES – The Workman's Circle/Arbeter Ring has launched a competition for a new exterior mural design for its Southern California headquarters. The mural will address the history and ideals of the organization. For more information call 310-552-2007.

Holocaust Denied

PARIS — A French high school teacher has been suspended for engaging in Holocaust denial.

Vincent Reynouard, 27, who teaches math in the Normandy town of Honfleur, was found to be using the school computer to file documents denying the Holocaust, and the fax machine to send the writings to his followers. He was also found giving his students statistical equations regarding the rate of mortality in Nazi concentration camps.

Reynouard denies any wrongdoing and claims that he is the victim of a witch hunt.

Ginsberg Dies at 79

CLEVELAND — Edward Ginsberg, a lawyer and co-founder of the *Cleveland Jewish News*, died recently. He was 79.

A key figure behind world cooperation on fundraising in Israel and the first national chair of the United Jewish Appeal, he built a home for himself and family in Israel, where he lived part of the year. He was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and raised in Cleveland.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Jan. 21, 1972

BEGIN ENCOUNTERS HOSTILITY IN BRITAIN

A couple of hours after Menachem Begin, Israel's leader of the right-wing Gahal party, flew into London, the management of the Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington announced they had cancelled the dinner at which 450 guests were expected; then the Central Hall, where Begin was to have addressed a mass rally, followed suit.

They reacted after receiving anonymous calls threatening to kill Begin and blow up the hotel. After several synagogues refused to rent their halls for a meeting, Begin did not curtail his visit and a last minute dinner was organized at a kosher restaurant where left-wing Zionists held placards reading: "Begin, enemy of Zion" and "Begin go home!"

QUOTA RULING UPSET BY ELECTION

The elected Jewish representative on the Metropolitan Montreal School Board collided head-on with a government ruling calling for a quota on the number of Jews allowed to sit on the English-speaking school board. Mrs. Sam Kaplan's election broke a 1965 government law permitting only five Jews to sit on the 25-man board. As the sixth Jew, she poses a problem for Congress and the School Board.

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Ontario raises palliative care costs

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario government's budget cutbacks to health care have struck one of the most vulnerable groups of patients — those waiting to be transferred from acute care hospitals to chronic or long-term care institutions or to palliative care.

Since 1979, institutions have been allowed to charge people in that situation $26 per day, but doctors were able to have that cost waived for 60 days.

New rules beginning Jan. 1, how-ever, raised the rates over 54 percent to $40.29 per day, or $1,225.62 monthly, and doctors could no longer waive the charge.

Most vulnerable patients hit

Ministry of Health information officer Lily Weedon told *The CJN* that this co-payment to OHIP rates is in response to hospital complaints that expensive acute care beds were being occupied by people who needed a lower level of care.

"Some patients, for instance, refused to go to the first place they were offered, but stayed in the hospital until they could get in where they wanted to go."

Mount Sinai Hospital, which has decided to delay implementation of the new charges pending a review of the situation, said that the hospital probably has about 20 people waiting for long-term care at any one time.

"They are staying longer than they used to," a hospital spokesperson said, "because of the cutbacks to chronic care. Of course," she added wryly, "they are waiting longer for everything else too."

To this statement Weedon replied that chronic care funding has been reduced at a far lower rate than that at acute care hospitals, two to four percent, as compared to cuts as high as 15 percent.

"The whole hospital sector has been cut by $1.3 billion over three years — this is year two."

Besides, she said, the money is not going to the ministry or the government, but is staying with the hospitals. "The hospitals don't have to charge the co-payment," she said.

Dr. Larry Librach, director of Mt. Sinai's palliative care unit, slammed the new charges for "penalizing people who are old and sick and can't go home, and those with the least ability to pay.

"It is adding another burden to those who are sick."

Moishe Greengarten, vice-president of public and community affairs for Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, which is charging the co-payment, is concerned that there is no differentiation in funding levels between

[Cont'd. on page 22]

FACES

York University student Limore Twena, 19, with her work, Faces, almost like masks, each with headgear exemplifying identity, king, jester, baker, gypsy. See story page 35.

Jewish groups: wait and see

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) and the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care are taking a wait-and-see approach to the Ontario government's massive reforms of social and community health services.

For JF&CS director Gordon Wolfe, the best part of the new plan, announced last week by community and social services minister Janet Ecker, is that from now on, the province will assume full funding of all Children's Aid Societies.

The funding formula used to be 80 percent from the province and 20 percent from the municipality.

Wolfe said he's "delighted" at the new formula because it "legitimizes" funding of the JF&CS office in Thornhill. Under the old formula, there was uncase over the funding of operations in York Region because some money came from Metro, he said.

[Cont'd. on page 22]

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Greater Toronto Area

Obligation to help is uncompromising

A sword of snow and ice cut a frigid swath across the country for most of last week. The wind chilled temperatures well below the point of freezing. The cold was painful and dangerous. Skin froze after merely a few seconds of exposure. Lungs labored in the exchange of air and frozen moisture.

Trees were brittle. Fierce winds covered every surface with sheets of patterned frost.

It was winter in the deepest sense of the word, the kind one feels in the bones, an assault of nature's inhumane and mercilessly testing elements.

It was winter that Canadians know and understand, and have always conquered. It was winter that Canadians describe in poetry, sing in song and paint on canvas. In doing so, we have always found our strength and our generosity, and forged aspects of our national character.

But it was also winter in which imagining a homeless person walking the streets day or night, was to imagine a homeless person facing certain death.

It was winter, therefore, which forced us to reflect upon our individual responsibilities to the most vulnerable and the most needy among us.

In this reflection, Judaism offers a way to see.

Our sages were determined to inculcate the central teaching that true service to God requires service to one's fellow man.

The most effective, most long-lasting and most dignified method of serving man is through the structure of community. It stands to reason, therefore, we must all actively participate in the life of the community. It is not surprising to read then, in the sayings of the fathers, "We must not separate from the community."

Among the very first utterances in the order of daily morning prayers is a rather prosaic "prescription" for personal interaction, one human to another, which was intended to enhance the quality of collective life: for example, honoring one's parents, education, hospitality to guests, visiting the sick, providing for a bride, accompanying the dead to their final rest, prayer and helping to restore peaceful relations between feuding individuals.

Our sages always made certain to translate the teachings of the Torah and the ideals of the prophets into practical, day to day institutions of communal life.

The late, philosopher/rabbinic scholar Morris Adler described the organization of those institutions thus: "In Rabbinic times a hostel was attached to each synagogue, so that no wayfarer need remain without shelter. From the synagogue, honored and trusted collectors went forth weekly to solicit contributions for the support of the needy.

"The poor of each town would receive aid every Friday, sufficient for a full week for themselves and their families. Clothing was distributed to the needy. Orphans were supported out of community funds.

"The community provided a dowry for poor or fatherless maidens. Free burial for the penniless was part of each community's responsibility.

"The obligation to participate in the various endeavors for the needy rested, say the Rabbis, even upon an individual who was himself the recipient of public charity."

[Cont'd. on page 6]

Jewish Awareness Month begins

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The second annual city-wide Jewish Awareness Month (JAM) kicked off this past weekend for Jewish students of Ryerson Polytechnic University, Seneca College, the University of Toronto and York University.

University students on some other Canadian campuses are also planning JAM programs, albeit in most cases on a smaller scale, reflecting their smaller Jewish student populations.

The JAM project was inaugurated two years ago by Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, the international umbrella body for Jewish campus organizations based in Washington, D.C.

City-wide Toronto programs this past weekend included a dance at the Big Bop, a downtown club, and a Tu b'Shvat seder featuring songs, stories and discussion about Judaism, nature, environmental issues and Israel.

"Almost all of the programming during the month runs under the banner of JAM," said Rabbi Michael Skobac, director of Jewish educational programming for Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto and coordinator of Jewish Awareness Month.

Israel Day at U of T is an annual event which now falls under the JAM umbrella. The other local campuses also have individual programming.

Other events include a number of environment-related programs to coincide with "Green Week," a Sunday Discovery seminar at York University, a downtown weekend retreat with an independent, U.S.-based grassroots student group called Lights in Action to focus on the theme of pluralism within the Jewish community.

Donations to a JAM kosher food drive will go to the Pride of Israel Synagogue Food Bank. A related event is York's peanut butter-and-jam sandwich making day, with sandwiches being given to a local Out of the Cold program for the homeless.

The month will wind up Feb. 15 with a "Fire and Ice" program – havdalah followed by roller-blading.

In Hamilton, plans for JAM week include a Purim food drive and a week of Israel-related programming, said Sheila Freedman, Jewish Students Association adviser.

In London, Ont., although there will be no Jewish Awareness month per se, there will be an Israel Day at the University of Western Ontario in mid-February, as well as programs on Bioethics and Hate Crimes on Campus. McMaster University in Hamilton is planning a JAM week for the week of March 24.

Ottawa's JSU-Hillel will "most likely" run a Shabbaton and invite guest speakers for February or March, said Stacia Benovitch, director of the organization which serves both Carleton University and the University of Ottawa.

McGill University in Montreal has tentative plans for a Jewish Awareness Month in March, and the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon may have a Jewish Awareness day.

For further information about the Toronto program call 736-5178 (York University's Jewish Student Federation), 512-0814 (Jewish Campus Services) or 978-0422 (U of T's Hillel-JSU), or check out the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto Web site, organizers were putting the finishing touches on a "JAM" page last week.

In Hamilton, call 522-7215; in London, 679-2111, extention 2634; Montreal, 845-9171; Ottawa, 562-5800, extension 3095; Saskatoon, 343-7023

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Greater Toronto Area

Deportation cases against alleged war criminals on track

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Federal Court of Appeal has unanimously reversed a lower court decision, opening the way for resumption of immigration procedures against three alleged Nazi war criminals. But the decision does not mean the three men will face a hearing any time soon.

It is expected the three will seek leave of the Supreme Court of Canada to appeal the decision, a process that could take several months. In addition, various preliminary matters such as a request for disclosure and for directions of the court on procedural matters, must still be addressed before the allegations against the men can be heard.

Still, the decision by justices Louis Pratte, Louis Marceau and Arthur Stone removed a stumbling block from government efforts to bring the alleged Nazi war criminals to justice. And they did so using tough judicial language, with one justice pointedly criticizing the delaying tactics of lawyers for the three men.

Federal authorities allege that Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck misrepresented their wartime activities, including the murder of civilians, when they obtained Canadian citizenship.

Despite the seriousness of the allegations, proceedings against the alleged war criminals came to a halt when lawyers for the three men obtained a stay order on July 4, 1996. Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen ruled that "egregious pressure" was brought to bear on Associate Chief Justice James Jerome following a March 1, 1996 meeting and letters between Assistant Deputy Attorney General Ted Thompson and Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac. Isaac subsequently met with Jerome, the presiding judge in the case, leading to the appearance of interference in judicial independence.

That wrong could only be cured by staying the cases, Cullen ruled.

The appeal court disagreed. Marceau said the facts "do not support the view there was a breach of judicial independence; and even assuming that they could have left [that] impression, the entering of a stay of the three proceedings to make up for the problem was not a suitable and warranted remedy."

No evidence of any conspiracy

Marceau said there was no evidence that Thompson approached Isaac to impose the government's view on the court. In addition, there is no evidence of any conspiracy or of bad faith by any of the parties.

Turning to Isaac's conduct, Marceau wrote that "a chief justice cannot entirely disinterest himself from the pace of progress and the timeliness of disposition of the cases the court has to deal with. He or she has a responsibility to ensure the court provides 'timely justice.' Indeed, it is his or her duty to take an active and supervisory role in this respect."

Because of the "quite unusual delay" in dealing with preliminary motions in the cases, it was proper for Isaac to fulfil his mandate "to ensure 'timely justice' and thereby avoid a possible embarrassment for the [court]...The intervention of the chief justice...did not constitute an interference with judicial independence of the presiding judge: it was not made in favor of one party to the detriment of the other and could in no way, affect the impartiality of the presiding judge."

However, even if an impartial observer reached a different conclusion, a stay would not be an appropriate remedy since it "obviates any chance for an assessment of the charges on the merits" and cannot "be viewed as being in the interests of justice," Marceau wrote. Any other judge of the court could have heard the case, he added.

An even stronger, if brief, judgment was delivered by Pratte, who, in reversing Cullen's decision, said "no reasonable person would ever ascribe to [Jerome] and all his colleagues the dishonesty and pusillanimity implied by this finding."

He disagreed with Cullen about the pace of proceedings, saying "the pace...had been so slow as to certainly give rise to a suspicion that justice was not rendered with reasonable diligence. In nearly a year, the references had made no real progress...Once the chief justice had learned of that situation, irrespective of the circumstances in which the information had been conveyed to him, he was duty bound to intervene even though his intervention might frustrate the [three men's] attempts to put off the hearing of the references for as long as they could. Their interest in delaying the proceedings was not a legitimate interest worthy of protection. All parties were entitled to insist that justice be administered with diligence; none could claim a right to delayed justice. The order made by [Cullen] was, therefore, as unwarranted as his indignation with [Isaac's] behavior."

The Appeal Court's decision was welcomed by several Jewish organizations that have pressed for speedier disposition of the cases.

"The decision will help ensure that people allegedly involved in mass murder won't walk free solely on the basis of government efforts to expedite hearing dates," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee. "What is most regrettable is the inordinate delay in these cases and the furthering of that delay by the unwarranted decision of the lower court [Cullen] to stay the cases."

"We are overjoyed to see the court return to the central issue in these cases rather than getting mired in dubious technicalities," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. "All too often, we forget that these men were allegedly involved in crimes that exceeded in numbers and cruelty all the serial murders ever committed in Canada and the United States."

"The delaying tactics by defence lawyers have prevented the court from hearing substantive matters of these cases despite the fact that they began in 1995," said Lyle Smordin, president of B'nai Brith Canada. "It is hoped the Supreme Court will not grant an appeal if an application is filed by defence attorneys. [That] would delay the process...The courts must balance the enormity of these heinous crimes versus a minor transgression by judicial officials."

Relationship with God explored

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jews' relationship with God can be understood in two different ways, says Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, author and spiritual leader of Congregation Beth El in Sudbury, Mass.

"Some think of God as a giant circle up there, and themselves as a little circle down here. Others see God as a big circle as well, but they see themselves as a little circle within the big circle. They see God as the ocean and themselves as the waves," he said.

Rabbi Kushner kicked off a recent two-day mini-course entitled Invisible Lines of Connection — Finding the Sacred in the Everyday, sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

Topics included the Joys and Perils of Jewish Connection and Individual Spirituality Meets Communal Responsibility.

"The extent to which we become aware of God's presence within us is the extent to which we become spiritually fulfilled," Rabbi Kushner told the capacity crowd at Leah Posluns Theatre.

In the first model, he said, prayer is conversational but in the second, the goal of prayer is to gain awareness of the presence of the Divine. "The Kabbalistic way of thinking is that God is in everyone and everything."

Occasionally, the rabbi said, we get a glimpse of what was intended for us. Rather than accept these moments as coincidence, we should take them to realize that the Divine is present.

"There is coincidence, but suppose something is going on in the universe that pushes us and guides us? Most of the time we are not aware of it, but every now and then we become startled by the power it exerts...There is more to reality than meets the eye.

"This approach to ordinary life yields the fruit of meaning and beauty instead of a helter-skelter feeling. Our only choice in life is whether we will live in reverence. The name of the game is to find the presence of the Creator in everything and help others find it as well. That is our only choice."

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Greater Toronto Area

Fromm told his services are no longer wanted

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Controversial teacher Paul Fromm has received notice that his employment with the Peel Board of Education will be terminated. However, Fromm said he would appeal the move and Peel director of education Harold Braithwaite declined to comment on Fromm's status, saying it was a confidential personnel matter. He conceded that Fromm was not teaching last Thursday.

Fromm is quoted as saying he expected a lawyer for the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation will represent him before the Peel board, which must confirm termination of his employment.

Fromm's latest run-in with education authorities came after B'nai Brith Canada informed the Peel Board he had attended several meetings involving organizations that "are white supremacist and anti-Semitic."

"We were alerted way back that Fromm was up to his old tricks," said Karen Mock, national director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

Fromm probably used school time to travel to one such meeting in Vancouver last April. There is evidence that Fromm distributed flyers promoting Malcolm Ross' books at the meeting, which was held the night of a school day, Mock said. Ross is the former Moncton-area teacher who was removed from the classroom for writing several books and articles that are anti-Semitic.

In presenting materials to the Peel Board outlining Fromm's recent activities, B'nai Brith pointed out Fromm was reprimanded in 1992 and that the 1993 Cowan report found that Fromm was not committed to the board's policies respecting ethnocultural equity, multiculturalism and anti-racism. In addition, the Cowan report found his "presence as a teacher has an adverse effect on the school community."

Even though he was warned following the Cowan report not to associate with racists, ironically news of the board's intention to terminate his employment first appeared on Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel's computer Web site.

Mock said "the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in the Ross case makes it very clear that parents and children of diverse races and national backgrounds don't have to tolerate the poisonous environment in a school from a teacher who wishes they were never there in the first place."

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Obligation to help

[Cont'd. from page 4]

Among the most frequently expressed admonitions in the Torah is the one which compels us to treat "the stranger, the orphan and the widow" with care and compassion.

In the strongest and most imperative terms, we are commanded to pay heed to the needs of the poor and of the needy.

We see this biblical emphasis, for example, in the repetition of the verb in the injunctive phrases "*patoach tiphtach,*" you must open your hand to the needy, and, "*naton titen,*" you must give assistance.

Or, "If your fellow human being falters and his hand is outstretched to you, you shall help raise him up..."

There is no ambiguity.

The obligation to help those who are in need is uncompromising. It is incumbent upon us all. It is the moral, the just and the proper way to behave.

In a recent d'var Torah entitled What Kind of Society Do We Want?, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, spiritual leader of Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto, noted: "Ultimately, for Judaism, social assistance is not rendered to others out of a sense of compassion, self-interest or 'there but for the grace of God go I.' Rather, it is based on an awareness that here is a person created *b'tselem elokim*, in the image of God, worthy of personal dignity and respect."

Next week, in this space, I shall record some thoughts upon the role of government in guiding us as individuals and as a community to fulfil our responsibilities to "the stranger, the orphan and the widow".

The daily barrage in Ontario last week announcing potentially far-reaching legislative changes, which buried Ontarians like stones under a torrent of hot lava, provides an appropriate background for those thoughts.

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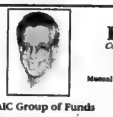

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Greater Toronto Area

Swiss image seen key to resolving banking issue

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There is now hope that Switzerland will get to the bottom of its Nazi-era banking record, says a Toronto lawyer.

Sergio Karas, who represents several Canadians with claims against Swiss banks, told a packed hall at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation last week that Switzerland is anxious to close this chapter in its history in part because it is especially sensitive about its image.

That image has been marred by allegations that Swiss banks kept assets belonging to Holocaust victims, laundered Nazi gold bullion for profit and helped leading Nazis funnel money to South America.

The episode "has been a disaster for Switzerland. For decades, they lived in a kind of Disneyworld. Now, their reputation and national pride have been tarnished. They are doing damage control," mainly to avoid scaring off investment, Karas said.

What's more, young Swiss are now wondering why their country was not swallowed by Nazi Germany during World War II: "They're now believing that their government paid a price for its neutrality," Karas said. "What was the quid pro quo?"

Karas said he holds out hope that an international commission of inquiry, headed by Paul Volcker, a respected former chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve, will resolve the question of dormant Holocaust-era assets in Swiss banks once and for all. The commission, which will employ forensic accountants, was widely hailed when it was announced last May by the World Jewish Congress and the Swiss Bankers Association.

As well, pressure is mounting from the United States. Almost every day, Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato, whose powerful Senate Banking Committee is probing Swiss-Nazi wartime dealings, unearths more documents pointing to Swiss duplicity and which have deeply embarrassed the government in Berne.

A separate investigation by the U.S. State Department is proceeding. As well, a $20-billion (US) class action lawsuit has been launched in the United States against Swiss banks.

In December, Switzerland appointed its own nine-member panel of historians, including one from Israel, to probe Swiss-Nazi dealings.

Karas said the Canadian government has been quiet on the issue.

European Jews deposited cash, gold and other valuables in Switzerland before and during the war because of the Swiss banks' legendary secrecy laws, Karas noted. In many cases, he said, secrecy proved to be a bane, because numbers and passwords to secret accounts died with the victims of the Holocaust.

However, Karas said he "cannot conceive" that "sophisticated" investors and business people did not pass on the existence of secret accounts to someone, somewhere. "A lot [of depositors] did make it a point to tell relatives," he said. Now, those relatives are entitled to answers, Karas said.

At war's end, Holocaust survivors were preoccupied with rebuilding their lives, not with finding old assets, he said. For years, he noted, the Swiss required death certificates to open dormant accounts. Concentration camps did not issue death certificates.

Worldwide, Jewish groups claim Swiss banks are holding up to $7 billion in assets and interest belonging to victims of the Holocaust.

Karas said that in 1962, Switzerland paid out $6 million on 1,000 claims. In September 1995, he said, the Swiss released a memo saying they found 893 dormant accounts worth $50 million (Cdn). A year later, the numbers were whittled down to 775 dormant accounts worth about $44 million.

Last month, the Swiss National Bank publicly acknowledged that it had profited from its dealings with Nazi Germany, to the tune of 20 million Swiss francs. But the bank denied that gold and cash from Jewish accounts were part of that total.

This month, Switzerland offered to use $30 million from unclaimed, war-era bank accounts to set up a fund for descendants of Holocaust victims. Later negotiations with the World Jewish Congress boosted the so-called superfund's value to $250 million (US).

Karas said he's opposed to a superfund "because the correct way is to determine who belongs to which account, and then you compensate the heirs of the victims."

Despite the bureaucratic maze and bitter recriminations, Karas is satisfied there "is a concerted effort to get to the bottom of this and resolve the issue." Swiss banks have already partially lifted some secrecy rules, he said.

But, he cautioned, claims have to be handled properly. He suggests claimants hire a local lawyer, and soon.

"This is our last kick at the can. They want to settle, and if we don't do it now, we'll never do it."

Please see
The Kirshner File

JF&CS leader marks 90 years

TORONTO — Henry Goodman, honorary president of Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) and a community volunteer for more than 60 years, celebrates his 90th birthday on Jan. 29.

In honor of the milestone and in recognition of Goodman's communal service, JF&CS is establishing the Henry and Jenne Goodman Scholarship Fund. The fund will enable Crown wards in the care of JF&CS to pursue post-secondary education.

Goodman has also been involved in the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies and Holy Blossom Temple.

Anyone interested in acknowledging Goodman's birthday may contribute to the fund in his name by calling 416-638-7800, ext. 214.

JNF

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A resting place

The vote last Thursday in the Knesset was overwhelming: 87 in favor of the Hebron redeployment; 17 opposed; one abstained; 15 were absent. The vote in cabinet the night before was less one-sided but no less decisive: 11 in favor; seven opposed. In both chambers, the debate was impassioned. Deeply-held principles and desperate pleading found their expression in scorching argument and raw emotion.

The agreement was especially wrenching for many who are religious and on the right wing and for the purists of the prime minister's own party for whom last week's territorial compromise and the others that will inevitably follow are anathema. Indeed, one cabinet minister, Ze'ev Begin, could not reconcile his conscience to Israel's new commitment. Thus, as the law required, once he voted against the government's policies, he resigned his portfolio.

The prime minister's initials on the accord demonstrate, however, that the restraint of power has led him to understand the responsibility of governing for the widest common good. It prompted one commentator habitually predisposed against the prime minister to write that "the decision by Netanyahu demanded courage," for he was trying to move to "the centre of the political map," toward "national consensus, away from ideology and fanaticism."

If the peace process is not to shred the fabric of Israeli society, "the centre of the political map" is precisely where the prime minister must be and "national consensus" the instrument with which his government must build the structure of their policies. There can be no denying this. The prime minister is wise to proceed on this basis. Writing approvingly of the government's decision to honor the Oslo accords, of the prime minister's demand for reciprocal loyalty to its requirements, and of the Hebron agreement, the *Jerusalem Post* editorialized that "the most important factor going into the final status talks is the degree of unity within Israel." It is significant therefore, that after the Knesset vote, a poll conducted for *Yediot Ahronot* showed that 67 percent of the people of Israel supported the agreement, as compared to 25 percent who were opposed.

But national consensus, while reflected in the policies of the government, actually stands or falls on the behavior of Israel's peace partner. Ironically, though quite appropriately, Yasser Arafat will determine, moreso than Benjamin Netanyahu, how far and how fast Israelis and Palestinians will become reconciled to each other.

Despite the setbacks, events in the Middle East are unfolding in a manner unimaginable only a decade ago. Political analyst Alouph Ben pointed this out last week in *Ha'aretz* : "On Jan. 15, 1991, Israeli citizens put on their gas masks and waited in sealed rooms for the scud missiles from Iraq. Six years later, on Jan. 15, 1997, a Likud prime minister signed the redeployment agreement in Hebron and undertook to continue evacuating the West Bank territories and hand them over to the Palestinians."

In the six years since scud-warning sirens wailed in Tel Aviv, a veritable revolution has occurred in the Middle East. "Handshakes" have given way to agreements, joint police patrols, joint projects and troop redeployments. But there is still a long journey to travel. It will not be measured in months or even in a short term of years. Rather, it is a road that generations must travel, dispelling only slowly and painfully, the distrust and the hatred that for so long enveloped their parents.

On that very long journey, "Hebron" is merely a resting place.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"The homogeneity of our destiny has suffered a long interruption, although scattered fragments of the Jewish people have everywhere undergone similar ills. It is only in our days that the marvels of communication have served to bring about mutual understanding and union between isolated groups."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress.)

Dry Bones

THE SECRET OF JEWISH SURVIVAL IS THAT WE'RE NOT JUST TRYING TO SAVE THE JEWS!..
WE'RE TRYING TO SAVE THE WHOLE PLANET!!
SO PLANT A TREE AND WISH THE WORLD..
A HAPPY TU B'SHVAT!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Jan. 23, 1951 The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra performed at the Capitol Theatre in Ottawa.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Doubts about the gene

I wonder whether the report by Judy Siegel on the genetic link found amongst *kohanim* (*CJN*, Jan. 9) suffers from the same kind of bad reporting as recent findings on the discovery of an "anxiety" gene.

I would classify the reported discovery of a gene for "alcoholism," for "criminality," and for racially-linked "intelligence" in the same category of the absurd, along with Nazi theories on race.

Karl Skorecki et al appear to have relied too heavily on a small, selected population of self-declared *kohanim*, and *The CJN* article tells us nothing about the use of a control population or the statistical significance of the results. Surely after the 3,500 years since Aaron lived, the genes on the Y-chromosome of high priests would not have remained unchanged or undiluted in all of the kohanim examined in their study.

It appears to me that when responsible press reports on scientific work, their goal as always, should be to find the truth within the limits of the experimental designs, and not to distort it with exaggerated conclusions.

Samuel Levy
Cote St. Luc, Quebec

Kaplan's work should not be overlooked

Arnold Fradkin, formerly a counsel with the War Crimes Litigation Unit, should be commended for the two-part series putting into historical and legal perspective the Canadian government's shameful record on dealing with Nazi war criminals in Canada.

Along with Bill Hobson, former unit director, Fradkin is one of the very few government officials over the past 50 years, in the sordid history of Canada's disinterest in Nazi war criminals, who showed the necessary "fire in the belly" to root these Nazi mass murderers from our midst.

It is important, however, for the historical record, not to overlook the substantial work done in the extradition of one Nazi war criminal by Robert Kaplan who, as solicitor general in the early 1980s, attempted in vain to convince his cabinet colleagues to deal with this issue.

It was during his tenure as solicitor general that one of the most significant cases in the history of Nazi war criminals in North America — that of Albert Helmut Rauca — was completed. Rauca was accused of having been involved in the murder of over 11,000 Jewish men, women and children in a small town in Lithuania at the height of World War II. It was Kaplan who worked closely with the West German government in ensuring the extradition of Rauca in 1982 to Germany, where he died in jail awaiting trial.

While Canada's record in dealing with Nazi war criminals will always be a dark stain on our collective conscience, it is at the very least important to remember the few successes and hope that with the small window of opportunity left, some justice can still be rendered.

Irving Abella, Chair
National War Crimes Committee, CJC

Looking for her brother

I would ask for your help in trying to resolve a very painful, humanitarian situation. It is part of the problem known in Israel for many years as the "affair of disappearance of Yemenite children" and deals with the disappearance of hundreds of children from their families during the years from 1948 to 1954.

This problem was not confined to any specific grouping, Yemenite or other. Hundreds of families are still searching for their lost children. My family is one of them.

There is no proof that those children are dead, but there is some evidence that they were sent to different parents in different countries.

My family's story started on June 18, 1948, the very day my mother gave birth to her first baby, a boy, in one of the hospitals in Haifa. When she was discharged from the hospital, the baby remained there for "further treatment." My late father went whenever he could to see the baby, but he managed to see him only once. On the other occasions he was told that the baby had been sent to another hospital for a blood transfusion.

On his last visit he was told that the baby had died. Either from shock or from naivete typical to new immigrants, my parents didn't ask to see the body or to arrange its burial. Since that time, my mother has lived all these years with the feeling that her baby didn't die. With all the evidence we have heard through the years, we have a very strong feeling that the baby may have been taken away, like hundreds of others, for adoption.

In the last few months, it has come to our knowledge that our brother is alive and living in Canada. This is the reason why I'm reaching out for your help to publish the story and, if possible, to bring to my brother's consciousness that we are looking for him and waiting for him to get in touch with us.

All we know about him is that he was born on June 18, 1948 and was adopted about two weeks later — at the beginning of July 1948. He was born with fair skin, blue eyes and ginger hair.

I hope you will be able to answer my request and make it possible for us to unite with our brother, and especially for my mother to reunite with her lost son.

Chedva Ben-David
18 Hatzanchanim St.
Kiryat Ata, Israel 28000
04.8441625

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A realistic compromise

By ABBA EBAN

The Oslo agreement emerges as one of the most astonishing documents in diplomatic history.

Reviled by its opponents, it forced its way into the centre of national policy through the sheer logic and realism of its principles. It could not have triumphed if the alternatives had not been exhausted first.

The alternative to Oslo would have been the renewal of an attempt to suppress Palestinian nationhood in a way that has become so anachronistic as to defy all the currents of contemporary political culture.

It would not be an exaggeration to conclude that the alternative to the Hebron accord and the Oslo agreement would, sooner rather than later, have been a war in which Israel would face a united Arab world.

That war would have been fought with weaponry of the new technological age. Israel would not have had an ally in a war which would result from a failure to implement a valid international agreement.

The United States would undoubtedly have done what would be necessary to assure Israel's survival in resistance to the assault, but the starting point of the American position would have been the duty to implement international agreements.

We are moving into an era in which the viability of an armed action is determined very largely by international legitimacy.

Despite the victories of Israeli diplomacy in its numerous struggles, the fact remains that Israel, under Labor or Likud governments, has never been able to retain permanent control over any territory in which its positions were not validated by international law – not even in tiny Taba, which the Shamir government renounced!

This predetermines the attitude of world opinion to the permanent annexation of the Golan, leaving only the West Bank and Gaza as situated in an area of legitimate doubt.

But even here, the commitments of previous Israeli governments, which were decisively sustained by domestic opinion, place the future in the hands of negotiators, not of those who were ever open to far-reaching changes of previous jurisdictions.

For Israel to have resisted the tide would have marked our nation as a laggard, clinging to old ideas and disused palliatives. The rule of one nation over another is the only proven impossibility of the modern age. Israel can influence the future, but cannot dictate it.

Benjamin Netanyahu deserves a less reluctant applause than he has so far received from his former critics. We are going forward by going back — back to the partition, but not to the boundaries which enabled Israel to achieve its first breakthrough to realism and lucidity.

Between 1947 and 1949, Israel celebrated its most dramatic transition, from unprecedented anguish to unexpected salvation. At one end, the Jewish people was besieged, solitary and more savagely assaulted than any other people in history. Within two years, Israel was an established sovereignty with open gates, wide recognition and an expanding circumference of friendships.

This was the result of its leaders' capacity to prefer a realistic compromise to a desperate overreaching of its powers.

The task today is, first of all, to recapture the positions which an intemperate Likud diplomacy endangered in the recent past.

When the last election took place, Israel had creative relations with Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Morocco, Tunisia, Oman and Qatar, a diminution of the Saudi-led boycott, and every opportunity of expanding its friendships in North Africa and the Gulf Region.

Reckless rhetoric and superfluous initiatives (Who remembers the tunnel at the end of the light?) arrested the momentum.

The lesson for Israel is that neighboring coexistence ensures greater security than distant cordiality.

One of the urgent tasks is to supersede an electoral system so fraught with inherent absurdity as to put a hopeful future out of reach.

Meanwhile, there is an undercurrent of tragedy. Was Yitzhak Rabin's death really necessary if his policies (which I supported long before he embraced them himself) proved inexorable in the end?

He is a lonely non-survivor of a malice-ridden incitement campaign. Netanyahu should rescind his own terrible sentence accusing Rabin of "personal responsibility" for Israel's losses.

Abba Eban is a former foreign minister.

Prime Minister Netanyahu and Chairman Arafat appeared to find a *modus vivendi* last week in Erez at the signing of the accord establishing the IDF redeployment from Hebron and the next phases of redeployment from the West Bank. [RNS/Reuters]

Hebron only an appetizer for Arafat

By ELYAKIM HA'ETZNI

A man goes into a jewelry shop, picks out the finest diamond necklace and then turns to the shopkeeper with an ultimatum: He'll take the necklace — but only if it comes wrapped up in a million-dollar bill.

The shopkeeper doesn't call in the men in white coats. Instead, he begins bargaining over the "price." Finally he congratulates himself for having brought it down to half a million, together with the necklace.

Is he mad, or what?

The jewel that is Hebron would not have become the breaking point in Benjamin Netanyahu's relations with his voters if it hadn't been for the even larger issues that go down the drain with it. These issues are so large as to make Hebron just an appetizer to the full meal being served to Arafat by the ministers who raised their hands in the Hebron vote.

They are putting their state under an obligation to the United States to hand over in three instalments all of Judea and Samaria except the desert area, which comprises close to 40 percent of the whole, and the settlements, which Netanyahu earlier pledged not to expand.

The surrender of Hebron thus presages a Palestinian state, since the only thing that still stands between Arafat and his unilateral declaration of statehood is the possession of territory. All the other attributes he already has.

As long as Arafat is holed up in an "archipelago" of eight isolated towns surrounded by Israeli-controlled territory, a state is simply not practicable; but after the three IDF "redeployments," it will be Israel's settlements and "military locations" that remain as isolated islands. As Falastin's (Palestine's) day dawns, theirs will wane.

Small wonder, then, that close Netanyahu adviser David Bar-Illan has already floated the trial balloon of a (demilitarized) Palestinian state.

It is a generous Ramadan present indeed that Israel has given the PLO chairman: Hebron, wrapped up in almost all the inhabited parts of Judea and Samaria.

If this is the "new Likud," nothing could be more apt than Bar-Illan's conclusion that there is no longer any real difference between Likud and Labor.

The Likud's partition of the Land of Israel has shaken us like an earthquake, breaking up the ground under the National Camp and bringing the historic, 60-year ideological Revisionist-Herut camp to a dismal end.

When Likud MK Michael Eitan and seven other Likud MKs came to terms with MK Yossi Beilin regarding the "Beilin-Abu Mazen plan" — something they couldn't have done without the prime minister's tacit blessing — they started a fire which spells the spiritual extinction of Jabotinsky's "New Zionist" organization.

Only a speedy revolution coming from inside the party can now prevent those flames from consuming the Likud physically.

Although Hebron is just the boulder setting a devastating avalanche in motion, the Hebron deal, looked at in and of itself, is a disaster too.

Gone is the one and only measure that could have given the Jews some sort of security — freedom of operation for the IDF — and this after "Bloody September," in which Arafat's soldiers killed 16 Israelis.

Gone too is Netanyahu's famous condition of "reciprocity." The agreement contains no direct linkage making any further Israeli move conditional on Arafat's making good on a myriad of past, present and future violations.

Worse still, from now on the United States will be the arbiter regarding what constitutes a violation and whether Israel will be allowed to discontinue the "process" in reaction to any such breach.

Gone is Netanyahu's reluctance to be under the same roof as Arafat. For some time now, the premier has been bending over backwards to get Arafat to deign to meet with him.

Gone even is the Peres-Arafat concession that left all Israeli property in Hebron under Israeli control. Now, all unoccupied Jewish property goes to Arafat.

So where do we go from Hebron? Travellers on the Netanyahu train will notice that the destination has been changed, from the Land of Israel to Falastin.

Gradually, as the euphoria fades and the bitter truth emerges, some travellers at least will jump off in an attempt to force the fall of the government and new elections.

They will have nothing to lose. If the land is to be relinquished, better it should be done by Meretz and the (Israeli) Arabs.

They have much to gain. Netanyahu has no hope of being renominated as his party's candidate in the next elections. After Hebron, the transfer of almost all the habitable parts of Judea and Samaria to Arafat in three stages will mark the tombstone on his career.

In Labor, many will prefer "elections-now" to a unity government led, de facto, by Shimon Peres. Any candidate with some standing will have the same chance as the young man who came along in 1992, salvaged a broken party, beat Labor and became prime minister.

If electing Netanyahu was a mistake, well, it can be rectified by a replay of May 1996.

Netanyahu was a relative unknown before his meteoric leap into power. It is impossible to believe that half the nation cannot produce another candidate.

The writer, an attorney and former MK, lives in Kiryat Arba.

Opinions

Youth want answers, not evasions

In 1947, Estelle Sapir went to the Crédit Suisse Bank in Geneva and showed officials a deposit slip dated in August 1938, but the bankers, unmoved, would not give her access to the account — her father's, presumably — without his death certificate.

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

"I broke into tears," she says, "and I cried to him, 'You want me to get it from Hitler, from Himmler?' But it was no use."

"That was the experience of thousands of Jews," *Time* adds to its report, making this the lead story in its Nov. 4, 1996 issue.

It was not the first time Switzerland had acted as though, there was a Hitler, a Himmler, but not in particular for Jews. That first time was in 1938 when, to quote Holocaust scholar Michael Marrus, there was "an unusual collusion between German authorities in Berlin and the head of the Swiss police, Heinrich Rothmund."

German Jews needed passports to flee. Rothmund suggested a "J" be stamped in the Jewish documents. "Why didn't we think of it?" they must have thought in Berlin, and accepted the idea gratefully. Henceforth, this would discriminate between the Germans to admit into Switzerland, if they were holiday makers and "Aryans," and Germans to keep out of the country, if "non-Aryans" in flight for their lives.

To quote Marrus again, "Rothmund continued to wield authority over refugee matters during the war, claiming afterwards that such caution was absolutely necessary in view of the dangers that the Confederation faced."

And now, 60 years after Rothmund, and 50 after the Sapir bank incident, Swiss U.S. ambassador Carlo Jagmetti is on record as declaring that "from a human point of view, some real mistakes have been made [by the banks]"...that it was "unacceptable [for the banks] to ask for death certificates;" that these requests were "psychological errors." (*Jerusalem Post*, Oct. 31, 1996).

From the *human* point of view? *Psychological* errors? "Real *mistakes*?" They should have been nice to survivors and their heirs, traumatized as these poor creatures were? Not hurt their feelings, break regulations, give them charity? Even now, it seems, a major Swiss representative, speaking officially for his country, fails to recognize a moral, misdemeanor of 50 years ago, an offence against justice than which, for a banker, hardly any can be worse. Winston Churchill called for ridding the world of Hitler's shadow at a time when he was busy with the Fuehrer alive. With Hitler dead for half a century, his shadow still lives.

And not in Switzerland or Europe alone. Last month, Canada made news with two facts, one inspiring — her leadership against starvation and death in Africa — and one depressing — the news of hundreds of Nazis, even thousands, safe and sound, alive and unmolested in Canada. Did I say depressing? It is an outrage.

For Jews to demand justice — in Switzerland, Europe, Canada — is more than the exercise of a right, more than merely about money. It is a duty, a mitzvah, as if given on Sinai itself; it helps rid the world of Hitler's shadow.

There is no mitzvah without hope. The polls show that Israeli youth want to know what really happened with Hitler, Himmler and Jews. For the first generation, even the second and third, it was too traumatizing. "No more 'horror stories," some tell us. "They disturb our sleep and our theology." The young will have none of that: the truth, if you please, the unvarnished truth! That's what the young want from the middle-aged and the old.

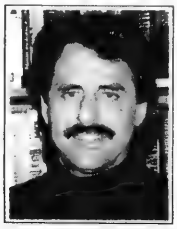
And not only in Israel. The polls show the same about Holland. The story of Anne Frank and her Dutch friends: How come so many Jews were deported from Holland? (Few returned.) Why have we heard about Anne, but not the Dutch Nazi party? There is hope also for the rest of Europe, perhaps even for France and Switzerland. And the Germans have published *Ein Volk von Moerdern*? The book asks only the question, but the answers wanted by the young are not evasions or apologetics.

In Canada they won't be left behind. Their grandfathers fought and died in the war. With the bloodshed over, how did the worst among the just-defeated enemy — not merely Nazis but Nazi criminals — get into Canada?

The young need hope, but they haven't had much in this century of hopelessness. Perhaps, with its main product, cause and symbol at last gotten rid of — Hitler, of course, who else? — the young will learn how to hope again, in another, better century.

'Ein brera' won't work in 1997

Thank God the Arabs hate us again. Praise the heavens we are isolated once more. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised us above all security, and he has delivered. We are once again secure in the notion that there is anti-Semitism. We are once again on firm ground in the belief that the Arabs just want to slit Jewish throats. We are strong in our conviction that the world is unjust and unfair to Israel and the Jewish people.



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

We can all breathe a very deep spiritual sigh of relief. Netanyahu's flawless foreign policy has created a Jewish Renaissance. In just nine months, he has returned us to our hallowed position of being a "Chosen People." We have been Chosen to have the Land, Chosen to have Hebron, Chosen to suffer, Chosen to fight, Chosen to live in the Jewish Mideast ghetto.

Even when he is "arm twisted" into a peace accord with the Palestinians, the prime minister is so embarrassed by the agreement that he initials it away from the cameras; he has a junior official sign it, and he defends his about-face with "I did the best I could with an inherited bad deal." God forbid it may improve relations with the Palestinians or the Arab world.

In less than a year, Netanyahu has done what no psychiatrist can do for a serious Jewish nervous breakdown. Last year, Israelis were suffering from the horrible notion that Persian Gulf and North African Arab states were about to establish business and diplomatic ties. After India, China and Oman, how could Israel cope with Qatar, Tunisia having representation and Gulf Air landing at Ben-Gurion Airport. And that was nothing compared to a Jordanian monarch, Saudi princes, an Egyptian president and others in Jerusalem paying what was until then inconceivable respect to a slain Jewish prime minister. That was all too much, all too frightening.

But what was even more terrifying was that Israel was becoming a "nation like all nations" in the Mideast. When buses blew up in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, it was not Egypt or the PLO or the Jordanians, or even the Syrians, who were responsible as usual. It was something too horrible to contemplate; it was the same Islamic terror that was plaguing those nations. Who were we to blame? How could Israelis point a finger at those Arab states, when they came to attend a summit in Sharm al Sheikh, Israel, to establish a united front against Mideast terror?

But Netanyahu has eased our fears of a complex, contradictory world promising "peace with security." The Palestinians, the Egyptians, the Jordanians are once again — thank God — hostile, unfriendly, dangerous. Thank God they won't attend more funerals in Jerusalem.

And with just a little luck, they will put us back in that reassuring position of digging up more burial plots on Mt. Herzl for fallen soldiers. Ah, but that could become a big catch for Netanyahu.

He's trying hard after that embarrassing Hebron accord. In an interview with *Le Figaro*, Netanyahu has already said there will be no compromise on the Golan in potential talks with Syria. Not surprisingly, the Syrians said, "What is the point of talking?"

Now there is talk of the Syrians launching a limited offensive in the spring or summer. They will of course blame the war on the "brazen lie" that Israel doesn't want peace. Once again, Jewish boys will have to face *ein brera* (no choice) but to die for the country. Only this time, many of those boys won't buy that "plate of *lockshen*."

They saw peace at hand. They saw it slip away. They are Israel's "MTV generation." They like the pubs. They like flirting on the beach. They don't want — they demand —hopes, dreams, life, like anywhere else. "There is no choice" won't fly in 1997.

When the ceasefire is announced, when the guns fall silent, when the graves are filled with 500 or 1,000 new tenants, that is when this country will experience a social and emotional backlash that hasn't been seen here before.

I just hope and pray that that "backlash" happens before the artillery starts firing, the blood spilling, and the emergency funds are filled up in synagogues in Canada and elsewhere.

Out of the cold

The scenario seemed simple and the challenge quite clear: in Toronto, the number of poor people has visibly increased. Panhandling is up; musicians are found in many subway stations; the social agencies report an increase in the workload; and if you walk out late at night, you will find people in doorways or on grates to obtain some warmth.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

So, what are we doing about it? We give to charities or perhaps soothe our conscience by bemoaning social injustice in general. But a number of religious institutions have gone beyond that, and now Holy Blossom Temple has become the first synagogue to join a very special effort.

Called Out of the Cold, it is a program to house some homeless people at least once a week and to give them not only food but also shelter. Religious edifices are, with rare exceptions, empty at night, and a number of institutions have resolved to make them available as shelters — at least part time.

Doing this has energized a remarkable number of volunteers, led at temple by Freda Muscovitch. Every Thursday night during the winter months, the doors will be open for some 70 people who come to eat. About half of them will be able to stay the night, have breakfast the following morning and then leave. Preparations have been going on for a long time to make sure that the program works, and that there is ample security on the premises and assitance for those who have special needs. People have contributed their funds and, even better, have given of themselves by being there.

Thirty-three churches were already in the program, which is 10 years old, and now Holy Blossom Temple has joined, supported, I am happy to say, by other organizations that have given financial support: Temple Sinai, Beth Tzedec, First Narayever Congregation, Downtown Reform Minyan, National Council of Jewish Women and the student organizations of Toronto universities.

The whole program is responding to a religious challenge. We read it at its most stirring on Yom Kippur morning when the words of the prophet Isaiah prick our consciences. Speaking of the ethical core of Judaism, he urges us "to share your bread with the hungry, and to bring the homeless poor into your house."

Yes, there have been some objections. I was at a public meeting when they were voiced loudly and sometimes angrily. Behind the questions directed to the organizers was a palpable fear that homeless people somehow represented a danger to everyone.

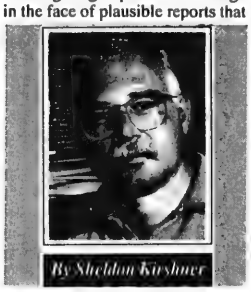
A local police officer assigned to the program reminded the questioners that the homeless were already in the neighborhood, sleeping under the Bathurst Street bridge or under stairways in apartment buildings.

Now that Out of the Cold has started, fears are slowly being allayed and the hungry who come are being fed and sheltered. But best of all, it has given a lot of our people an opportunity to practise their Judaism in a real and satisfying fashion: a hands-on way of doing things for others.

The Kirshner File

Switzerland struggles with its past

Switzerland, a nation hitherto known for its probity, is fighting to preserve its image in the face of plausible reports that



By Sheldon Kirshner

it profited from World War II at the expense of Jews.

In the past two years, a series of increasingly shocking revelations have revealed that Swiss banks not only accepted plundered Nazi loot and sustained Germany's war effort, but often prevented relatives of Holocaust victims from gaining access to their accounts.

These developments have forced Switzerland to come to terms with its past, an agonizing process which may well shed further light on Switzerland's controversial policy toward Jewish refugees during the war.

The world is watching. "We are fully aware that nothing less than our reputation as an honorable country...is at stake," acknowledged Thomas Borer last month. He heads a Swiss task force coordinating the work of several panels, domestic and international, which have been charged with establishing the unvarnished facts with respect to unclaimed Jewish assets and Switzerland's financial relationship with Nazi Germany.

It is far from clear whether the whole truth can ever be ascertained. The issue of unclaimed assets is a case in point. The World Jewish Congress maintains that Swiss banks hold $7 billion (US) in funds and interest belonging to Jews. Swiss bankers, however, have put the figure at $32 million, a sum based on a 1996 probe which uncovered 775 dormant Jewish accounts.

The affair abounds in bitter irony. The Swiss legislation which enshrined the concept of bank secrecy benefited European Jews seeking a safe haven for their money. But these very laws were later a major obstacle in the recovery of such funds. In its most grotesque form, Swiss bankers asked for death certificates for account holders who had perished in concentration camps or ghettos. Since there was no proof of death, assets remained frozen in dormant accounts and/or deposit boxes.

Yet Switzerland was not totally delinquent in its dealings with Jewish depositors. After the war, Swiss banks doled out about $5 million (US) to Holocaust survivors who had accounts in Swiss banks. But these payments were like a drop in the ocean, prompting Jewish individuals and groups to seek redress.

The World Jewish Congress, backed by the chair of the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, has been in the forefront of this campaign. It has called for the creation of a $250 million (US) interim compensation fund. Earlier this month, the Swiss government agreed in principle to set one up, but details have yet to be ironed out.

External pressure was doubtless at the root of Switzerland's decision. On Dec. 31, the country's retiring president, Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, described the World Jewish Congress demand as "nothing less than extortion and blackmail," and argued that it would be interpreted as "an admission of guilt."

Scandalized by his stance, the World Jewish Restitution Organization characterized his remarks as "bordering on anti-Semitism," and threatened to launch a boycott of Swiss banks.

As a result, Swiss bank shares fell in stock market trading, and the Swiss government announced a readiness to establish a compensation fund.

Yet the matter is hardly settled, given the succession of recent reports which have cast doubt on Switzerland's integrity, a pattern of misconduct which is currently under scrutiny by Swiss and foreign fact finding commissions .

Among the allegations:

• Germany sold stolen gold to Switzerland to finance the war, some of it having been melted down from the teeth of Jewish corpses. The Swiss National Bank recently acknowledged that these transactions were profitable, but denies that the gold was taken from Jews in concentration camps.

Still to be determined is what proportion of the gold, said to be worth about $6 billion (US) at today's rates, was returned to its rightful owners. The British Foreign Office claims that only 10 percent was given back.

• Swiss citizens bought Jewish-owned precious jewels from the Nazis.

• Switzerland used unclaimed Jewish accounts to settle disputes with Swiss businessmen whose assets had been nationalized by Communist regimes in Hungary, Poland and, possibly, the former Czechoslovakia.

• Six million dollars in savings, deposited by Jews in the Swiss Bank Corporation before 1941, have disappeared.

• Top-ranking Nazi officials, including Hermann Goering and Joseph Goebbels, used Swiss diplomatic pouches to send their ill-gotten wealth to Argentina.

• Adolf Hitler concealed royalties from *Mein Kampf* in the Union Bank of Switzerland.

These disclosures raise disturbing questions about Switzerland's wartime role as a neutral power.

On Sept. 2, 1939, Switzerland — sandwiched uncomfortably between Axis powers Germany and Italy — mobilized its army. The Swiss feared an attack from Germany and made preparations.

Swiss placated Germans

Swiss leaders were not merely paranoic. In June 1940, several German aircraft violated Swiss air space and were shot down.

The consensus among historians is that Hitler never intended to invade Switzerland. To the Germans, Switzerland — the world's banking capital — was more valuable as a neutral than as an occupied vassal state.

Switzerland, by treaty, allowed the transportation of material between Germany and Italy. Swiss trains carried coal, steel and agricultural products to the two Axis behemoths. Switzerland also supplied Germany with munitions and electrical power.

And, of course, Germany converted plundered gold into Swiss francs so as to purchase fuel and other raw materials to prosecute the war. Jean-Pierre Roth, vice-president of the Swiss National Bank, has said that Switzerland traded and cooperated with Germany to placate the Nazis.

It seems like a reasonable explanation. But European civilians and Allied armies paid an exceedingly heavy price for this calculated policy. By one estimate, the war might have ended at least a year earlier had Switzerland and other neutrals, such as Spain and Portugal, not helped Germany. Millions of lives could have been saved, including that of some 45,000 Jewish refugees who were refused admittance into Switzerland.

Concerned with being swamped by a Niagara of Jewish refugees, Switzerland adopted a callous position toward these pariahs. At Switzerland's insistence, the passports of German Jews were stamped with the letter J, thereby enabling Swiss border guards to turn them back. Furthermore, persons who had become refugees solely on "racial grounds" (Jews) were denied the status of political refugees.

The Swiss authorities did admit about 25,000 Jews. But many more were turned away and thus condemned to death, a bureaucratic crime which must weigh heavily on Switzerland's conscience.

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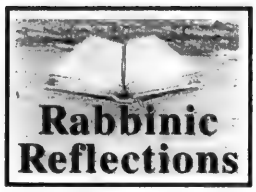


Rabbinic Reflections

A good livelihood

By RABBI MOSHE JABLON

Parnassah, the Hebrew word for livelihood, is one of those terms which have entered the non-Jewish vocabulary. One of my congregants told me that he personally had never heard this term until he was negotiating with an Oriental businessman who said to him: "Albert, give me some merchandise; I need the *parnassah*."

We have always taken the need for *parnassah* very seriously. In the Ethics of the Fathers, we read, "With no food [i.e. *parnassah*], there's no Torah. On Saturday night at the conclusion of Shabbat, we sing, "May our offspring and our wealth multiply like the sand."

In parshat Beshalach, we read of the manna — the heavenly food which fell each morning in the Jewish camp. The Israelites were instructed to gather a day's supply of manna and not to leave over any manna in their homes for the next day. On the Sabbath no manna fell, but a double portion was provided on Friday. The manna was their livelihood, a gift they earned without having to work.

The Torah gives a reason for this miracle: "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a certain portion each day, that I may test them, whether they may follow my Torah, or no." The manna put the Israelites on trial and the challenges they faced continue to challenge us in *our* pursuit of *parnassah*.

What were those tests? Rashi states that the Jews were being tested to determine whether they would observe the commandments associated with the manna, such as the laws that they should not leave over any provision until the morning and that they should not go out on the Sabbath to collect it. The contemporary pursuit of a livelihood challenges our integrity in a similar fashion. Can we maintain our honesty, our sensitivity to our workers, our respect for the Sabbath and holidays as we struggle to put corn flakes on the table and a car in the garage?

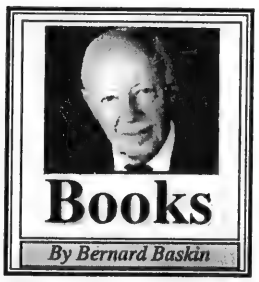
According to Rabbi Moshe ben Nachman, the intent of the manna was to instil faith in the heart of the Jew. They had no other food in the wilderness and were without any recourse to any sustenance except the manna that was completely novel to them. Each day's quantity came down on its day; there was no saving for the future. Their trial was whether they would walk after G-d to a place of no food, and they passed with flying colors.

The late '80s and '90s have been a financial challenge for many families. The expectations of the heady days of the '70s and early '80s had to be downsized. The manna experience, however, conditioned us to maintain trust in heaven, even when doing with less.

Finally, the ease with which the manna was collected left the Israelis with much spare time. Their greatest test was how they would utilize their leisure hours. Would it be in the pursuit of spiritual goals — study, charity and prayer — or in the pursuit of physical enjoyment and a good time? Though earning a livelihood is far more difficult today than it was in the desert, most people still have evenings and weekends at their disposal. How do we utilize this precious time?

May the A-Mighty grant his people a good livelihood, the wisdom and strength to earn it with integrity and faith, and the appreciation of the leisure time at our disposal.

Rabbi Jablon is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Ora in St. Laurent, Quebec.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

In the beginning...

***Genesis: A Living Conversation* by Bill Moyers (Doubleday, $42.95).**

***In The Beginning* by Karen Armstrong (Random House, $27.95).**

It seems that everyone has suddenly discovered the biblical book of Genesis. In recent months a spate of books on the subject have appeared. There has been at the same time an extraordinary promotion on behalf of a 10-part TV series with Bill Moyers, in which he engages groups of scholars, writers and other intellectuals in hour-long discussions of the Bible's meaning and significance.

Already more than 100,000 copies of the special guide to the series have been distributed. Moyers is working on fertile soil. According to a recent study, there already are 900,000 Bible-study groups in the United States with 15 million to 20 million members. The Genesis project hopes to attract an even wider circle of participants.

The articulate participants in the TV series aren't concerned with the origin or age of the Genesis narratives, or with their truth or falsity. They accept the material as written and then try to extract meaning and insights from it for our own time. The familiar stories seem ripe for re-evaluation today since they include lurid episodes of rape, exile, jealousy, murder, greed and betrayal. Aptly, and with some justice, the dysfunctional families of the patriarchs are compared to the widespread moral breakdown and loss of family values in our own society.

The wide-ranging and stimulating exchange of views sometimes digress from the text as the animated discussants comment on their own personal problems: divorce, health, religious doubt, conversion and the use of drugs. There is also an inevitable tendency to impose 20th-century standards and the modern sensibility on material of a far different and less sophisticated age. Thus, Genesis is faulted for its ideas on women, cruelty, superstition, racism and so forth. Nevertheless, there is much provocative and lively dialogue and interpretation.

Jewish participants include Robert Alter, Norman Cohen, Rebecca Goldstein, Blu Greenberg, Faye Kellerman, Naomi Rosenblatt, Burton Visotsky and Avivah Zornberg.

It is fascinating to observe how the outlook and interpretation of the Jewish participants — making use of midrash and other traditional sources — differ substantially from that of the non-Jewish members of the group. This is especially evident when they defend Jacob — in the light of rabbinic and later interpretations — as the others call him villain and decry his dishonesty and moral lapses.

The text is enhanced with illustrations from the world of art, biographical sketches of the participants, a guide for additional reading and an epilogue by Moyer in which he writes: "Especially now, with America's many cultural groups flying off into fragments, the Bible can be a common ground for discussion. The message of Genesis is that God has a relationship with all of us." May the conversation continue.

* * *

Karen Armstrong, well-known for her best selling *A History of God* offers her perceptions and understanding of the major themes of Genesis. Her manner, brisk and succinct, is replete with seminal ideas. About Jacob and Esau she writes, "Jacob was a twin, and in various cultures twins have been a common symbol of the divided self. Jacob had fought with Esau in the womb. Esau was his alter ego, his polar opposite, the shadow self that, like all of us, Jacob carried within him and with whom he had to come to terms if he was to live a fruitful life."

This engaging, modern midrash includes as an appendix the book of Genesis for quick reference and study.

Jewish Life

Family heritage explored in Vilna

By PETER STENN AND LAURA METRICK STENN
Special to The CJN

We have recently returned from a trip to Vilna in Lithuania, a trip to explore our families' heritage and Jewish life, past, present and future, in that part of the world. We also wanted to get some perspective on our people's religious future.

Guest Voices

We found that Vilna is a beautiful city on the Wilja River. The charming old town is well-preserved and vibrant, with night life, students, narrow cobblestone streets and a fairytale-like atmosphere. But the Yiddish life is gone.

We started at the Jewish Centre on Pylimo Street. Although it was not open the Sunday we were there, a woman answered our knock. After a short search for a mutual language, we settled on our very primitive Yiddish, embellished by very sophisticated mime.

"Where is the synagogue?" we asked.

We were able to translate her reply: "A beautiful yellow building on the right side of the street, about two kilometres up the road." And though we had already walked by it without recognizing it as a synagogue, we then easily recognized the "beautiful yellow building."

Inside, the Orthodox synagogue was very comfortable, although it was worn. That it had been nurtured and loved by its congregation, that it had given spiritual solace, was evident. But also evident was its spartan poverty.

We returned that evening for services. It felt very religious and dignified, as a service should be. The congregation was in prayer; the chanting was poignant; the music and prayers were familiar. We could not understand the sermon, which was in Yiddish. People were dressed simply. The cold temperature made it necessary to wear our coats. Our overriding impression was of an aging congregation, since those in attendance were almost all seniors. Out of about 100 people, not more than a handful were middle-aged or younger, and most of them were visitors or temporary residents.

The next day, we went with a local Jewish guide and driver to visit Kalvarija, the remote ancestral village of one of our grandfathers about 100 km southwest of Vilna.

As we drove through the countryside, we could see that much of Lithuania is poor, agrarian country, just now recovering from the devastation of, first the Nazis, and then the long onerous occupation by the Soviets. Outside of Vilna, there are few cars. Much of the farm power is provided by horses. Hand labor is common.

Our ancestral village seemed very small and very quiet — from another era. Many of the people were earthy peasants. We stopped for our guide to ask about the only remaining evidence that Jews ever existed there: the cemetery and the synagogue.

The cemetery was weed-strewn and ragged. Headstones were askew, most damaged. While it had not been destroyed, it had clearly been neglected.

The synagogue was in ruin. We could clearly recognize the central bimah, the Aron HaKodesh and one Hebrew inscription that remained over the entrance arch ("Through these portals go..."). For some reason, we felt the most sadness when we saw the remnants of dignified blue-painted columns, and a piece of ceiling metal flapping in the wind through the almost totally open roof.

Our first impulse was to work with our guide to organize some way to restore this testimonial to Jewish life. We could raise funds. We could bring it back to its former glory or at least prevent its further decline.

But as reality began to set in, we asked who would see this synagogue. We were told that the nearest Jew lived 50 km away.

While we were familiar with Nazi atrocities and the impact of the Holocaust at an individual and family level, we had not previously been exposed to its devastation of a culture. It was a numbing experience.

We had expected, or perhaps hoped, to see some evidence of a Jewish rebirth in this part of the world, particularly after the Soviet era. There was little evidence of such rebirth. We saw few young Jewish people. We were told that most have emigrated either to North America or to Israel. The Jewish population shrinks with each passing year.

A significant portion of the congregation at High Holy Day services in Vilna is made up of North American and Israeli visitors, and the Jewish community seems to sustain itself in large measure through serving visiting Jews. For those of us to whom our heritage is important, preserving and visiting these sites is a priority. However, in terms of a Jewish rebirth, the Nazis' goal of *Judenfrei* seems to have largely been achieved in Lithuania.

Peter Stenn and Laura Metrick Stenn live in Toronto.

SEPHARDI RITE AN OCCASION FOR STUDY AND PRAYER

Orna and Michael Serruya hold baby Aaron Nathaniel at his *Talamon*, a Sephardi rite held on the eve of the *brit milah*. A silk tapestry and two Torah covers grace the wall. Above them a fringed scarf drapes the actual *talamon* (canopy), under which the *brit* is performed. The *talamon* ceremony includes study and prayer for the well-being of mother and baby. Rabbi Raphael Abuhatzhira, inset, grandson of revered Sephardi rabbi Baba Sali, was brought in from Israel to co-officiate at the ceremony.

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CJN2

Diplomatically Speaking

BY Jehudi Kinar

Israel's population now over 5 million

At the beginning of every year we receive the most recent statistics. As the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel approaches, we reflect on the size of her population, which in 1948 included about 600,000 Jews.

One of the most oft-quoted statistics on Israel relates regretfully to our roads. It has been mentioned before that more Israelis have been killed in traffic accidents than in wars. On the first day of 1997, four Israelis were killed, on top of the 594 who died in 1996, of whom 52 were children. At the same time, 3,414 Israelis were badly wounded. Let us hope that the Israeli authorities together with its population will find a way to win this war on the roads. We cannot afford any more victims.

More gratifying statistics concern the growing Israeli population. At the beginning of 1997 Israel counted 5.764 million inhabitants, of whom 4.656 million (80.8 per cent) were Jewish, 842,000 Muslims (14.6 per cent), 170,000 Christians (2.9 per cent) and 96,000 Druze (1.7 per cent). In the period January to December 1996 Israel's population increased by 145,000 souls, which means an increase of 2.6 per cent. As the number of Jews in the former Soviet Union is decreasing, the number of immigrants arriving from these countries is decreasing as well. While in 1995 we absorbed 75,000 immigrants, the number for 1996 was 69,000. Still 84 per cent of immigrants arriving in Israel are originally from the former Soviet Union (FSU). Since 1990, Israel absorbed more than 755,000 immigrants and nearly 628,000 of them came from the FSU. In 1996 Israel welcomed nearly 122,000 newborns.

When we note that the estimated Jewish population in the world today is 13 million, then we see that more than 35 per cent of them live in Israel. This is the case if we still estimate that the Jews in the United States and Canada amount together to more than six million, which translates into 47 per cent of the total Jewish population in the world.

These statistical facts were published by the Hadassah Institute in Jerusalem and the figures are somewhat surprising. I would have thought that the gap between the number of Jews in Israel and North America would be narrower by now; nevertheless, we can project that by the years 2005-2010 Israel will be the biggest Jewish centre in the world. The above statistics were compiled by Prof. Sergio DellaPergola, the head of the Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

The Jewish community in Toronto will have the opportunity to hear DellaPergola when he and two other faculty members from the Hebrew University, Prof. Yair Zakovitch and Dr. Ze'ev Mankowitz, will participate in an interactive evening on Jewish Identity in the New Millennium, Feb. 3, at York University. Moderator is Prof. Irving Abella.

DellaPergola was the first speaker at the spring session of an ongoing dialogue between the president of the State of Israel and representatives of the many Jewish communities around the world.

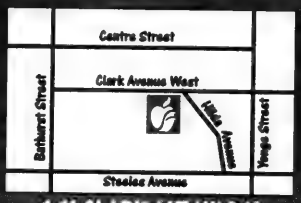
When we speak or write about the interaction between world Jewry and the State of Israel, it is important that we know facts and figures. There is no one more capable of describing the demographic facts than DellaPergola, whose topic at the evening on Jewish Identity organized by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University will be What do Statistics Predict?

OR HAEMET IS RISING

Jehudi Kinar recently toured the construction site of Or Haemet Sephardic School in Thornhill. From left were project manager Dominique Comforti; architect Mark Malinowitz; Kinar; Maurice Benzacar, school vice-president; Ruben Benquesus; and his brother Leon Benquesus. [Sam Cohen photo]

IGA Kosher

IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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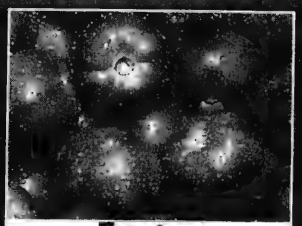

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Greater Toronto Area

Scholarship in Holocaust studies begins at York

TORONTO — Eric Gertner, his brother Henry and sister Marlene Brickman, have recently given their parents, Berek and Regina Gertner, a 50th wedding anniversary present that will help York University students for years to come.

They have established the Berek and Regina Gertner Scholarship in Holocaust Studies, to be awarded annually to one or two students for Holocaust studies.

Over $15,000 has been donated by the Gertner family and their friends, says Michael Brown, director of York's Centre for Jewish Studies. Under a new program, the Ontario government will match any funds raised before March 1997. York was one of the first universities in Canada to establish a course on Holocaust studies.

Berek and Regina Gertner are survivors who originally came from southwestern Poland. Regina was sent to Auschwitz as a teenager, then marched by the Nazis to Czechoslovakia in 1944, where she was liberated by Russian troops in 1945. Berek was sent to labor camps, survived a bout of typhus, escaped with a group of boys in February 1945, and was eventually discovered by Russian soldiers.

"I tried to think of something that would be unique and contribute to the community," Eric Gertner said. "I thought of this idea and I discussed it with my brother and sister. We hope the Holocaust, which played such an important role in my parents' lives, will be better understood in the future."

Among the students present when Brown presented the Gertners with a framed certificate honoring the new award was third-year visual arts major Samara Enchin. A visit to concentration camps in Poland a few years ago left her with an interest in learning more about the Holocaust.

Eric Gertner says he and his siblings chose York as the recipient of the scholarship because all three are York graduates and Henry's son, Terry, is now a student there. In making their gift, they are seeking to ensure that future generations of students will be familiar with the catastrophe that has shaped much of modern Jewish history.

Seen at a reception for the Gertners are (front row, from left) visual arts student Samara Enchin, history and education major Adam Segal, visual arts student Carolyne Novak, and political science and Judaic studies major Jonathan Lasky. Standing (from left) are Marlene Brickman, Eric Gertner, Michael Brickman, director of York's Centre for Jewish Studies Michael Brown, Henry Gertner, Berek Gertner, Elinor Gertner, Regina Gertner and Cheryle Gertner.

Clarification

In the article *Pollards respond to 'attacks' from their critics* which apeared in the Jan. 2 issue of *The CJN*, our reporter referred to a passage in a press release by Jonathan Pollard that stated that "...prison officials were contacted by *Ha'aretz* and the *Toronto Star* and in both cases, they refused to be interviewed..." The *Toronto Star* has advised *The CJN* that, when contacted, prison official Joe Meko did indeed speak with its reporter.

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Dawn Campbell
joined Baycrest twelve years ago, as a full time employee in the residents' personal laundry department. Her mother had been a nurse at Baycrest and for ten years Dawn worked part time while going through school studying languages. Today she speaks Italian, German, Spanish, a little Russian and Polish and of course English.

"I have learned so much by working here. I love my job. I love the people I work for. My main concern is always the clients; I respect them and like to do little extra things for them. For instance, one of my clients likes to see her clothes folded a certain way, and I do it. It makes her feel special and loved. There's a man here who loves baseball, and although he's losing his sight, I know that when I smarten up his baseball cap for him, he can tell it's been washed and ironed, and he really likes that. These little things make the difference."

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30 Wertheim Court, Unit 20
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Fax: (905) 764-8323
e-mail:harris@enterprise.ca

Somalia inquiry's end concerns Jewish groups

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The decision by federal authorities to bring the Somalia inquiry to a close will prevent the commission from fully addressing the question of racism in the military, a lawyer for Canadian Jewish Congress stated last week.

"We're extremely disappointed that the commission will be closing down," said Keith Landy, who represented Congress at the inquiry. "With critical gaps in the testimony, it is unreasonable to expect that the commission's report will lift the veil of uncertainty hanging over the Canadian military or fully explore the root attitudes of racism which permeated the Airborne Regiment and precipitated the violence...

"Now we will never get at the full truth and many of the key questions, particularly ones involving the actions and views of senior military leaders on these issues, will remain forever unanswered. It is hard to imagine how an incomplete report by the commission will be able to help restore the tarnished image of Canada's military to its former illustrious standard or to assist in rooting out racism in its midst."

The Somalia Commission was struck to investigate incidents involving the Airborne Regiment in which Somalia youth were killed and others abused during its peacekeeping mission. The inquiry has uncovered evidence of a coverup by the military and in startling testimony by the Airborne's former discipline officer, Sgt. Maj. Bud Jardine, evidence that racism was tolerated. Under cross examination by Landy, Jardine testified he was aware soldiers sported swastika tattoos but he did not believe the tattoos were a racist symbol or undermined discipline.

"If you look at the pattern of the soldiers' behavior then see the attitude of the officers who failed to read the signals, it's no surprise Somalis were killed," Landy said at the time.

Although the Armed Forces has, since the Somalia incidents, drummed out three recruits for racist behavior, it's not clear that the culture that tolerated racism has been fully addressed, Landy said.

Last October, Congress urged Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Defence Minister Doug Young to allow the commission to complete its work. "I can't help but ascribe a selfish motive [for shutting down the inquiry], that being the commission was to begin dealing with a period when the Liberals were in power," Landy added.

'We see no evidence of government's intention to look at structure of military'

Marvin Kurz, who represented B'nai Brith Canada at the hearings, said "we're quite scandalized" by the decision to terminate the inquiry.

"We see no evidence of the government's intention to look at the structure of the military and make sure the problems [including Nazis in the armed forces and sending racists to Somalia] recur," Kurz said.

"The government's conduct during the inquiry has been far less than upfront, far less than what you would expect of a government that wants the truth of what happened to come out," he added.

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רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

דר. חיים זשיטלאָווסקי, געמריי׳ער קעמפער פאַר ייִדיש

פון אַלבערט בייניערמאַן

דר. חיים זשיטלאָווסקי האָט זייער פרי אין לעבן אָנגעהויבן זיין פאָליטיש-געזעלשאַפטלעכע טעטיקייט. אין יאָר 1885, אין עלטער פון 20 יאָר, אָרגאַניזירט ער אַ ייִדיש-סאָציאַליסטישע גרופּע אונטערן נאָמען „תשואה ישראל". אין יאָר 1892 באַקומט ער זיין דאָקטאָראַט אין בערנער אוניווערסיטעט אין שווייצאַריע און ער פאָרט צוריק קיין רוסלאַנד, וואו ער ווערט אייַנער פון די גרינדער פון דער רוסישער סאָציאַליסטיש-רעוואָלוציאָנערער פאַרטיי.

אַ גרויסער ליבהאָבער פון ייִדיש, ווערט ער אייַנער פון די אַקטיוויסטע אָרגאַניזאַטאָרן פון דער טשערנאָוויצער קאָנפערענץ אין יאָר 1908, ביי וועלכער ייִדיש ווערט פראָקלאָמירט אלס אַ *נאַציאָנאַלע שפראַך*. אין זעלבן יאָר גרינדעט ער די ציטשערפט „ניי לעבן", אין וועלכער ער פאַרשפּנטלעכט אַ סעריע עסייען וועגן ייִדיש און וועגן פילאָזאָפישע פראָבלעמען. אין יאָר 1910 דערשיינען זייַנע צווייַ בענדער וועגן פילאָזאָפיע.

במשך פון אַ סך יאָרן איז דר. זשיטלאָווסקי געווען אקטיוו אין ייִדישן פראָגרעסיוו-קולטורעלן לעבן. ער איז געווען צווישן די גרינדער פון ייִדישן קולטור-פאַרבאַנד „איקוף". אין די דיסקוסיעס וועגן אָרט פון ייִדן אין דער נישט-ייִדישער סביבה, זיינען געווען אָנטאָלכע, וואָס האָבן געהאַלטן, אַז מען קען זיך אַסימילירן, כדי צו דערגרייכן בעסערע עקאָנאָמישע און קולטור-באַדינגונגען, אָבער דר. זשיטלאָווסקי איז שארף אַרויסגעטראָטן קעגן אסימילאַציע. ער האָט נישט גענייקנט, אַז די רעליגיעזע אמונה האָט צעמענטירט די איינקייט און די עקזיסטענץ פונעם ייִדישן פאָלק, אָבער ייִדן האָבן דורכגעמאַכט אַן ענלעכן פראָצעס ווי עס האָבן דורכגעמאַכט אָנדערע פעלקער. דאָס סעקולערע לעבן פון ייִדן דאָרף, לויט זשיטלאָווסקין, געבויט ווערן אויף דרײַ זײַלן: א) אַן אייגן לאַנד — סעריטאָריאַליזם; ב) נאַציאָנאַל-קולטורעלע זעלבשטענדיקייט אין די לענדער וואו ייִדן לעבן און שאַפן, כדי צו פאָרהיטן אונדזערע קולטור-ווערטן אין דער ייִדישער שפּראַך; ג) די נאַציאָנאַלע קולטור מוז זיין אַ סעקולערע.

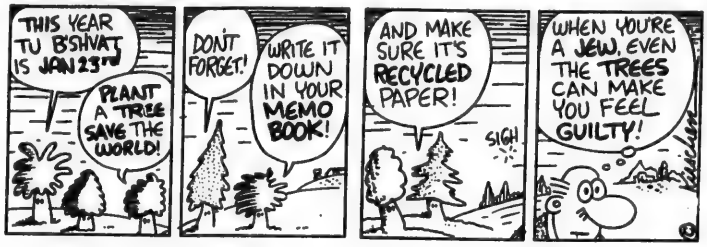
דר. זשיטלאָווסקי ווערט פאַרעכנט ווי אַן אָנגעזעענער פילאָזאָף פון 19-טן און 20-טן יאָרהונדערט. ער איז געווען צווישן די גרינדער און בויער פון דער סאָציאַליסטישער באָוועגונג. שוין צו 18 יאָר איז ער באַטראַכט געוואָרן אַלס אַ טעאָרעטיקער פון דער רוסישער פאָלקס-באָוועגונג „נאָראָדנאיאַ וואָליאַ".

אין די אָנציקער יאָרן רעווידירט זשיטלאָווסקי געוויסע פון זיינע פריערדיקע אינשטעלונגען בנוגע דער ייִדן-פראָגע. ער זעט אין די פולע ריכטיקייט פון דער שטעלונג, אַז ייִדן דאַרפן זיין אַ פאָלק פאַר זיך, מיט אַן אייגענער שפּראַך און קולטור. אין הסכם דערמיט האָט זשיטלאָווסקי געראָפן די ייִדישע אינטעליגענץ אָפּצושאַצן די ווערטן פונעם ייִדישן גייסט, דעם דורשט נאָך אמת, ישר און שיינקייט. און ייִדישע ווערטן זיינען די אַלע, וואָס דאָס פאָלק האָט געשאַפן אויף זיין לאַנגן היסטאָרישן וועג — דער תנ״ך, דער תלמוד, די שאָפונגען אין צייט פון דער גאָלדענער תקופה אין שפּאַניע, און אַלדאָס גייסטיקע, וואָס ייִדן האָבן געשאַפן אין מזרח-אייראָפּע און אומעטום, וואו ייִדן לעבן און שאַפן. זייער באַזונדערע קייט טאָרן ייִדן נישט אויפגעבן, ווי קיין שום פאָלק גיט נישט אויף זיין ספּעציפישקייט.

ווי אַ מענטש מיט ברויזנדיקן אינטעלעקט, איז דר. חיים זשיטלאָווסקי אויך געווען פול מיט סתירות. ער האָט די סתירות מיטגענומען פון זיין היים: פון דער מוטער׳ס צד האָט ער געשטאַמט פון חסידים; פון דעם פאָטער׳ס צד פון מתנגדים. ער האָט באַקומען אַ רעליגיעזע דערציאונג און באַלד דערנאָך אינערגעגאַנגען אין גימנאַזיע אויף סעקולערע שטודיעס. ער האָט ליב געהאַט די העברעישע ליטעראַטור. ער איז אָבער אַלע מאָל געווען און פאַרבליבן אַ נעטריער פאַרטיידיקער פון ייִדיש לשון און אַ קעמפער קעגן אַסימילאַציע. ער האָט געטרוימט, אַז מענטשן זאָלן לעבן אין פרידן און פרייהייט אין פרידן. ער האָט אויך געגלויבט אין דער מלוכה׳שער וויסנשאַפטלעכער אויפלעבונג פון ייִדישן פאָלק. ער איז געווען אַ שטאַרקער און אומדערמידלעכער קעמפער פאַר ייִדיש און געשאַפן אַ רייַ וויכטיקע ווערק אין ייִדיש.

דר. חיים זשיטלאָווסקי איז געשטאָרבן אין עלטער פון 78 יאָר, אין מאַי, 1943, אין קאַלגאַרי, קאַנאַדע, וואו ער איז געווען אינטערנירט אויף אַ סעריע לעקציעס.

כבוד זיין אָנדענק!



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UJA Federation Campaign Closing

A SALUTE TO SUCCESS

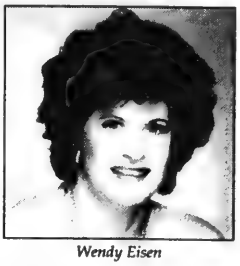
Belief in community was the spark that kept the fires burning all evening at the 1997 UJA Federation Campaign closing last night. The banquet, based on a summer camp theme, marked the official end of UJA Federation's annual campaign which has already raised more than $33 million. The final total is expected to exceed $35.5 million - about $1.5 million more than last year.

Neil Nisker

Campaign calls will continue to past contributors who have not yet given a gift and to potential new donors. This year's campaign concentrated more heavily than ever before on reaching new givers. More than 2,500 responded with contributions totalling over $800,000. Last night, hundreds of volunteers were saluted for their dedication and commitment to community.

In keeping with the evening's cozy camp theme, Beth Tzedec's elegant ballroom was transformed into a giant mess hall complete with campfire centre pieces, flagpoles and candy from the "tuck shop". Former UJA Federation Chairs Wendy Eisen and Neil Nisker, co-chaired the closing.

Special awards were handed out to volunteers for "Best All Around Campaigner," "Top Telethon Junkies," "Rookie Camp-aigner of the Year," "Best Husband and Wife Team," and "Best Divisional Program" among many others. Veteran campaigner David C. Green once again walked away with the award for "Most Cards Covered," and it was no surprise that UJA Federation's most successful one day fundraiser, Super Sunday, won for "Best Campaign Program."



Wendy Eisen

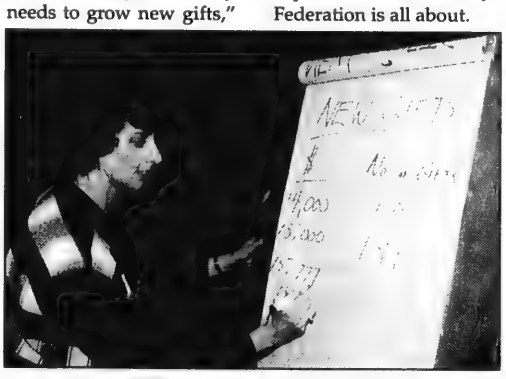
UJA Federation Campaign Chairman David Goldstein said he felt "blessed to have been part of such a successful campaign." Last night, Goldstein praised his Vice-Chairmen David Engel and Michael Daren and formally introduced his successor Leo Goldhar. "Working with such dedicated volunteers," said Goldstein, "deeply enriched my life."

UJA Campaign proud of new donors

UJA Federation Campaign '97 was distinguished by an unprecedented effort to reach community members who had never contributed before. Already more than 2,500 new gifts have been received and campaigners are continuing with more calls.

"A growing community needs to grow new gifts," explains Gary Grundman, who co-chaired the drive for first time contributors with Rosanne Ain.

The push to attract new donors involved hundreds of volunteers who were asked to focus their energies on contacting potential new givers and explain to them what UJA Federation is all about.



Agi Mandel tallies up pledges at a recent New Gifts telethon.

A series of new gifts telethons, including the first ever in York region at the Promenade Shopping Centre, and private parlour meetings helped raise awareness and several hundred thousand dollars.

"The response from the community was very gratifying," says Agi Mandel, 1997 Vice-Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign. "We realized we were finally reaching people."

"The job was not easy and the volunteers should really be proud," notes Grundman. "But even more important than raising money is the fact that each pledge represents one more committed Jew."

Young Leaders Love Yachdav

Toronto's Michael Pollak reaches for a squeeze on Kibbutz Ketura near Eilat. Pollak was one of 150 who visited Basel, Switzerland and Israel on Yachdav '96 International Young Leadership Mission.

Les Aaron, Chair of the 18 member Toronto contingent and fiancée Lisa Wolfe met former Prime Minister Shimon Peres at a special reception in Jerusalem.

Community Matters

UJA Federation's mission mania

If you're craving an Israel experience, check out UJA Federation's spring/summer line up.

Mission season begins with UJA Federation's *Prime Minister's Mission* to Moscow, St. Petersburg and Israel, March 23 to April 2.

At a cost of $3,900 per person, Prime Minister's Mission participants will stay in 5-star accommodations and travel with Dr. Baruch Gur, the architect of *Operation Exodus*. The VIP itinerary includes a tour of the Kremlin, visits to ancient synagogues and the famous St. Petersburg Hermitage. On the Israel itinerary are meetings with government leaders, a Golan Heights tour, Canada Centre in Metulla and other UJA Federation-sponsored projects. For more information, call Ronit Climan at (416) 631-5738 or Baruch Gur at (416) 631-5713.

Visit *Israel in Style* on UJA Federation's Fashion Division Mission, March 30 to April 8. The tailor-made itinerary features visits to some of Israel's most fashionable neighbourhoods plus a look at fashion industry business opportunities and immigrant absorption sites. The cost of the mission, which includes first-class hotels, is $2,400. For more information, call Jeff Springer at (416) 631-5706.

Israel will be a society of Societies in May, when members of Societies from many countries meet in Jerusalem. It's a major highlight of UJA Federation's *Chazak Mission to Israel*, May 5-20, for those who belong to a Society. Other attractions include Eilat and visits to Society-sponsored UJA Federation projects. The cost is $3,900 per person. More information is available from Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

Make your next trip to Israel a family affair on UJA Federation's *Family Fun Mission*, August 4-13. The tour is designed for all ages, with Galilee jeep excursions, inner-tubing down the Jordan River and a climb to the top of Masada, where bar and bat mitzvah ceremonies are being planned. The cost for a family of four (2 adults and 2 children) starts at $12,495. For more information call, Mark Freedman at (416) 631-5691.

Richard Sadowski (right) presents Metulla mayor Yossi Goldberg (left), and Jeff Budd, hockey coach and volunteer co-ordinator for the Canada Centre, with an autographed Doug Gilmour sweater on behalf of UJA Federation's Arts & Entertainment "Spotlight on Israel" mission participants.

Mission Sefarade joins Jewish past and present

UJA Federation is inviting the community to pass through the gateway between the Jewish and Arab worlds on its first mission to Morocco and Israel.

Mission Sefarade, May 20 - 30, offers an opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of some of the most magnificent cities in North Africa.

Although many Sefardi participants will be able to trace their roots as they visit the country's major centre, the mission is not restricted to Sephardim.

"This is a wonderful way for both Sefardi and Ashkenazi Jews to learn about one of the oldest Jewish communities in the world," says Eric Attias, a member of the mission's planning committee.

Attias, who was born in Morocco, says he is looking forward to seeing the "thriving and dynamic Jewish community in Casablanca and participating in the festive Hillula of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai." The Hillula commemorates the anniversary of Bar Yochai's death.

Israel highlights include visits to immigrant absorption sites, the kotel, tours of Yad Vashem and Yitzhak Rabin's grave on Mt. Herzl.

A special information session for the mission is being held Thursday, January 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street. For more information, please contact Avi Benlolo at (416) 631-5688.

Junior UJA champions!

Ilana Arje

Tamar Arje

Stephanie Benaksas

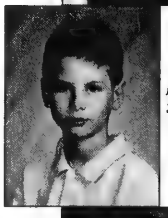
In our last issue of ***junior UJA news*** we invited our readers to send us the answers to our Chanuka Word Scramble. Our mail box was flooded with dozens of de-scrambled words. Here, as promised, are the ten contest winners who got their answers in first.

By the way, there was an 'n' missing from the word candles. Oops! Thanks to everyone who pointed it out.

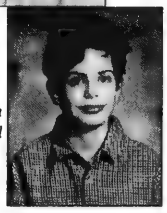
junior UJA club

The Junior UJA Club and junior UJA news encourage children to participate in tzedakah through UJA Federation and their schools. If you would like more information call (416) 631-5735.

Eric Redinger



Jacob Stall



Nathan Stall

Marlon Danilewitz

Dov Goldstein

Matthew Guttman

Alex Redinger

Obituaries

Mukamal led Iraqi community

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Saleh Mukamal, a noted businessman who was active in communal affairs and founded the Iraqi Jewish Federation of Toronto died recently. He was 82.

Mukamal was born in Baghdad in 1914, part of a large family, many of whom were merchants. In the early 1940s, he moved to New York, where he brought most of his family.

He moved to Canada in the early 1960s, and became active in the real estate business, becoming president of Chelsea Homes.

Able to bridge the Sephardi and Ashkenazi cultures, Mukamal was both on the board of directors of Holy Blossom Temple and active in his own culture. He was national chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress committee for Jews in Arab lands and lectured extensively on Sephardi culture.

Judy Feld Carr, who preceded him as committee chair, enlisted his help for her work with Syrian Jews.

Saleh Mukamal

"He was with me to translate for me, helping pass messages and making deals [to arrange to get the Syrian Jews out]. If I needed him, he was there, even though there was no glory, no honor [for him]," Carr said. "I could trust him completely. Once the mission was done, he never spoke of it again, to me or to anyone else.

"We were friends for a long time. He was the most gentle, sweet, lovely person — one of the great people I've had the honor of knowing."

Bernice, his wife of 41 years, told *The CJN* that her husband was an avid Zionist. One of his great prides, she said, was that he was responsible for smuggling the first date shoots into Israel, which led to the flourishing date industry the country enjoys.

He was very proud of his Iraqi heritage, she said, and wanted to perpetuate customs as they were followed in Iraq.

"He was responsible for bringing an Iraqi sefer Torah from Westminister Synagogue in London to Holy Blossom. We took it to the Royal Ontario Museum; they restored it and now it is used for the High Holidays by Iraqis."

Besides his wife Bernice, Mukamal is survived by sons Seth and Richard and grandchildren Lauren and Danielle.

Zweig dedicated to community

TORONTO — Betty Zweig, a prominent figure in the Toronto Jewish community was a Woman of Valor. She died Jan. 6.

Born Betty Salutin, in London, England, in 1906, she came to Canada with her family in 1911. Forced to leave school as a teenager to help support her family, Zweig entered the workforce and quickly became the private secretary to the president of *Colliers* magazine. She was fiercely proud of her Jewish heritage and was quick to speak out against the anti-Semitism she often encountered in the workplace.

She met Morris Zweig in the late 1920s and they were married in 1931. She took up the role of wife and mother and soon found a new channel for her energy and drive in charity work.

Zweig became involved with the Sinai Service Group in the early 1940s, raising funds for Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. Within a few years, she had become president of the organization — a pattern that would repeat itself in the many organizations with which she subsequently became involved.

In 1948, the Zweig family joined the Holy Blossom Temple, where she was involved with the sisterhood. It was at about this time, as well, that she became involved with Hadassah. Her dedictation to the cause so impressed the leadership of that organization that Zweig was asked to become chair of Israel Bonds, first for her Hatikvah chapter, then for Hadassah on a city-wide basis.

While maintaining the ties to her other charitable endeavors — and often adding new ones, like the Baycrest Geriatric Centre — selling Bonds became the most important cause in her life. She became the national vice-president of the Women's Division, State of Israel Bonds of Canada, and later was the first woman ever appointed honorary chairman of the board of governors of the State of Israel Bonds in Toronto.

Through her work with Israel Bonds, Zweig came to know and be known by a host of Hollywood celebrities as well as political leaders in both Canada and Israel. For her Bonds work, in 1972, she was presented with the rarely bestowed Eleanor Roosevelt Humanities Award.

By the 1980s, Baycrest became her primary focus. Long involved as a leader of the Women's Auxiliary of the Jewish Home for the Aged, she was named a life member of the board of directors. She continued to chair the gift shop well into her 80s.

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  with **Professor Daniel Lasker,** of Ben Gurion University.
- **Mon., Feb. 3, 1997, at 8:00 p.m.**
  for ***The Peace Camp and the National Camp: The Polarization of Israeli Society***
  with **Professor David Newman** of Ben Gurion University
- **Wed., Feb. 5, 1997, at 8:00 p.m.**
  for ***Post-Hebron: Where is the Peace Process Going?***
  with **Professor David Newman**
  (last 2 lectures co-sponsored by Canada-Israel Committee)

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- **Feb. 26, 1997,** *for* ***Rhapsody in Blue*** (1945), the biography of **George Gershwin**
- **Mar. 5, 1997,** *for* ***The Jazz Singer*** (1953), *with* **Danny Thomas**

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From coast to coast

Jewish organizations may face major overhaul

[Cont'd. from page 1]
office to Ottawa and a merger with Montreal's FEDERATION CJA.

CJC president Goldie Hershon and other Congress officers did little to hide their anger over the CJF-Canada proposals, despite efforts by Vineberg before the meeting to reassure CJC and to tone down the rhetoric.

CJF-Canada has told CJC, which receives about $3 million in annual funding, that the proposals are intended to make the Jewish community more cost-efficient and to avoid "duplication" of activities in an era of increasing community austerity measures and "rationalization" of services.

But the speakers agreed that implementing the recommendations would usurp CJC's democratic and historic mandates, send out the worst possible signal during a precarious period in Quebec history, and allow those who control the purse strings to unilaterally carry the day.

"A few people making decisions in a back room is not the way I see this going," Hershon told the meeting. "I don't think it's fair and I don't think it's right."

Hershon said she's received an "outpouring of support" from members of the community supporting CJC's position.

CJC treasurer Zave Climan hoped a compromise with CJF-Canada could be found by enhancing CJC's "advocacy" role in Ottawa, including the possible relocation of some national staff if needed.

CJC officials vowed there would be no compromise on merger or an outright move of the national office out of Quebec.

For Frank Schlesinger, CJC's national secretary, a merger was untenable for one basic reason: CJC, in keeping with its mandate as Canadian Jewry's "parliament," elects its leaders, while federations appoint them.

As the Jewish community's advocacy body, "CJC has to deal with issues that can bring it in direct opposition with the government in order to defend Jewish and human rights," Schlesinger said.

"I'm not anti-federation," he said, "but their reality is different. CJC represents the will of the people. We cannot transfer the advocacy role to federations."

Those and similar sentiments were echoed in even stronger terms by other CJC leaders and members of the executive.

The Iraqi Jewish Association of Ontario

mourns the passing of its Past President

SALEH MUKAMAL ז"ל

He will always be remembered for his contribution to our organization and the community.

We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

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Wednesday, February 5, 1997
8:00 p.m.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Wait and see

[Cont'd. from page 3]

As a Children's Aid Society, JF&CS has about 75 children in its care, either as Crown wards, society wards or on a voluntary basis.

Ecker's announcement was part of a set of sweeping reforms to provincial spending. In the health and social services sector, many costs once assumed by the province will be transferred to cities and towns.

Queen's Park will institute the following changes:

• Municipalities will pay more for welfare. Funding will be split 50-50 with the province.

• Day care will be managed at the municipal level and costs will be shared 50-50 with the province.

• Management and funding of social housing will be transferred to municipalities.

• Municipalities will assume full funding of public health programs. The province will keep responsibility over disease control and immunization.

• Queen's Park will fully fund Children's Aid Societies and women's shelters.

• The province will create a new Long Term Care Agency to co-ordinate long term care reforms according to province-wide standards. Municipalities will assume half the funding for these services.

Wolfe said a "bad move" by the province is the transferring of costs for social assistance programs to municipalities.

Because rules will vary from city to city, those most in need will be treated differently depending on where they live, he said.

Wolfe said the provincial Tories were "politically clever" to transfer controversial programs like welfare and child care to municipalities, while at the same time, switching the funding of education from property taxes to provincial grants.

In the meantime, Wolfe says he wants to hear more about the province's plans before further comment.

The same view was expressed by Moishe Greengarten, vice-president for public and community affairs at Baycrest.

He said he expects the reforms to have "some" impact on long-term care but that it's too early to say how much.

Greengarten said the government's plans leave many "unanswered questions."

Cutbacks raise palliative care costs

[Cont'd. from page 3]

chronic care and palliative care.

Since palliative care is intended to be for those in the very last stages of a terminal illness, the 60-day waiver of fees was often enough to either save those patients from paying the co-payment altogether, or have them pay it for only a very short time, he explained.

Those under 18, those receiving family benefits or welfare, and those with monthly incomes below a certain level, are fully or partly exempt.

Librach, however, is concerned about situations where a couple is existing at a barely subsistence level, and the healthy spouse suddenly has to come up with the extra money. "You don't know what will happen if they can't pay."

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda
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March 26	**Dr. Joshua Titlebaum** *Lecturer at the Dayan Centre* *(in conjunction with B'nai Brith and Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University*
April 16	**How to Host a Seder** *Speaker: Rabbi Barry Schneider*

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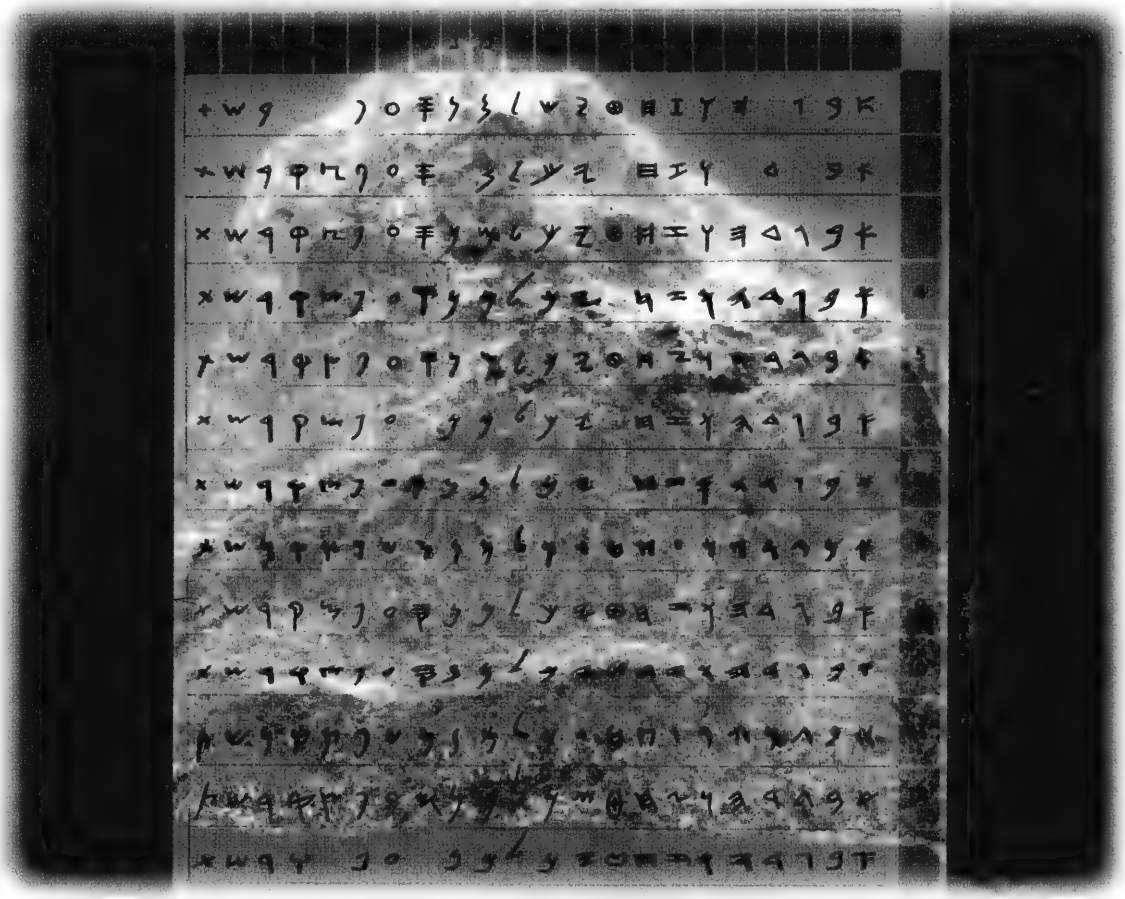
The Canadian Jewish news

EDUCATION

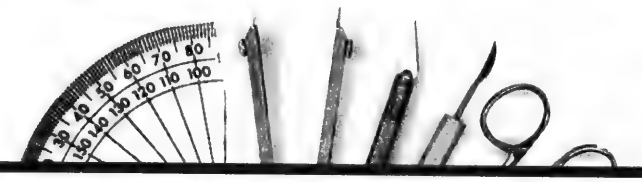
THE TEACHER, THE PUPIL AND THE LESSON

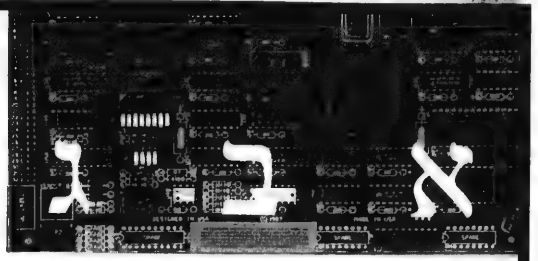
On this cover of our education supplement we try to capture visually three of education's main components: the teacher, the pupil and the lesson. The painting by Lazar Krestin poignantly, even if idealistically, expresses the tenderness, respect and love of the teacher toward his pupil. In the pupil's eyes we see reflected the attentiveness and the curiosity that the teacher's encouragement has inspired. The lesson is embodied by the alephbet, whose development and historical context are traced on the chart reproduced from the *Encyclopedia Judaica*. The chart shows the many predecessor forms of ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, Paleo-Hebrew and Phoenician writings dating from around 1000 BCE (Row 1) to second century BCE (Row 13) which have produced modern Hebrew . The alephbet is at one and the same time the great foundation stone on which all education stands, one of its essential keys opening up the infinite realm of learning and knowledge and helping to unlock the universe of other mysteries.



"Teach your children the path they should walk, and even when they are old, they will not stray from it." Proverbs 22:6

EDUCATION





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Patricia Campus
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Principal: Rabbi A. Levine
Gen. Studies Principal: Rabbi S. Jacobovits

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Administation House:
3072 Bayview Ave.
Director of Education: Lucy Cohen
Tel: 416-225-5928 Fax: 416-225-9108
Bathurst campus, 1700 Bathurst St.
Bayview campus,
3072 Bayview Ave.
Richmond Hill campus,
9711 Bayview Ave.
School affiliation: Solomon Schechter. Association: Conservative movement. Educating children to become knowledgeable, committed Jews, responsible members of Klal Yisrael and Canadian society. Quality programs integrate General and Judaic Studies with computer technology, art, music and physical education. Teaching methodologies enable students to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

DISCOVERY SCHOOL OF SPORT & ART
205 Champagne Dr., #5,
North York, Ont. M3J 2C6
Contact: Sima Sudin
Tel: 416-638-3033
Professional instruction for boys and girls in gymnastics (artistic & rhythmic), tumbling, trampoline, karate, ballet, jazz. Competitive/recreational classes. Also camps, birthday parties. Ages 18 mos.-18 yrs. 10,000 sq. ft. facility, Olympic standard equipment, mirrored dance studio.

TORONTO ASPIRALS RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS CENTRE
150 Cottingham Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4V 1C3
Recreational Co-ordinator: Linda Waks
Tel:416-487-9153 Fax: 416-487-0939
Toronto Aspirals Rhythmic Gymnastics Centre is a non-profit, parent-run rhythmic gymnastics club that offers recreational and competitive programs for girls ages 3-16. Girls of all ages will enjoy the fun combination of music, dance and gymnastics while improving their poise, fitness and dexterity.

HIGH SCHOOLS

BETH JACOB HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS and JACOB PERLMAN TEACHERS SEMINARY
410 Lawrence Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 1C2
Contact: Rabbi Akiva Stefansky
Tel: 416-787-4949 Fax: 416-787-0453
Academic, social and personal growth are our primary goals. Comprehensive Jewish studies program. Rigorous secular studies curriculum, including OACs, leads to the OSSD. Chessed projects and wide-ranging extra-curricular activities instill sensitivity to others, develop leadership skills, and cultivate talents. Youthful enthusiasm energizes a unique student-run outreach program to Russian children.

COMMUNITY HEBREW ACADEMY OF TORONTO (CHAT)
200 Wilmington Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5J8
Headmaster: Rabbi Marvin B. Pachino
Tel: 416-636-5984 Fax: 416-636-7717
General philosophy: to provide Jewish high school students with a superior Jewish and general education. Unique Jewish studies curriculum available for students coming from public schools. Some ESL and Special Education services are available. Sponsors a wide range of extra-curricular activities including athletics.

ULPANAT OROT GIRLS' SCHOOL
45 Canyon Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3S4
Executive Director: Jerry Solomon
Roshei HaYeshiva: Rabbi Shlomo Gemara and Rabbi Dr. Moshe Yeres
Menahel: Rabbi Shlomo Brown
Gen. Studies Principal: Dr.Norman Smith
Tel: 416-630-6772 Fax: 416-638-7905
Philosophy: Orthodox girls' high school operated by Bnei Akiva Schools. Quality Judaic and general studies in a vibrant religious, Zionist environment. Jewish studies in Hebrew. 4 year advanced general studies program accredited by Ministry of Education.

YESHIVAT BNEI AKIVA OR CHAIM
159 Almore Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2H9
Executive Director: Jerry Solomon
Roshei HaYeshiva: Rabbi Shlomo Gemara and Rabbi Dr. Moshe Yeres
Gen. Studies Principal: Dr.Norman Smith
Tel: 416-630-6772 Fax: 416-398-5711
Provides high quality Judaic and general studies program in a vibrant, caring, religious, Zionist environment. Offers computers, guidance, modern Beit Midrash, dormitory and gym. Jewish studies taught in Hebrew; 4 year advanced general studies program accredited by Ministry of Education.

PRE-SCHOOLS

BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE SCHOOL - DAYCARE
4588 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M2R 1W6
Director: Kailah Hoch
Tel: 636-1880, ext. #351
Fax: 636-5813
Our school & daycare cater to children 18 months-5 years. We offer a stimulating, enriched program focusing on creativity, cognition, social, emotional and physical skills. Jewish holidays are celebrated. We offer music, swim and gym specialties, a Children's Fun Centre and a Kosher (under COR) menu.

BETH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Contact: Barbara Lev
Tel: 416-783-6103
Playtime Nursery for Parents & Tots. Programs for children ages 1-2, 9:45-11:30 a.m. on Tues. & Thurs. Programs for 2-3 yr. olds 9:45-11:30 a.m. Mon. & Wed. Instructive, creative programs with parent participation, holiday celebrations, arts & crafts, stories and refreshments. This is a great opportunity to bond with your children and interact with other parents.

CRESTHAVEN NURSERY SCHOOL
46 Cresthaven Dr., #106,
Willowdale, Ont. M2H 1M2
Executive Director: Fran Ostronoff
Tel: 416-493-1607 / 416-494-5898
Fax: 416-494-6147
Licensed, non-profit half-day Pre-school providing enriched and creative learning opportunities for children 2-6 yrs. (Children do not have to be toilet trained.) 2, 3 & 5 day programs available. Jr. & Sr. Nursery 9-11:45 a.m. Sr. Nursery, Jr. & Sr. K. 1:15-3:45 p.m.

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE PRE-SCHOOL
1950 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K9
Pre-school Principal: Lorraine Sandler
Tel: 416-789-3291, ext. #256
Fax: 416-789-9697
Offers a Nursery School and Jr. Kindergarten program for 180 children, with morning or afternoon sessions. Teaching staff consists of well qualified Early Childhood Educators, a music

Cont'd on Page B3

DIRECTORY OF EDUCATION ADVERTISERS' CONT'D

and gym specialist. Student-teacher ratio is 1:8. As a pre-school espousing Jewish values we provide enriched programming around Shabbat and the holidays.

PLAYLEARN PRESCHOOL INC.
9741 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Director: Mrs. Necha Jakubowicz
Tel: 905-737-3336 Fax: 905-886-0059
Licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the warm nurturing atmosphere and carefully thought-out programing fosters socialization skills, builds self-esteem and allows each child to reach his/her fullest potential. The joys of being Jewish are carefully transmitted through hands-on activities, forming an awareness and love for people and Eretz Israel.

SWEET BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL
949 CLARK AVE. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8G6
Contact: Aliza Wrightman
Tel: 905-731-5966 / 905-769-1818
Fax: 905-731-5966
A licensed pre-school which boasts excellent teachers, small classes and well-equipped classrooms. Our program fosters positive Jewish identity while catering to the individual learning styles and developmental needs of each child. Our enriched curriculum includes: music, drama, creative movement, science, crafts, fine/gross motor activities, lots of fun, hands-on experiences!

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

BRANKSOME HALL
10 Elm Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4W 1N4
Tel: 416-920-9741 Fax: 416-920-5390
E-mail: admit@branksome.on.ca
A non-denominational university preparatory school for girls with 850 students from kindergarten to graduating year. Branksome offers a challenging academic program and a wide variety of sports, arts and leadership activities. The school is committed to a high level of individual attention and to the personal development of each student.

CANADIAN COLLEGE ITALY
59 Macamo Ct.,
Maple, Ont. L6A 1G1
Tel: 905-508-7108 Fax: 905-508-5480
A co-educational college-preparatory boarding school offering a high standard English language curriculum from grades 10-high school graduation. The central location for Lanciano (opposite Rome on the Adriatic coast) permits ready access to Rome, Florence and many archeological sites including Pompeii. There are bi-weekly excursions throughout the year.

THE LINDEN SCHOOL
10 Rosehill Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4T 1G5
Tel: 416-966-4406 Fax: 416-966-9736
Small classes provide Linden students with a learning advantage. Specialist teachers in the arts, languages, sciences, mathematics, computer studies, history and geography ensure that students respond to, and reflect upon the subject matter, and achieve academic excellence. The joy of learning is tangible in the atmosphere of The Linden School.

THE YORK SCHOOL
65 Sheldrake Blvd.,
Toronto, Ont. M4P 2B1
Administrator: Marilyn Andrews
Tel: 416-483-0541 Fax: 416-483-4881
Offers a Montessori-based preschool program, an excellent elementary program for grades 1-8 and a high school which opened in the fall of '95. The school offers a co-educational environment, small classes, individual attention, superb academics and an excellent curriculum in music, art and phys. ed. Convenient location in North Toronto.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

ATTENTION DISORDERS
NEUROFEEDBACK CENTRE (ADNC)
262 St. Clair Ave. W., Suite 102,
Toronto, Ont. M4V 1R8
Director: Tamara Druckman
Tel: 416-944-0103
Neurofeedback is a non-invasive alternative to medication for Attention Deficit Disorders. By utilizing feedback from their brainwave activity, individuals are able to learn to increase their powers of concentration. In conjuction with the intensive training program, the ADNC teaches learning strategies which enhance the increased ability to concentrate and focus.

DR. ABRAHAM SHORE ACADEMY
She'arim Hebrew Day School
100 Elder St.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5G7
Principal: Kathy Manoim
Tel: 416-633-8247 Fax: 416-633-4783
Provides special education for children with learning difficulties, focusing on the needs of the whole child in academic, social, organizational and related areas for both Judaic and general studies. Special education services: Feuerstein instrumental enrichment, art therapy, parent support group.

ZAREINU EDUCATIONAL CENTRE
4700 Bathurst St.,
North York, Ont. M2R 1W8
Principals: Carol Goldman
and Marion Goldmintz
Tel: 416-631-7646
Full and 1/2 day programs for children with physical, developmental or communicative challenges. Staff comprised of developmental physiologist and speech pathologist, special education teacher and communication, music, physio and occupational therapists. Home outreach and support available. An educational setting rich in Jewish culture and tradition.

SWIM SCHOOLS

FRANK'S SWIM SCHOOL
69 Talbot Rd.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2M 1S1
Contact: Frank Liebmann
Tel: 416-221-2690 Fax: 416-222-7292
Has served the community for 27 yrs. Programs: Parent & Tot; 3 mths-2 yrs; Red Cross; Red Cross Leader and Instructor courses; Royal Life, Bronze and Bronze Cross; Recreational swim team. Special pool for children (91°F); larger pools for older students at York Mills Collegiate, Newtonbrook Secondary School and Havergal College (87°F).

ZODIAC SWIM SCHOOL
2788 Bathurst St., #301
North York, Ont. M6B 3A3
Directors: Ellen & Rick Howard
Tel: 416-789-7946 Fax: 416-789-5525
While development of swimming skills is of course a central focus, building each student's self-esteem and confidence in Zodiac's challenging, non-threatening environment, is equally important. Qualified, caring instructors teach Red Cross, Life Saving and other programs in Zodiac's 3:1 ratio classes at 8 convenient locations (a wide variety of times are available).

SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS

AHAVAT YISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL
8950 Bathurst St.
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8A7
Principal: Mrs. Leslie Shapiro
Tel: 905-731-5054 Fax: 905-731-4651
Provides a creative, enjoyable learning experience for those interested in a once or optional twice a week program. The school, in its 7th year, offers an enriching curriculum of reading, writing, language, prayers, Israel and holidays. Special events include challah baking, Purim party and Passover seder. Remedial and enriched program available.

BET SEFER SOLEL
2399 Folkway Dr.,
Mississauga, Ont. L5L 2M6
Tel: 905-820-5915 Fax: 905-820-1956
At Bet Sefer Solel we really do "Teach our Children." Our school has a full-time rabbi and director, and approximately 230 children in grades Jr. K-10. Students lead services with confidence, on a regular basis, in preparation for their bar and bat mitzvah.

BETH SHOLOM COMMUNITY HEBREW SCHOOL (Mildred Arnoff Memorial)
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Executive Director: Ruth Podeswa
Head Teacher: Rona Kosansky
Tel: 416-783-6103 Fax: 416-783-9923
A Conservative Synagogue school affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education. Small friendly classes for Jr. Kindergarten to pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Family education programs, integrated art programs, ongoing remedial help and monthly Rosh Hodesh celebrations add to an exciting learning environment, foster a sense of community and enrich students' Jewish identity.

BETH TIKVAH CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
3080 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5L3
Principal: Samuel Kapustin
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
Beth Tikvah offers a dynamic Jewish studies curriculum: Hebrew, Bible, prayer, history and values. We seek to develop a positive Jewish identity in each child through a meaningful, responsive educational environment, with a variety of youth activities. All classes (JK-8) are open to the community and are in the Synagogue.

BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
1700 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3
Education/Youth Director: Dr. Daniel Goldberg
Tel: 416-781-3511, ext. 30
Fax: 416-781-0150
School Chair: Karen Hen 416-781-7924
Affiliated with the Conservative movement. Students from JK-high school attend 1-3 times/week. Our program stresses traditional values and integrates music and art into the curriculum. High parent involvement.

B'NAI SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL
Yorkhill E.S., 350 Hilda Ave. (at Clark)
Director: Sadie Dombo
Principal: Joseph Klinger
Tel: 905-731-2797
K-gr. 7. Affiliated with Board of Jewish Education, in its 14th year, student body over 300 and still growing! Exciting, educational afterschool Hebrew program schedule: Sun. a.m.; Wed. p.m. Hebrew, holidays, prayers, Bible, history, music, Israeli folkdancing, arts & crafts. Festive holiday celebrations. Remedial and enriched program available; bar/bat mitzvah program, free.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH HEBREW SCHOOLS
Education Director: Rabbi Meir Gitlin
Tel: 905-886-0420 Fax: 905-886-0421
2 locations serving: Bathurst/Centre area; Bayview/John area. Providing a wholesome Jewish education for public school children in grades SK-8. No matter what level of observance, the Hebrew School is known for its unique approach to Jewish education using the most advanced textbooks and methodology. Bar & Bat Mitzvah and individual tutoring. Affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education.

COMMITTEE FOR YIDDISH,
UJA FEDERATION
4600 Bathurst St.,
North York, Ont. M2R 3V2
Director: Sylvia Lustgarten
Tel: 416-635-2883, ext. #155
Yiddish desk of UJA Federation. Yiddish classes: kindergarten, elementary, high school and University of Toronto credit, adult conversation. Cultural activities: annual outdoor concert, Book Fair lecture. Co-sponsors programs, gives leadership and consultation to organizations and individuals in their Yiddish projects and programs both locally and internationally.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH COMMUNITY
SCHOOL (c/o BloorJCC)
750 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J2
Acting Principal: Marsha Slavens
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
Independent school. 325 students, ages 4-18. Jr. K-13. High school Wed. 7-8:30 p.m. Special programs/features: community holiday celebration program and Oneg Shabbat dinners, adult education programs, family Israel fair. Provides students with strong sense of Jewish identity in pluralistic community.

HILLEL CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP
NEW COLLEGE, U OF T
Registrar: Audrey Freidin
Tel: 416-651-1092
A co-operative Jewish Sunday school where parents and children have explored Jewish traditions, history and culture since 1974. We are committed to small classes and quality teachers. Parental involvement is encouraged in our non-profit organization. Sunday sessions for parents run concurrently with the children's classes.

KADIMA SCHOOL
100 Elder St., Downsview,
Ont. M3H 5G7
Contact: Ruth Kelman
Tel: 416-635-0640
The Kadima School is an educational facility that meets the needs of the developmentally handicapped from age 8-adulthood. Besides the core Judaic curriculum, the programs include a synagogue service, music and arts & crafts. Sukkot, Chanukah and Pesach are celebrated with services, a luncheon and holiday program. Classes meet on Sunday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

MORRIS WINCHEVSKY
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
585 Cranbrooke Ave.,
North York, Ont. M6A 2X9
Executive Director: Maxine Hermolin
Tel: 416-789-5502 Fax: 416-789-5981
Secular Jewish education - a true alternative! Sunday morning classes, Sept.-May, ages 4-13. Jewish identity & heritage explored through our program which focuses on Yiddish culture, Jewish history, literature, music, folkdance, drama and art with social justice perspective. Family-oriented holiday & cultural celebrations! Graduation marked by Secular B'nai Mitzvah. Youth group activities for teens. Over 70 years of providing progressive alternative Jewish education in Toronto.

RICHMOND HILL HEBREW SCHOOL
9711 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Principal: Herb Spindel
Tel: 905-884-8400
K-gr. 8. Curriculum includes Hebrew language, Bible, holidays, Jewish history, Israel, prayers, music, life cycle. Extra-curricular activities: choir, dance group. Licensed teachers. Affiliated with Beth Sholom Synagogue and Beit Rayim Synagogue.

SHAAR SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Principal: Karen L. Goodis, RJE
Tel: 905-889-0987 Fax: 905-889-4975
Location: Thornhill Secondary School. Kindergarten; Sundays; grades 1-2 2x week; grades 3-7 3x week. Grade 8 Judaica program. Highlights: Family Education, Winter Arts Program, emphasis on synagogue skills, enrichment for former day school students and remediation for children with special needs available. Affiliated with the BJE and United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

SHAAREI BETH EL CONGREGATION
186 Morrison Rd.,
Oakville, Ont. L6J 4J4
Rabbi: Edward Goldfarb
Principal: Eric Petersiel
Tel: 905-849-6000 Fax: 905-849-1134
Affiliation: Reform. Students: 98, ages 3-15. Grades: pre-K, post bar/bat mitzvah, 2x week (Sun./Wed). We are a liberal yet traditional congregation affiliated with the UAHC (Reform) with a full-time rabbi and part-time educator. Our families come from Oakville, Burlington, Mississauga, Milton and vicinity.

TEMPLE KOL AMI
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Education Director: Myrna Ross
Tel: 905-709-2620 Fax: 905-709-1895
Reform Judaism-oriented instruction, including B'nai Mitzvah preparation, is offered to members' children. Hebrew classes study on Wed. p.m. and Sat. a.m. JK-gr. 10 (Confirmation) meet on Shabbat for Judaic Studies concurrent with Torah study, adult education, and worship. Shabbat family time includes songs and stories with the Rabbi.

UNITED CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS
OF GREATER TORONTO
55 Yeomans Rd.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3J7
Education Director: Gella Weiss
Tel: 416-633-1338 Fax: 416-633-1740
UCS, with campuses in Thornhill and North York, has for 31 years provided a positive, fulfilling and comprehensive Jewish education, for children JK-Gr. 7. UCS is enriched through its connections with Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am synagogues.

TUTORING

CHILDREN'S CENTRE FOR ESL
& TUTORIAL SERVICES
3790 Victoria Park Ave., Unit 102,
North York, Ont.M2H 3H7
Tel: 416-499-2267
In operation since 1994 the Children's Centre for ESL & Tutorial Services has relocated to North York. The Centre has an extensive library and a self-contained computer room. Classes and tutorials are available for ESL, upgrading and enrichment in English, mathematics and French. All tutors are experienced Ontario certified teachers.

UNIVERSITIES

BOSTON UNIVERSITY —
BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY
OF THE NEGEV
755 Commonwealth Ave.,
Boston, MA. 02215
Tel: 617-353-6000 Fax: 617-353-6633
In 1985, Boston University and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev combined resources to offer a Master of Science in Management. Courses are offered on the main campus of Ben-Gurion University, 1 hr. from Tel Aviv, and 1½ hours from Jerusalem. The city has numerous modern amenities.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS PROGRAM -
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY
1801 Avenue Rd.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z3
Academic Director: Mark Rubinstein
Tel: 416-787-5692 / 1-800-ONLYTAU
Fax: 416-787-1762
E-Mail: 75113.2333@compuserve.com
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JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM -
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
100 St. George St., Room 2007,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 3G3
Contact: Prof. David Novak
Tel: 416-946-3229 Fax: 416-971-2027
The Jewish Studies Program at the University of Toronto has recently celebrated 25 years of teaching, research and scholarship. This multidisciplinary program, which encompasses the Arts and Science departments of English, German, History, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, Philosophy, Sociology and the Study of Religion, is unique in Canada for the breadth and depth of its curriculum.

YIDDISH PROGRAM -
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
97 St. George St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 1A1
Contact: Sharon Green
Tel: 416-978-3186 Fax: 416-978-4015
4 credit courses are offered at U of T for 1997-98: Yiddish - beginners level; Intermediate Yiddish - reinforcing reading, writing and speaking; Advance Yiddish - development of higher level of language skills; Introduction to Yiddish Literature (in English translation) - major Yiddish writers of the 19th and 20th centuries.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

FREE TORAH HIGH SCHOOL
c/o NCSY
7000 Bathurst St.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 7L1
Contact: Dovid Cofnas
Tel: 905-761-6279, Ext. #26
Fax: 905-761-9115
Free Torah High, a unique supplementary afternoon Hebrew school program, emphasizing the beauty of Jewish traditions and values through classes, multimedia presentations, discussion groups and special events. Whether you are affiliated or non-affiliated, everyone is welcome, and we offer courses on all levels to accommodate students from different backgrounds.

EDUCATION

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Fax: (416) 631-5715
UJA Federation Jewish Toronto Web Site: www.feduja.org

Dynamic Netivot teacher wins international award

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Jewish studies teacher Ellie Gellman brings a dynamic, idealistic approach into her Grade 3 and 5 classes at Netivot HaTorah Jewish Day School in Thornhill, just as she has into her previous classrooms in Minneapolis, Chicago, Washington, Calgary and other places.

"In any school that I've been at, it's always been an exciting challenge to find a way for serious Jewish learning to occur that even people with learning disabilities can be part of," Gellman says. "There must be a way to reach everybody, and I always enjoy finding that way."

Because of her overall classroom excellence, as well as her skills with children and adults with special learning needs, Gellman was recently honored by two North America-wide organizations that promote good Jewish education. At a ceremony in Chicago in September, Gellman received a Covenant Award from the Chicago-based Crown Family Foundation, in conjunction with the New York-based Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA).

Ellie Gellman

Gellman, who was born in Minneapolis and taught in Calgary for five years before moving to Toronto in 1992, prefers to teach in classrooms where a few children with special education needs are integrated into the group.

"Children with learning disabilities are usually of normal intelligence. Often they are bright kids lacking certain perceptual or memory skills. They need to be taught with a different style or approach," she says.

To reach all the students in a given class, Gellman organizes and presents the material in a variety of ways. While some pupils may learn best by reading a text, others may need to hear the material spoken aloud, and yet others may need to grasp the overall structure of a parshah or story before encountering the details, she says. As teacher, Gellman tries to cover all these needs.

"I try to approach the material in as many ways as possible so that as many kids can learn as possible. There's usually a lot of activities going on at the same time."

Gellman says she has been teaching since the age of 13, when she was given a group of first-graders and told to teach them in a large coat-check area in a synagogue.

"When it comes to special education, things are a lot different from when I was a kid," she remarks. "There were no special needs kids in the classroom back then, and people pretended they weren't there. I want to make a place for them."

Hasia Diner, the mother of one of Gellman's former students in Washington D.C., wrote a glowing letter to the Crown Foundation and JESNA describing Gellman's classroom skills.

"Ellie seemed to me a gentle wizard," the letter read, in part. "She had tricks up her sleeve to get Shira to remember letters and vowel markings and words and grammatical constructs that no classroom teacher had ever been able to do.

"Ellie put as her first priority honing Shira's Hebrew. But she made it clear to Shira and to me that Shira should always know that participating in the Jewish world took many forms and tapped many skills. Being a great Hebrew student was not the be-all and end-all of a Jewish education. She almost instinctively infused their weekly sessions with excitement about Jewish life and ritual."

Gellman is the mother of four children between the ages of seven and 13, all of whom study at Netivot HaTorah.

COMMUNITY HEBREW ACADEMY OF TORONTO
C.H.A.T. is a co-educational Jewish high school offering excellent Judaic and General Studies programs.
C.H.A.T. students are drawn from a wide range of backgrounds. Some are from public schools, and we provide them with a specially designed curriculum in Hebrew language and Judaica.
C.H.A.T. fosters an atmosphere of enquiry and intellectual stimulation, while providing outlets for the students' emotional and social growth.
C.H.A.T.'s extra-curricular activities motivate students to acquire the participatory and leadership skills necessary to become vital members of the Jewish community.
C.H.A.T. promotes a spirit of K'lal Yisrael, loyalty to the Jewish heritage and to the Jewish people.
C.H.A.T. graduates - more than 98% of them - go on to post-secondary education. Many attend yeshivot and universities in Israel.
For more information contact:
Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto
200 Wilmington Avenue
Downsview, Ontario M3H 5J8
Telephone (416) 636-5984
Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto
Affiliated with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education

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High school enrolment up

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, executive director of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), is pleased with many of the current developments in Jewish education, he said in a recent interview.

The rabbi, who will be retiring this summer after 28 years at the helm of the BJE, noted that there are now 27 day schools — 17 elementary and 10 secondary — in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Four new day schools opened for the 1996-97 academic year — two Lubavitcher schools, the Toronto Heschel School and a small school for seven boys with learning disabilities.

The total day school enrolment this year is 10,173 students, with 8,518 in elementary school and 1,655 in high school. Although the number of elementary day school students is down slightly from last year, Rabbi Witty said he was pleased to see the rise in high school enrolment, noting that the increase of 126 students at the secondary level was a significant number.

He called the numbers for supplementary school enrolment, which dropped by 98 students this year to 6,377 from 6,475, "soft figures," because, he said, there has been a proliferation of private supplementary schools which do not report their enrolment numbers to the BJE. He also expressed concern that many supplementary programs had gone from three to two days of instruction.

According to BJE statistics, in any given year, 50 percent of all Jewish children in the GTA have some form of Jewish education, with 65 percent of those who do receive some form of Jewish education attending day school programs.

And while Rabbi Witty said he would like to see all Jewish children in day schools, realistically they could not all be physically accommodated, even though the system is continuing to grow.

In recent years, four new campuses were opened in Thornhill for Netivot HaTorah Day School, Associated Hebrew Schools, Leo Baeck Day School and Eitz Chaim Schools. Bialik Hebrew Day School is planning to open a campus in Thornhill, Rabbi Witty said, and he expects the Heschel School will soon outgrow its space at the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

Rabbi Witty attributed the burgeoning Jewish education system to the growth of the community, as well as to the community's general recognition of the importance of education.

"Toronto is one of the leading communities on the continent for supporting Jewish education...The single most important vehicle for the preservation of Jewish life is Jewish education," he said.

He also had praise for UJA/Federation: "There's no doubt that without Federation's direct support and appreciation of the importance of Jewish education in Jewish life, we wouldn't be here today.

He said he was "brutally disappointed" by the recent outcome of the Supreme Court challenge of the inequity of funding for religious education in Ontario. There is government subsidization for the Jewish day schools in such provinces as Quebec, Alberta and Manitoba, he added.

The community has a commitment to help those children with limited financial resources to attend day schools, he said. "That implies spending a great deal of money to make this a reality for all segments of the population."

He acknowledged that Jewish education is expensive, especially for large families with only one working parent. Families who balk at the cost "have to re-examine their priorities," he said. "There's not a way out in the short term."

Professional development for Associated teachers

Associated Hebrew Schools, in conjunction with the Torah Department of the Jewish Agency and the Pinkus Foundation, is embarking on an extensive, two-year professional development program.

While most of the program will be offered here in Toronto, participants will also attend a three-week seminar in Israel during the summer.

Rabbi Avraham Soffer, educational director of Associated, explained that the goal of the program is "to enrich the knowledge of our teachers in all facets of *Torah She-be'al peh*, the oral law."

Courses will include the Jewish life cycle, including new halachic approaches to modern problems, the Jewish calendar and its origin, laws of Shabbat and holidays, Kuzari, Maimonides, and Hebrew grammar.

The summer in Israel will include visits to historical sites, the structure of the siddur, and historic Zionism.

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EDUCATION

Two Heschel school students placing their notes on the mitzvah tree.

Heschel school child-oriented

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The new educational kid on the block is garnering a positive response from the community.

The Toronto Heschel School opened this academic year with 52 students enrolled in junior kindergarten to Grade 3. Based on the community response, principal Otto Baruch Rand expects enrolment to double next year, he said in a recent interview.

The school, located in the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue in North York, plans to add one grade a year until it reaches Grade 8.

Rand, a former principal of the A.J. Heschel School in New York is a co-founder of the Toronto school along with general studies director Gail Baker, integrated arts director Judith Leitner and Judaic studies director Rachael Turkienicz.

There are also Heschel schools in Los Angeles and Beersheva. All three follow the religious teachings of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, for whom they are named, but operate independently of each other.

Rand said the Toronto Heschel School has adopted three basic philosophical principles of Heschel: the education is child-oriented, with multiple approaches to foster cognitive learning as well as emotional and spiritual growth; social action is strongly encouraged and geared to both the Jewish and general communities; and there is an emphasis on the unifying concepts among the various Jewish denominations, rather than the differences between them.

The school is non-denominational and is not affiliated with any one group, although traditional practices are taught, Rand said.

The children learn egalitarian prayers and everyone wears head coverings, he said, adding that the school stresses the importance of the family's role in determining which traditions are followed in the home.

From an academic standpoint, the school attempts to individualize learning by using different approaches to fit the needs of individual children, Rand said.

"Not all children shine in the same areas. We try to find the learning strengths of each child."

He said the school uses a multisensory approach to learning, incorporating into the curriculum a variety of arts-based activities, such as art, puppetry, music and drama to tap the senses.

Such activities reinforce and enhance learning, he explained. "Through play and through doing things of interest children learn the most."

This approach, which can accommodate children with a variety of learning needs, is not common in Jewish day schools, he noted.

"We wanted to provide an alternative. We felt there was a need to absorb the child who doesn't do well in the traditional structure," he said.

In the mid-afternoon, all subjects, including Hebrew, are integrated through the exploration of a particular theme in social and environmental studies.

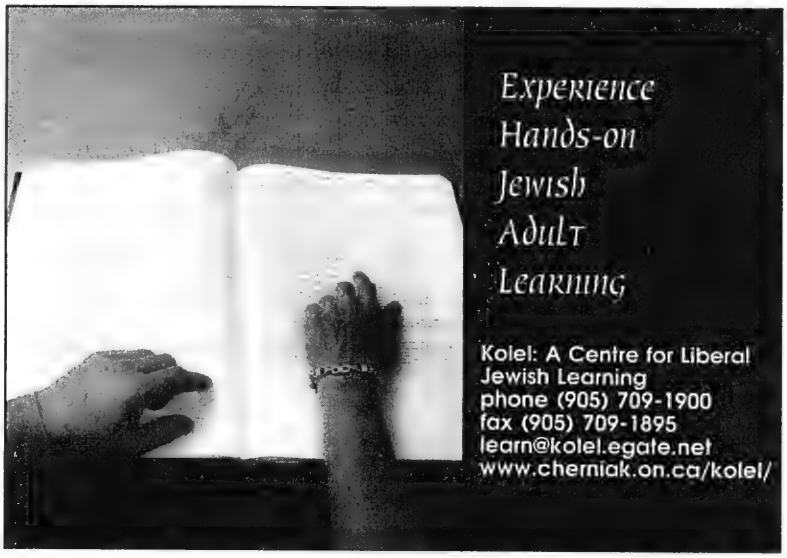
Until that point in the day, students learn the core subjects — math, spelling, reading, Hebrew and Chumash — in small skill groups geared to a student's level of skill, Rand said. "This kind of grouping exists from Grade 1, with children from different grades grouped together for some things."

Rand says the small class size and high teacher ratio — two teachers co-teach 20 children — allow the school to give more individualized attention to students.

The school promotes social awareness, emphasizing the importance of children behaving kindly to each other, he said.

He cited the mitzvah tree program as an example: children observing their peers doing good deeds honor them by putting their names on the mitzvah tree.

He said the first step in developing a social conscience is to teach the children how "to interact with each other in an ethical way."



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Jewish Experience popular program at York U.

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Prof. Martin Lockshin's course, the Jewish Experience: symbiosis and rejection, is one of the most popular Jewish studies courses at York University.

The multidisciplinary undergraduate course, which combines history, philosophy and literature is a "good starting point" for pursuing other courses in Jewish studies," says Lockshin, recalling a recent conversation with a retired physician, interested in expanding her knowledge of Judaism.

"She's educated. She's Jewish. But she doesn't know much about Judaism. She thought this course would be a good place to begin." About 30 to 40 percent of the students who enrol go on to take additional Jewish studies courses, he adds.

The second-year level course is a survey of how Jews related to the non-Jewish world around them during the course of 3,000 years of history. In some periods, Jews had symbiotic relationships integrating the best of the host culture into their experience, while at other times Jews rejected the dominant culture and closed themselves off from the mainstream society, Lockshin notes.

Since the students are most interested in talking about 20th-century experiences, the challenge for him is to make the history and issues of the earlier centuries "come to life," he says. To appreciate the present, the students need to understand the past.

The courses examines several primary sources. For example, the students read Maimonides as well as the original documents of the Zionist leaders and the Reform movement debates. Marks are based on a combination of exams and essays, with students writing papers on an aspect of Judaism that interests them most, says Lockshin.

About 100 students are enrolled in the course, nearly four times as many as when he began teaching it 18 years ago, he says. He attributes this growth to the increased interest in Jewish studies, which he says is a reflection of a greater positive acceptance of ethnic identification for minority groups as a whole.

To accommodate the increase in attendance Lockshin has enlisted two other instructors to assist him with the course. They give lectures in their areas of expertise and each of the three leads a tutorial class of about 30 to 35 students. The smaller scale of the tutorials makes them more conducive to group discussions than the lecture hall, Lockshin says.

His co-teachers this year are Dr. Aaron Nussbaum, the former principal of United Synagogue Day School, who has an expertise in Chassidism and Prof. Sol Tanenzapf, who teaches philosophy through the York department of humanities.

For information on this course or any other Jewish studies courses offered by York University call 736-5823.

New undergrad programs launched

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Beth Jacob High School, an Orthodox girls' school near Bathurst Street and Lawrence Avenue now offers undergraduate degree courses through the Zaidner Institute in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Yosef Posen, Beth Jacob's registrar of post-secondary studies, says that the institute is offered in addition to the school's 20-year-old seminary that prepares girls for a potential teaching career and gives them the skills to pursue Jewish studies in other advanced programs.

The Zaidner Institute, which started up in the fall, gives women the opportunity to work towards a bachelor's degree in humanities or psychology. Courses are taught by local educators with graduate degrees and include Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Counselling, Statistics and and an assortment of courses in Jewish literature and history.

"Graduates can go to graduate school or begin a career in counselling, teaching or educational psychology. They are well prepared to teach in Hebrew schools," says Rabbi Posen.

"We now have more than 40 students, many of whom graduated from our high school. Most are part-time students, who take as many courses as they can fit into their schedule. If need be, students can continue their studies in Jerusalem or by correspondence," he says.

Girls who choose the Zaidner Institute for their university studies, says Rabbi Posen, do so because of its comfortable environment and its commitment to Orthdoxy. "There are no conflicts with Orthodox standards."

Maimonides College, which has a campus at the Eitz Chaim School on Patricia Avenue, also offers courses for women leading to a bachelor's degree. Courses include Torah and Commentaries, Principles of Education, Gerontology and Halachah of Shabbos.

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Ali Bresver, standing left, Naomi Emerson, Nathan Wise (seated left) and Jacob Korenblum are nearing the end of their high school years. [Frances Kraft photo]

The saga continues...

CJN series students learn how to drive

In this sixth annual instalment, the five students being profiled are much closer to adulthood than childhood. Since 1992, we have looked at their changing views on Judaism, education and life.

We first met Ali Bresver, Naomi Emerson, Chaim Greenwald and Jacob Korenblum within a year of their respective bar and bat mitzvahs. They were suggested by their Jewish school principals as good representatives of their Jewish backgrounds.

Last year we invited Nathan Wise, a student at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) to round out the picture.

The series, written by staff reporter Frances Kraft, will follow the students until the year 2000.

For four of the students, 1996 was the year of the driver's licence, a significant milestone on the road to independence. How significant? Ask them when they got those licences. "April 22," "January 3" and "June 4," answer Ali Bresver, Naomi Emerson and Nathan Wise without hesitation.

"It's such freedom!" exclaimed Naomi.

Chaim, at 18 the senior member of the group, also got his licence last year. He is still in Milwaukee, where he has attended the Wisconson Institute of Torah Study (WITS) since the age of 14. An alumnus of Eitz Chaim Day School, Chaim graduated from high school in June but stayed on for WITS' Beis Medrash program. He expects to study in Israel in another year or two.

Jacob Korenblum is the only driver's licence holdout, but that fact doesn't appear to have put a crimp in his social life.

In a joint interview at the CJN offices, attended by the four local students, all age 17, Jacob, a student at Northern Secondary School, did let on that his social life is partially restricted by a Friday-night-at-home rule.

A graduate of Bialik Hebrew Day School, Jacob comes from a Conservative family. He admits that he's "come to like Friday night." In fact, Friday night partying isn't necessarily an issue among his friends. "I think people concentrate a lot more on school these days, because this is when it counts," he said. "People will do essays on Friday nights."

Jacob will finish high school in January 1998, and hopes to combine work and travel before starting university.

Ali, who stays home for Shabbat dinner but can go out afterward, gets together with friends from school (Lawrence Park Collegiate), camp and the Israel trip she took with other Reform teens.

She doesn't feel the same pressure to socialize as in her early high school years, she said. "When you're younger, you're more insecure. You think, 'Oh my God, I have to come.' Now I know who my friends are. If I miss one night, they're not going to 'de-friend' me."

"Everything is comfortable," agreed Jacob. "You can put your schoolwork first and not worry

[Cont'd. on page 9]

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Students focus on Mideast

[Cont'd. from page 8]

about sacrificing your friends. They're doing the same thing."

Although the group is far from considering marriage, dating — and interdating — seems to be a subject they've thought about a lot. Naomi, who attends Orthodox girls' high school, Ulpanat Orot, wouldn't think of dating anyone non-Jewish and would have serious concerns about dating a non-observant Jew. She hopes to study at a women's yeshiva in Israel for a year before pursuing a "secular" career, perhaps as an occupational therapist or a teacher.

Unlike most of her friends, she worked at a secular day camp last summer, helping integrate special needs kids. Many staff members were Jewish but non-observant and even more were non-Jews. "I wasn't really interested in any guy there, but if I was — what if?" she wondered.

"I don't think I'd ever get myself into that situation. I think a common sense of observance can really bond you. I see what a vital role it plays in my house. The way I lead my life is so important to me in terms of Yiddishkeit."

Jacob, Nathan and Ali agreed that Naomi's words made sense. "My friends tell me it can cause weaknesses to intermarry," said Ali, although Jacob knows children of mixed marriages who got "an even balance." In contrast to Naomi, Jacob has mostly non-Jewish friends and has interdated.

In a way, he said, he thinks Naomi is "almost lucky" to be starting from a social circle that is almost exclusively Jewish. For him to marry someone non-Jewish, or not marry her if he believed she was the right person, would be "a sacrifice either way," Jacob said.

"For me, you hold [onto] the person, because you can still live with the faith. I would continue to be Jewish and my children [would] be brought up knowing about Judaism."

Ali agrees with Jacob. "I'm not going to go out looking for someone Christian. I'd much rather it be someone Jewish, but if it happens, there's nothing I'm going to be able to do about it.

"I'm a very picky person to begin with," she added.

Chaim, in Wisconsin, sees marriage as "not so far off. Another four years is probably about the time." His four years of high school went by "like nothing," he said, "so I obviously think about it."

Despite his long hours at the yeshiva, Chaim works in a weekly game of ice hockey with a local league. He follows hockey and other news in the *New York Times*, as well on the radio.

Jacob continues to attend the Downtown Jewish Community School for weekly classes which address issues such as last fall's opening of the Jerusalem tunnel entrance.

Chaim Greenwald

Like the other students, he has strong feelings about media portrayal of the Middle East. He's convinced that for the media "what sells" is more important than "news per se."

Despite his disapproval of the contentious tunnel opening, Jacob felt that media stories on the subject "were slanted so much to the favor of the Palestinians." A keen follower of the news since at least age 12, Jacob hopes to pursue a career in international relations.

As one of the few Jewish students at his school, he has become a source for news about Israel among his peers. "We've been to Israel, some of us speak Hebrew, so they figure we have some idea of what's going on."

"We only know what the media feeds us," said Naomi. Through e-mail, she's heard stories that don't make the news.

As the group gets older, they are more appreciative of their Jewish education.

"I appreciate the Jewish part of CHAT more," said Nathan, who previously attended United Synagogue Day School. "I realize you can't get that in many other places. Going there was more my parents' choice than mine, but I think I would have picked it anyway." Nathan expects to complete high school this year, but hadn't yet applied to any universities at the time of the interview.

Ali, who plans to study journalism after she finishes high school next year, continues to teach at Temple Emanu-El's Sunday school, where she participates wholeheartedly in services with her young students.

Although she said last year that she didn't believe in God, she has since become more open-minded. "Part of me says there's science, and part of me says, what if?"

While the issue doesn't occupy her mind constantly, she is reminded of it when she sees her students' attitudes. "Wow!" she thinks. "It's so innocent. I wish I could think things like that and not have all these questions come into my mind."

"I think it's important to be exposed to religion," said Nathan, "because then at least you'll have the option. If you don't expose your kids to religion, it's not fair, because then they don't have the means to lead their lives in a certain way."

"I think the key word is options," said Jacob. "I'm pretty much free to make my own decisions, but I'm still a member of a family. I live in a house. I have a great deal of respect for the way my parents feel about Judaism and the way they brought me up."

Ali has come to believe that religious and family values are interrelated for both her and her Christian friends. "My parents have given me a good stable upbringing. They allow me to question and say what I want freely." Her parents have differing views on religion, she said, and that has led her to conclude that "being Jewish can be different for every person as long as it means something to you in your heart."

On the other hand, noted Nathan, "more secular people can exist because of the Orthodox. They kind of carry the torch. Maybe I wouldn't pick that lifestyle, but I think the Orthodox play a really important role in the community."

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Caring professional attitudes necessary for pre-schools

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Children can usually decide for themselves if they are going to like a daycare or preschool, says the director of Torah Tots, a preschool in Chabad of Markham Community Centre.

"We encourage parents to bring the kids to see the school before making a choice. They can pick up a warm and caring atmosphere. They really are the best judges," says Goldie Plotkin.

The government sets strict guidelines for preschools and dayschools with regard to the number of teachers, size of the room and safety of the equipment, says Plotkin, but those are not the only things about which parents should be concerned when choosing a school.

"Make sure there is an open door policy. Parents should be free to come in and help out or just observe the class. We have large windows in the classroom so parents can peak in at any time. I would worry if parents were not allowed in the room.

"I don't set the school's philosophy and goals alone. We all do it together so parents have a say in their child's education. School and home should be a partnership," she says.

Devorah Shmulewitz, director of Loving Care Day Care Centre, says that most parents need only one visit to decide if a school is right for their child.

"There is a feeling in the air. If children and staff are smiling and happy, chances are your child will be happy as well. Kids do not respond well to tension. If staff is tense, a child can pick that up.

"The classroom needs to be a relaxed place. There should be no rigid rules that children absolutely must follow. Teachers need to be creative and give the kids room to grow," she says.

Children should feel part of a democratic process, says Shmulewitz. "If a child does something wrong, he should not be reprimanded. The staff should have the child question himself as to how he should have behaved. When treated fairly, kids can adult-up to a situation and come to their own conclusions."

Preschool plays an important role in a child's life," says Plotkin. "By the age of four, a child needs to socialize with other children and learn to give and take. We try and let children handle their own problems so they learn how to communicate. By this age they need to be able to talk things out with other people."

Nursery and kindergarten students need a lot of stimulation, she says. "All our learning is done through playing. The kids don't even know they're learning. If they are learning about sorting, for instance, they'll sort things related to a theme such as Chanukah or Shabbat. A good school makes it fun to learn."

Spirituality, says Shmulewitz, is the umbrella that embraces everything good about a school. "It gives the children an inner security because they know that everyone is part of one big whole."

CHAT, Associated offer Hebrew upgrading

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The instruction of Jewish heritage subjects at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) is all supposed to be in Hebrew, but that isn't always possible in practice.

CHAT, a Toronto-area Jewish high school, draws most of its students from five feeder day schools across the Greater Toronto Area: Associated Hebrew Schools; Bialik Hebrew Day School, Leo Baeck Day School, United Synagogue Day School and Netivot HaTorah Day School.

The basic statement of philosophy of CHAT's educational program insists on the use of Hebrew as the prime language of instruction for Jewish heritage and the study of classical and modern Jewish sources.

But CHAT educators became aware that a growing number of students coming to the school did not have the requisite language skills to study all Judaic subjects in Hebrew. To accommodate them, the school introduced several alternative Hebrew programs last year, CHAT headmaster Rabbi Marvin Pachino said in an interview.

"You're always modifying as you go along," he says.

There is a developmental program which offers increased hours of language instruction to Grade 9 students so that they can improve their level of Hebrew to qualify for the advanced Hebrew program in Grade 10.

Students who fail to qualify for the advanced program at the end of Grade 9 can continue with a modified program until the end of Grade 12, Rabbi Pachino said.

He explained that eligibility for the modified program is determined by faculty assessments of each student, with input from guidance personnel and the school adminstration.

(The modified program should not be confused with the New Stream program for students who have not previously attended Hebrew day schools, he explained. That program has been in operation for some 25 years.)

Rabbi Pachino stressed that the majority of students entering CHAT have acquired adequate Hebrew skills to qualify for the advanced Grade 9 Hebrew program.

He added that there is no social stigma for students in the modified program because the approach by the school is positive. "The kids in there appreciate it."

This year, Associated Hebrew Schools followed CHAT's lead by introducing a modified Hebrew program for Grade 7 and 8 students, educational director Rabbi Abraham Soffer told *The CJN*.

The program is for students who have had difficulty getting through the language program.

In order to keep these students in the school, a small class of 15 students at the Danilack campus on Finch Avenue have been grouped together to study Judaic subjects taught with English explanations.

This class runs parallel to many Judaic classes at the same grade level so that students in the modified Hebrew program can join the regular classes for general studies, Rabbi Soffer explained.

The school determines who can join the class, he said.

"Our responsibility is to help [weaker students]...In the past, many left [the school]...We have a social responsibility not to let these kids leave."

EDUCATION

New Or Haemet director hopes to boost enrolment

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

If all goes according to plan, Or Haemet Sephardic School will move to its new building at Bathurst and Steeles in April, according to Rabbi Mordechai Sevy its new educational director.

Rabbi Sevy, a sabra who graduated with honors from the Israeli Military Academy, is hoping that the present enrolment of 200 will triple in the new location, which is much closer to where 90 percent of Or Haemet's students live.

Though Or Haemet has been at Adath Israel for 15 years, it was always considered a temporary location, Rabbi Sevy said.

It has 13 classrooms and a teaching and support staff of 30 for children age 5 to 14, from junior kindergarten to Grade 8. The same classrooms are used by the synagogue's Talmud Torah students after school hours.

A friendly, bear-like figure in physical appearance, Rabbi Sevy at the age of 43 brings impressive credentials to his new post. A graduate of a yeshivah in Cleveland, Ohio, he was chief Sephardi rabbi of Australia from 1989 to 1993; 10 years earlier he was associated with the Talmud Torah of Beth El Synagogue in Halifax for three years.

Rabbi Mordechai Sevy

His father was the chief Sephardi rabbi of Milan in Italy from 1959 to 1964.

A single-minded advocate of multiculturalism, Rabbi Sevy is convinced that Hebrew day schools such as Or Haemet turn out better citizens and people who have a greater than average sense of social accountability to the whole community.

He is "disappointed" that, in turning down financial assistance for parochial schools, the Supreme Court of Canada "got entangled in statistics and budgets without looking at the whole picture."

Some of Or Haemet's pupils come from the former Soviet republics of Belarus, Georgia and Kurdistan, a part of south Russia where there is a large Sephardi population. A small number of non-Sephardi children attend Or Haemet, which welcomes all.

A linguist who speaks English, Hebrew, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Yiddish — not all fluently — Rabbi Sevy likes nothing more than to wander into a classroom and be greeted in Hebrew or English, French or Spanish. Before they graduate , Or Haemet students are given 1,000 hours of French instruction.

Rabbi Sevy and his wife, Rochelle, formerly of Detroit, have six children — as the rabbi put it, "three Yankees, one Haligonian, and two Aussies." All the children attend the school.

Young Sephardim learn roots

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

What do the old-world customs of their parents and grandparents have to do with young Sephardi adults today?

More than they might have thought, as some of them are discovering through a weekly evening course offered by Medrash Torah Vehayim: The Sephardic Institute of Torah Study..

"It's wonderful. Customs taught to me by my mother and my grandmother, [for which] I never knew the reasons, take on a whole new significance," said Annie Sugar, 34, after a recent Sephardic Life Cycle class taught by Rabbi Amram Assayag, director of the learning centre and spiritual leader of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla.

About three dozen people attended the one-hour class, prolonging the time with animated questions about the concept of the evil eye.

Customs often derive from sources in rabbinic literature, said Rabbi Assayag. "What I tell people is, be ready to accept that your custom may not have a source, but don't ever neglect a custom or think it's silly."

Orna Serruya, 24, learned about Sephardi wedding customs and those relevant to the birth of a child. "For me it was great. I'd just gotten married and was planning a family," she said.

Students gather after a Sephardic Life Cycle class to continue their discussion with Rabbi Amram Assayag, seated. [Frances Kraft photo]

The Learning Centre, which opened two years ago, is housed at the Main Exchange Plaza, on the northwest corner of Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue in Thornhill, pending the opening of the new Or Haemet Sephardic School building just north of the plaza, scheduled for later this year.

"The Sephardi community [of almost 8,000 people] was missing a centre where members of the congregations could gather to study and discuss Sephardic issues specifically. We felt there was a need to pass on to the new generation all the [Sephardi] customs," said Rabbi Assayag.

For its efforts, the Learning Centre was awarded a grant in October from UJA Federation's action committee for Jewish continuity.

Weeknight classes include Pirkei Avot, Halachah, Talmud Torah, Tefilah, chevruta learning and services. In addition to Rabbi Assayag, classes are also taught by Rabbis Elisha Afriat, Moshe Bensalmon, Abraham Kubayov and Shalom Revah.

Certain classes are restricted to either men or women; others are mixed. Not all the participants are Sephardim, noted Rabbi Assayag. In the Life Cycles class (open to men and women), "a good 20 percent" are not.

An extensive library of tapes recorded during the classes is also available.

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From left, conflict managers Jay Benaim, Lauren Schwartz and Rebecca Zaretsky help settle disputes between younger students at Associated Hebrew Schools' Thornhill campus. [Ron Csillag photo]

Conflict managers solve crises in the schoolyard

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Time was that if things got a bit too rough in the schoolyard, kids had to turn to a teacher on duty, but it wasn't always the best way to solve the problem.

That was then. Today, if you check out recess at Associated Hebrew Schools' Thornhill campus, you'll see the same old horseplay among students. But if the language or behavior gets out of hand, kids can turn to an older peer for help.

They're called conflict managers — Grade 6 students recognizable by their bright orange armbands — specially trained and ready to defuse most crises that come up among younger pupils.

First and foremost, they espouse non-violent ways to solve disputes. Their ground rules are simple: listen with an open mind; no blaming, name calling or yelling; tell the truth; and work to solve the problem.

Those problems may involve kid stuff like fighting, bullying, teasing or snatching a ball, but to small children, they're real and threatening. And younger children are more comfortable talking to a fellow student than to a teacher, because they are less likely to get into trouble.

So on any given day, groups of three conflict managers per recess may be seen having their sleeves tugged by a little one who has a problem.

The project "has worked beautifully, beyond our expectations," says Associated Grade 6 teacher Sheryl Lister, who trains the managers in 5½ hour sessions that focus on alternative ways to solve disputes. The program has grown from 15 to 24 participants. Lister says being a conflict manager has become something of a status symbol.

In the process, she points out, the managers learn valuable real life skills. Dealing with conflict in constructive, positive ways and keeping a cool head head while others around you lose theirs will always stand one in good stead.

Lister got the idea for the program from her own kids and from other schools and boards. It's modeled on Peaceworks, a successful project in Florida.

It was launched at Associated as a pilot project last year, and the conflict managers took to the schoolyard in October, along with a series of assemblies at which students were introduced to the idea. To this day, the Conflict Resolution Rap is chanted like a mantra: "If push comes to shove, just fill in with love."

The conflict managers themselves abide by a commitment to behave professionally, to be fair and honest and to keep things confidential (although they do fill out forms used mainly to identify repeat offenders).

Lister and Associated supervisor Brenda Goldstein say they've noticed a drop in violent activity in the schoolyard. Typically, the managers deal with complaints of name-calling, taking of property, cheating at games and even unwanted kissing.

"Very few kids ask me for help," Lister says. "They ask for a conflict manager, and almost always, the problem is defused on the spot."

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Teacher's goal to bring out best in each student: Rubinoff

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The Art of Teaching, Practical Strategies for Effective Chinuch (Feldheim Publishers), one of the first books of its kind, was written by Elaine Rubinoff, a teacher, private consultant to parents and schools, and former principal of She'arim Hebrew Day School, a school for children with learning disabilities.

A good teacher must do far more than convey information, says Rubinoff. "Teachers must also convey humanity, love, compassion and feeling but most of all, a way of life."

One of the most challenging aspects of teaching, she says, is meeting the diverse needs of students and providing them with the special attention they need.

"Compounding this challenge is the fact that most [teachers] have not received the specialized training required to meet the learning needs of all the students. Time and resources, however, are often inadequate for providing professional guidance for teachers."

Elaine Rubinoff

With this in mind, says Rubinoff, she wrote *The Art of Teaching*, in order to present teaching techniques that can supplement methods already in use in the classroom.

The reader-friendly text, accompanied by explanatory margin notes, addresses such topics as identifying students with learning problems, setting students up for success, helping to develop organizational skills, maintaining proper discipline and using encouragement effectively.

Effective teachers, she says, are always willing to try new techniques and to take risks. "When you do make a mistake, and everyone does, it is important to remember that it is not you who failed, but the method that you were using. Take time to reflect on the situation and think about what didn't work and what you might do differently the next time."

Teachers must see each of their students as an individual, she says.

Quoting Rav Chaim Shmuelevitz, she explains that the Gemara compares a teacher to a raindrop. "Why? Just as rain functions to unlock the potential of each and every seed, so is it a teacher's primary goal to bring out the unique potential of each *talmid* (student)."

She advises teachers to find others with whom they can brainstorm, to set realistic goals of learning one new technique at a time, celebrate all successes and "above all don't forget to laugh. Seeing the humor in a situation often helps to put it in the right perspective. We should never take ourselves too seriously."

Group encourages education for special needs' children

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

A group of Jewish parents has recently banded together to fight for a Jewish education for every child with special needs.

The group, known as ChaYil, is dedicated to implementing programs to integrate children with physical and developmental disabilities into Jewish day schools.

Jacob Feinstat, who has two children with special needs ages nine and six, says that a void in the Jewish educational system prevents many students from receiving a Jewish education.

"Zareinu caters to children with a variety of disabilities, but it is only equipped to teach children until about age 12. Then there is nowhere for them to go.

"Some schools allow in children who have their own worker, but the reality is that most parents cannot afford to hire someone," he says.

Jewish schools are under tremendous financial pressure, he says, and do not put priority on integrating students with special needs . "Scores of kids are falling between the cracks."

To this end, Feinstat says, ChaYil was formed. "Our mandate is to convince schools such as Eitz Chaim, which has several campuses in the city, to provide us with a resource room. We will bring in experts to cater to the children's needs. Common time with the other students will ensure that our kids are fully integrated."

He insists that it is not money that is preventing schools from taking in children with special needs.

"We believe that attitude is the problem. Money flows from community goodwill. In Chicago, this type of program is present in every Jewish school. It can be done when the attitude is appropriate.

"The problem here is that some schools feel that parents would be uncomfortable with having special needs students in the school. Research has proven, however, that all children do benefit from the integration. The negative attitudes are just not there."

He adds that as far as cost is concerned, ChaYil has submitted a "zero cost plan. One worker, funded by us, would go to school with the child. We would do all the fundraising.

"It is difficult to ask for funds, however, until we can show that our plan can work. We have a fantastic concept and some schools do give us their full support."

Meanwhile, says Feinstat, "children's lives are passing by. Halachically, it is the community's, not just the parents', obligation to educate all children in a Jewish environment."

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Legacy of Holocaust passes down the generations

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Teaching the Holocaust, even to Jews, had to wait until its survivors were able to talk about it and society was ready to hear about it, says Pnina Zilberman, director of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre in Toronto.

When the war ended, she told an audience of over 100 at the Bernard Betel Centre during last fall's Holocaust Education Week, the objective of the survivors was "to create a new life, new families and new professions."

It was only in 1960, she said, with the capture and trial of Adolf Eichmann, that people became aware that the survivors had importance as witnesses to the events many were beginning to deny.

Eichmann's trial was followed by the publication of Eli Wiesel's *Night*, the upsurge in Jewish identity after the Six Day War and the second generation confronting their own issues around being descendents of survivors in the late 1970s.

"The legacy of Holocaust teaching was passed to the children, who were determined to tell the stories," Zilberman said.

There was no proper teaching of the Holocaust in schools, she said, except as a "footnote to World War II," maybe, she mused, "because of guilt that they [society as a whole, and non-Jewish teachers and education ministries] hadn't done more to help, or because they hadn't realized [what was going on]."

Informal Holocaust education began and continues, Zilberman said, with television programs, movies like *Schindler's List*, stories and books written for children, trips to former concentration camps (business travellers to Munich, for instance, began to go to Dachau), and, most of all, "grandchildren asking questions."

Many times, she said, it was easier for survivors to talk about their experiences with their grandchildren than it had been with their children.

The Holocaust is now on the formal curricula of many school systems, for example in the Maritimes, in Catholic schools and in 15 states in the United States. The North York Board of Education, she said, "was the first board to write a specific curriculum on the Holocaust."

As well, it is no longer just studied as history, Zilberman said, noting that it has moved into other disciplines, such as psychology, social work, medicine, business, women's studies and English literature.

Memorial centres are another way the message of the Holocaust is brought to the public, most notably Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and the Holocaust Memorial Centre in Washington.

It is important, she said, for Holocaust education to show that the victims of the Nazis had a life before the war, that they had "cottages in the country, travelled and led a normal life."

She also stressed the importance of teaching about the righteous gentiles and about the danger in following a charismatic and powerful leader for the sake of security.

The effect of survivor testimony cannot be underestimated, she said. "Everyone who sees life as a gift sends a message that we made it."

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EDUCATION

Standing arm in arm, young Canadians enjoy kibbutz life through the American Class at Kibbutz Beit Hashita. From left, Shula Sutker (Vancouver), Sascha Gurwitz (Toronto), Shoshana Lowe (London), Sarah Feldman (Toronto) and Bram Belzberg (Toronto).

Kibbutz life unique learning experience

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

For Sarah Feldman and Sascha Gurwitz, both 17, Grade 11 was a year to remember.

The pair, who spent the year in Israel attending The American Class at Kibbutz Beit Hashita, agree that the experience "was once in a lifetime."

The 12-year-old program, founded by director Amichai Yarchi, is geared to Grade 10 or 11 students across North America. Classes are in English and based on an American curriculum. Students live in residence and each is adopted for the year by a kibbutz family.

"This was not a program that emphasized a strong curriculum, but it did offer things that we just could not get here.We had the chance to travel, work on a kibbutz and really see Israel. Where else can a history teacher take you to see actual sites?" asked Feldman, a Grade 12 student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

The work aspect of the program gave the students an idea of what kibbutz life is all about, said Gurwitz, who worked in the kindergarten for several hours a week and was often on kitchen detail.

"Every job was important. If we ever missed a day we felt like we were letting people down, said the Metro Prep Academy student.

Living and working on the kibbutz, Feldman agreed, "made us feel involved. We took part in kibbutz-wide meals and celebrations and learned a lot about living in a community. Our adopted family really become like a second family. Most of us bonded with our families immediately.

"We also learned a lot about ourselves. We were away from home and forced to deal with our own problems. I would say we all matured," she said.

"For one year we lived a different life than we had ever known." said Gurwich. "We got the chance to really know Israel other than from a tourist's perspective. We also made friendships that will probably last forever. It has been difficult immersing ourselves in Canadian society again."

As alumni, one of Feldman and Gurwich's goals is to reassure parents of potential students about kibbutz security. "We were never left unattended off the kibbutz and all security precautions were taken."

Yiddish education thrives

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Yiddish is thriving in Toronto where it is being taught to second, third and fourth generation Jews through several different programs.

One of the most intensive is the Yiddish immersion program that was introduced last year at Cheder Chabad, a Lubavitcher school for boys. Rabbi Baruch Zaltzman, the school principal, told *The CJN* he has noticed a definite improvement in the students' level of comprehension of Yiddish since the immersion program that begins at the kindergarten level was inaugurated.

Rabbi Zaltzman said the school expanded Yiddish, which was only taught as a subject to the immersion program for Judaic subjects, because the students – the majority speak English at home – needed more exposure to absorb the language.

"They knew how to read. But the only way for them to understand the rebbes was to be immersed in the language."

The students continue to have regular Yiddish instruction to improve their reading and writing skills along with formal study of Lubavitch writings, he added.

Yiddish is "a dear language to Chassidim" because their leaders expressed their most important thoughts in this language, Rabbi Zaltzman noted. "Yiddish should be encouraged and kept up. It's part and parcel of the Jewish nation."

One of the longest running children's Yiddish programs is offered at Bialik Hebrew Day School as part of the curriculum for student in grades 3 through 8. Yiddish is studied as a language and a culture, three to four times a week," said Dr. Uri Korin, principal of Bialik. "Yiddish is an integral part of our education at Bialik...It has always had a role...The culture of our people is of paramount importance."

The students study the language and *shtetl* culture through music and literature. They read the works of such authors as J.L. Peretz and Shalom Aleichem in Yiddish and discuss it in Yiddish as well, Korin said, noting that all holiday performances at the school include presentations in Yiddish.

There are also Yiddish language programs for children offered on Sundays. According to Sylvia Lustgarten, director of the Committee for Yiddish UJA/ Federation, one of the problems of providing Yiddish classes at both the children's and adult level is the shortage of good teachers.

The committee is in the process of developing a high quality Yiddish teacher training program, Lustgarten said. The Yiddish teachers from Bialik are providing leadership to this program, she added.

The Yiddish committee has just hired a coordinator for the Sunday Yiddish heritage language program it sponsors at Associated Hebrew School's Finch campus. Seventy - five children are enrolled.

The classes, which are open to all children in the Greater Toronto Area, are jointly funded by the education boards of North York and York Region. The Yiddish committee is also advocating the establishment of more high school Yiddish classes, Lustgarten said.

She stressed the importance of keeping alive the secular Ashkenazi culture that is rooted in Yiddish. "Yiddish helps people get back to the roots of Jewish life...The Ashkenazi culture is the civilization that prepared Jews for their successes in America."

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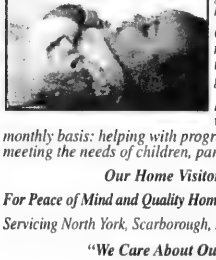

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New schedule at UCS

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Gella Weiss has heard countless parents complain of how ineffective extra-curricular Hebrew school used to be in the old days, when teachers used unimaginative teaching methods and seemed to spend as much time disciplining students as teaching them.

Weiss, principal of United Congregational Schools headquartered in Beth David Synagogue in North York, is working to change all that.

"Parents have often complained that the only thing that tied them to their friends in Hebrew school was that they were all miserable together," she says. "I don't think we need another generation of that. So what we're looking for are different ways to make education come alive for today's students."

For students who attend public schools, the Conservative movement prescribes six hours of Jewish education each week after regular school. The time is usually split into three two-hour segments, two on weekday evenings and a third on Sunday mornings. At United Congregational Schools, however, the Sunday morning class is 3½ hours long, and students are required to attend only one more class of 2½ hours during the week.

The innovative schedule allows classes to go on numerous field trips, and Weiss says that taking students out of the traditional classroom setting is an important means of bringing their Jewish education to life.

Students in the lower grades have gone on class trips to Earl Bales Park to see the Holocaust Memorial, while students in the higher grades have visited the Holocaust Remembrance Centre as well as the Jewish Public Library in the Lipa Green Building on Bathurst Street.

For the first half of the year, Grade seven students study the history of Canadian Jewry, with the emphasis on the early Jews of Toronto. "We go down to the Holy Blossom Temple, which was the first synagogue in Toronto," says Weiss. "And they do projects about when their families came to Toronto, they study anti-Semitism and they do a whole unit on the riot in Christie Pits.

"We culminate the year with a trip downtown and a walking tour of the old Jewish district."

The three upper grades of 5, 6 and 7 at UCS are put on a rotating schedule. "The students are taught by specialists in each area," says Weiss. "They spend 40 minutes with a given teacher and then they get up and go to a different room."

By grade 7 the curriculum is "quite varied," according to Weiss, with subjects including history, Chumash, Mishna, language and biblical heroes. "By Grade seven, the Chumash curriculum includes the passages that talk about Jewish laws. It's something a little different. By grade 7 the higher thinking skills kick in and the kids really take hold of it and really enjoy it."

Unlike their parents' generation, today's students do not always have to be sitting at a desk for learning to occur, says Weiss. "Don't get the wrong impression – there are still plenty of days where they are sitting in their seats and doing traditional learning.

"But we're working in as much alternate programming as we can. We're not where we want to be yet, but I think this is the education of the future."

Russians integrate at CIP

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Russian immigrants Tatiana and Mikhail Alperovitch didn't know anyone when they arrived in Canada two years ago but they say they were able to establish friendships with local Toronto Jews through the Community Integration Program (CIP).

Their family is one of hundreds that have been helped by CIP, founded eight years ago to address the needs of newly arrived Russian Jewish immigrants in Toronto.

CIP is co-sponsored by UJA/Federation and the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC). Its activities — most take place at the BJC — are organized and facilitated by both Canadian and Russian volunteers.

Supervisor Luda Felik runs the program with help from three other staff members and works in conjunction with CIP co-chairs Natan Aronshtam and Marsha Slavens and past chair Susan Goldberg.

According to Felik, the volunteers are the backbone of the program, which relies on the support of 100 Canadian and 150 Russian volunteers.

One of the programs CIP offers is the Shalom Centre, located at the BJC. It provides newcomers with a variety of programs, including English as a Second Language (ESL) classes with North York Board of Education teachers as well as special memberships to the BJC.

The After School Children's Program, held from 5 to 7 p.m. three days a week at the BJC, is designed to strengthen Jewish identity by teaching the children about Jewish heritage and traditions.

Slavens, a co-founder of the project, says it was established because the Toronto Jewish community did not do a good job of integrating Russian immigrants who arrived in the 1970s.

She says the Jewish Women's Federation (JWF), which provided the initial funding for the program, was and continues to be supportive, and noted that the Russian integration committee of the JWF is active in co-hosting holiday celebrations, cultural evenings and special events through affiliates.

Slavens estimates that there are between 25,000 and 30,000 Russian Jews who have settled in Toronto.

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Rick Levine of Times Square Entertainment and party consultant Lynn Cohen, meet recently in the studio of photographer Joe Lavee to discuss details of this years 5th annual "We're Having a Party" show.

TORONTO "We are thrilled with the way this event has evolved", says a smiling Rick Levine of Times Square Entertainment, who along with party consultant Lynn Cohen will share the responsibilities of coordinating two major community party planning events - **Monday January 27th** (uptown) at the **Premiere Banquet Hall** in Markham and **Tuesday January 28th** (downtown) at the **Sheraton Centre, on Queen St., in the Grand Ballroom.** Dozens of party service companies are coming together in order to present their products and services in a very unique format.

Unlike the many conventional trade shows we've all attended, this *party* displays the talents and efforts of the collective energy as well as individuals involved. The guests will be sampling products and services in a unique atmosphere, giving them a perfect opportunity to make decisions based on what they see, hear and taste for themselves."

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From coast to coast

Arava Institute ties environment to peace

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Possibly the most intriguing aspect of a new environmental studies centre in Israel has little to do with saving water or fighting to save a given species of bird from extinction.

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies (AIES), launched only last fall on a kibbutz 30 kilometres north of Eilat that almost straddles the Jordanian border, is involved in such basic ecological questions and how they affect the region.

But three of its first students, including the first Jordanian to study in Israel, also stress that one of the institute's main terms of reference is to show what is ecologically possible through peace.

The institute, although private, is linked to Tel Aviv University (TAU) and was founded by one of its professors, Alon Tal, to bring together undergraduate environment students from Israel, Jordan and the Diaspora. Their common agenda is to preserve the region's scarce resources and fragile ecological balance while showing that "the environment can be a tool in the peace process," said Akram Tubishat, a native of Irbid, Jordan.

To that end, three of the institute's first students – Tubishat, Torontonian Daniela Kiguel and Israeli Tamir Ya'ari – were in Toronto and Montreal recently to talk about AIES with environmental studies students at York and McGill universities.

They also met locally with Tom Axworthy of the CRB Foundation, one of several private sources of funding for the centre.

The trio is also travelling down the U.S. east coast – a second AIES delegation is covering the west coast and the U.S. midwest – meeting with students at other academic institutions, including Harvard and MIT, before going back to Israel for the next semester in February.

In its inaugural year, they said, AIES, the only English-language undergraduate environmental studies program in Israel, has attracted three Jordanians and seven Jewish and three Arab Israelis, three Canadians, along with several Americans and South Africans.

Palestinian students expected

The new centre had hoped to draw even more Jordanians and even a few Palestinian students for its first semester, Ya'ari said, but potential Arab enthusiasm over AIES was dampened by the election of Israel's new government and the Jerusalem tunnel incident last year.

Still, AIES is expected to welcome its first Palestinian students next month. Tubishat had only good things to say about AIES and Israel, despite misgivings expressed by friends and family before he left Jordan.

"You know, peace is not only between governments, it is between people," said the 22-year-old, who has a civil engineering degree from Jordan University.

"Water, air and wild animals do not know about borders, so cooperation between all of our countries is a must," he said.

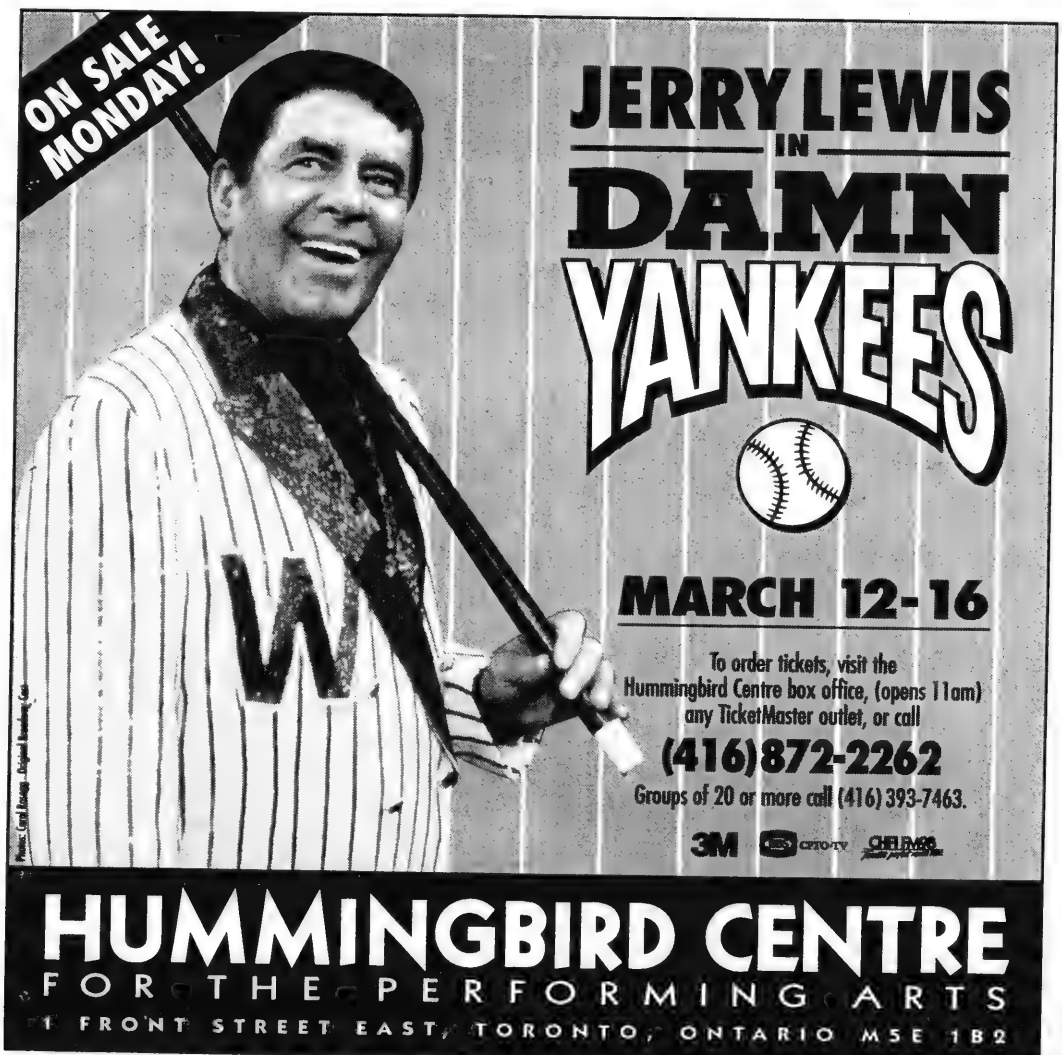
Tubishat's travelling companions agree. Ya'ari, 30, has a BA in agriculture and the environment from Hebrew University and speaks about the need for Israel, Jordan and other nations in the region to collaborate on literally life-and-death issues, such as water, air pollution and sewage management.

Kiguel, 21, is a York University environmental studies student and is attending AIES as a one-year overseas student.

AIES, situated in Kibbutz Ketura, is described in its literature as a private research and teaching facility and a regional centre "for conservation and environmental protection activities." Programs are designed to train future professionals in the field and to provide "a solid theoretical grounding in environmental studies as well as practical skills" needed for conservation activities.

To be eligible for AIES, students must have completed a full year at an accredited university program. AIES also accepts graduate students and, with special permission, high school graduates who have not yet entered university.

More information on AIES is available by contacting Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University's director of academic affairs, Mark Rubenstein, at 1-800-ONLY TAU (665-9828).



Sunshine melts Chocolate Sunday crowds

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Jan. 12 was one of the sunniest, driest days Victoria had experienced since the city dug itself out of a vicious blizzard a week earlier.

A perfect day to get the crowds out for Hadassah-WIZO's sixth annual Chocolate Sunday? Wrong!

"We [competed] with the beautiful weather," says Hadassah leader Ana Porzecanski, as she recalled that last year hundreds of Victorians lined up in the pouring rain to get into the chocolate event which attracted about 6000 people.

This year, only 4000 tickets were sold. "The crowds on the street preferred to stay out and enjoy the sun and I can't blame them after the weather we've had," said Porzecanski.

This year's event raised a considerable amount for Hadassah-WIZO, "but not enough to meet our quota. Members will have to work that much harder for the next major project, the Youth Aliyah campaign, which gets under way shortly," she said.

Porzecanski said Youth Aliyah funds raised will be dedicated to the memory of Louise Gordon. The pioneer Victoria member who died recently, organized the city's first-ever Hadassah bazaar. Meanwhile the Hadassah chapters, Victoria and Today's Woman, are planning to revamp next year's Chocolate Sunday.

From coast to coast

Controversy erupts over Jewish role in Foreign Affairs

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA – There is a major controversy raging at Foreign Affairs over the department's treatment of its Jews, and why it seems so difficult for Jews to get diplomatic postings to Israel.

The debate has spilled over to include the department's policy towards the Likud government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The debate over Jews as diplomats to Israel replays itself over and over at Foreign Affairs every few years. The last time was about five years ago, when Norman Spector, a former principal secretary to then prime minister Brian Mulroney, became the first Jewish person ever appointed Canadian ambassador to Israel.

Now Spector is back. He works for Imperial Tobacco in Montreal and writes an occasional commentary in the *Globe and Mail* about foreign affairs (usually about Israel).

It was in that newspaper that he restarted the whole debate late last summer, when he said the Middle East Branch of the department is controlled by "Arabists" who have misled their political masters and deliberately provide them with wrong information about Israel. (This is just about the worst thing you can say to a public servant. It goes against everything they stand for.)

Spector uses the word "Arabist." It literally means "a student of Arabic," (which is probably a good thing to be if you're in the Middle East Branch.)

But Spector gives it a different meaning, like those people who use the word "Zionist" to mean more nefarious than just being a supporter of Theodor Herzl.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy replied with his own letter, defending his officials, calling them "true professionals, acting in the best interests of the country" and denying any bias in his department against Israel.

Axworthy accused Spector of doing "a disservice" to Canada. Spector has described our participation in the Middle East Refugee Working Group as "a sideshow."

Spector who came back with another column, repeating his attack, adding that the "Arabists" had even gone as far as telling Jews in the department to make their careers elsewhere.

Norman Spector

That sparked outrage at Foreign Affairs. Letters began pouring in to the *Globe and Mail* from current and former department officials.

Michael Shenstone, former head of the Middle East Branch, took great exception to Spector's attacks, particularly to being called an "Arabist."

Erik B. Wang, former director-general of the Middle East Branch, said that to suggest there is discrimination against Jews in the department is "an irresponsible slur" and that Spector is "discrediting nobody but himself."

Outrage of this kind hadn't been heard for years among the boys in the morning suits on Sussex Drive.

So at this point, it might be good to hear from somebody in the trenches, one man who is Jewish and who isn't a top official.

Aharon Mayne is a foreign service officer who has worked in the department since 1972. His life is his work. He lives less than a block away from his job. He is, by his own description, "religious" and wears his kippah proudly at work. He also does his work very well and has maintained his infectious sense of humor through the years.

Yes, there is discrimination but it's against "visible" Jews, he says, which he happens to be, and he tells an anecdote to illustrate his point:

"One time when [then] prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was coming to visit the department, I went downstairs to see him arrive.

"I was standing around talking to a rabbi and a colleague, who has done well for himself, (who also happens to be Jewish) quickly began to leave as soon as we told him who was coming."

Mayne asked him to stay.

"'Oh, no, no, I can't,' he replied as he rushed off.

"It would have been indiscreet of him to stay," chuckles Mayne.

It's being "openly" Jewish that bothers them, Mayne says. "They would prefer you would keep it quiet. The only religion that is supposed to exist around here is career."

Mayne once saw his performance appraisal report and discovered that it read "Not suitable for Israel."

"They should have simply stamped a Star of David and been done with it," chuckles Mayne, who says he is one of those Jews who has been told to his face he would not be posted to Israel.

"When it comes to the treatment of visible Jews around here, none is still too many," quips Mayne.

He has noticed that "a guy who is Indian has gone to India," and there is no problem sending Canadians born in Ukraine, France, England, Ireland and many other countries back to their countries of origin as Canadian diplomats.

But Jews born right here in Canada? No, never, unless they are political appointments such as Spector, or the current ambassador to Israel, former Liberal MP David Berger.

Nor is there discrimination against sending Jews to represent Canada in other countries, Latin America, Africa, Asia, says Mayne.

"Thank God there are places where they can send Jews," laughs Mayne, sarcastically.

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initiated Pet Therapy at Baycrest 8 years ago. Over the years, Alfie, Freddie, Shadow, Herbie and Moby have warmed the heart and brought smiles to patients in the continuing and palliative care units of the hospital.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 23, is deadline for Feb. 6 issue and Thursday, Jan. 30, is deadline for Feb. 13. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Jan. 25

SHABBAT SHIRA

Marking Shabbat Shira, The Sabbath of Songs, Beth Tzedec Congregation morning service highlights Synagogue Music from biblical to modern times. 8:45 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 26

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Temple Sinai adult education committee breakfast program, Why is the Canadian Economy Limping Along While Israel's Appears to be Booming?, with **Yael Varsano-Barzilay**, consul for Economic Affairs, Israel Economic Mission, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members breakfast meeting., 9:30 a.m., Centennial Arena, Skaters Lounge.

GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS

Meet Jewish business people at Aish HaTorah, 10:30 a.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Former minister of Economic Development and Trade **Monte Kwinter** speaks on the relationship of the government, business and the Jewish community. Breakfast served, $50. **Doron** 905-889-9516.

GRAND SOCIETY

GRAND Society, a support group for grandparents/seniors seeking access to grandchildren, meeting, 1-4 p.m., North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. W. Speaker **Barb Allyn**, family mediator. Non-members $5.

Monday, Jan. 27

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League — North Bathurst meeting, Why Breastfeed Your Baby?, 7:30 p.m., 199 Glenmanor Way, Thornhill. **Nancy** 905-889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

Tuesday, Jan. 28

JUDAICA COLLECTION

Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue's historical and exhibitions committee has arranged a visit to the Morry and Kay Rotman collection at Beth Sholom Synagogue with a talk by **Morry Rotman**, Judaica collector, 8 p.m.

YAD BEYAD

Yad Beyad is an adult volunteer program in Israel. Teach conversational English to new immigrants during July 1997. Training provided in Toronto. Orientation meeting 8 p.m., 3 Pearwood Cres. RSVP **Sheila** 445-4554 or **Katy** 221-7384.

CAFE L'EUROPA

Cafe L'Europa features the film *Jackie Mason in Israel* 2-3:30 p.m. RSVP **Rachel Sochaczewski** 635-2883, ext. 301.

NORTHERN LIGHTS, JWI

Northen Lights chapter, Jewish Women International, monthly meeting, 8 p.m. in Newmarket. Chapter serves northern York Region including Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford, West Gwillimbury and Keswick Georgina. 905-841-2145.

Wednesday, Jan. 29

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada presents author/Yiddishist **Michael Wex** speaking on The Family Tree of the Yiddish Language, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

DECORATE WITH PROS

Decorate with the Pros, featuring **Regina Whelan** and **Steven Sabados** of *Cityline*, hosted by Young Women's Group of National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, 8 p.m., 4700 Bathurst St. $5. Special reception for women under 35, 7 p.m. RSVP 633-5100.

Thursday, Jan. 30

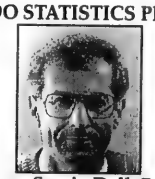
LEARN TO LINE DANCE

Jewish Single Parents Group (30-50) of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, presents Let's Learn to Line Dance with **Merilyn Pitt**, 8 p.m. $5 at door. 633-5500.

[Cont'd. on page 27]

Jewish Identity in the New Millennium
Three Views from Israel
Monday, February 3, 1997 - 8:00 p.m.
York University - Winters College Study Hall

WHAT DO STATISTICS PREDICT?



Professor Sergio DellaPergola
Chairperson, Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

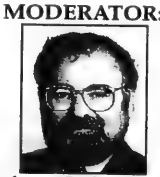
CAN EDUCATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Doctor Ze'ev Mankowitz
Director, The Samuel Mendel Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

JEWISH IDENTITIES IN TRANSITION

Professor Yair Zakovitch
Chairperson, Institute of Jewish Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

MODERATOR:



Professor Irving Abella
Centre for Jewish Studies, York University

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בית צדק

Beth Tzedec Adult Education Committee presents the
DR. EMIL & BESSIE GLAZER MEMORIAL LECTURE
Guest Speaker:
PROFESSOR DANIEL J. LASKER
Norbert Blechner Prof. of Jewish Values, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

"The Heritage of Abraham"

Tuesday, January 28 - 7:45 p.m.
"Judaism and Islam:
An Age-Old Conflict in Historical Perspective"

Thursday, January 30 - 1:30 p.m.
"God, Humanity, Messiah:
Major Themes in the Jewish-Christian Dialogue"

• No Admission Charge • • • Public Cordially Invited •

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

LEARNING DISABILITIES

Learning Disabilities Association of North York events —

A group for adults, Reframing the Learning Disability Experience, facilitators **Sheri Cohen** and **Jill Vanek.** 7:30-9 p.m., 121 Willowdale Ave., Suite 203.

Teaching Reading — Direct Instruction: Teaching Tools That Work with **Angus Lloyd,** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Metro Toronto School Board, 45 York Mills Rd. Room 101. RSVP 229-1680.

And What Else Is New

HERITAGE OF ABRAHAM

Beth Tzedec adult education committee presents the Dr. Emil and Bessie Glazer Memorial Lecture, The Heritage of Abraham, guest speaker **Prof. Norbert Blechner,** Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Tuesday, Jan. 28, 7:45 p.m., topic is Judaism and Islam: An Age-Old Conflict in Historical Perspective. Thursday, Jan. 30,1:30 p.m., topic is God, Humanity, Messiah: Major Themes in the Jewish-Christian Debate. No charge.

WOMEN FOR WOMEN

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO third annual Women for Women Breakfast honoring three women who have made a difference — **Joan Grant-Cummings**, president, National Action Committee on the Status of Women; **Camelia Frieberg**, 1994 Genie award-winning producer of *Exotica*; and **Michele Landsberg**, award-winning *Toronto Star* columnist, Sunday, Feb. 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Toronto Prince Hotel, 900 York Mills Rd. $25. Information/reservation 630-8373.

OUR MUSICAL HERITAGE

The first concert in Holy Blossom Temple's Musical Heritage Series 1997, Sunday, Feb. 2, 3 p.m., features pianist/composer **Jon Simon** in a kaleidoscope of Jewish themes including Zoom Gali Boogie. Tickets and information 789-3291, ext. 503.

BRING DANCING SHOES

Back by popular demand! Beit Rayim Synagogue presents Crossroad Jam (not just your regular blues band) Saturday, Feb. 1, 8 p.m., 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill. $10 in advance, $15 at door, members free. All proceeds to Beit Rayim's children's programs. **Elayna Bengall** 905-770-4769.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Women's Institute of Torah Study winter semester programs-905-881-2012.

Partners in Study, Mondays 8-9 p.m., individually tailored study of a subject of your choice with a private teacher, begins Jan. 27 at 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Advance confirmation of subject required.

Feminine Images of the Bible, with **Rochie Wagner,** Wednesdays 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Drive. Six sessions beginning Jan. 29 with The Giving of the Torah — Women sitting in the front row. $4 per class.

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project for people who are physically ill and interested in learning to cope by finding spiritual resources for help and comfort within Jewish tradition Eight-week session at Holy Blossom Temple, Wednesdays, Feb. 26-April 16, 1-2:30 p.m. Leaders: **Rabbi John Moscowitz** teacher and **Michelle Katz**. Information/registration **Etta Ginsberg (McEwan)** 944-3359.

CHALLENGE OF ANGER

Anger is a normal, usually healthy emotion, but when it gets out of control it can lead to many problems. Jewish Family & Child Service group, The Challenge of Anger: For Women, will help women express anger in an effective, assertive and non-aggresive way. Begins Feb. 17, both daytime and evening groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800. ext. 215.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Business Seminar, Sunday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. Master the ancient secret of business through the power of Kabbalah, free lecture, Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd. Pre-register.

Sunday School for ages 3-12 offers Hebrew language, Jewish holidays, drama, arts and crafts, singing and dance. For 1997/98 year, call now.

Shabbat service, morning prayer 8:30 a.m., lecture on weekly portion and Torah reading 9:30 a.m. Children's Shabbat service 9:30 a.m.

Astrology According to Kabbalah. Have your personal chart done by kabbalistic astrologer. Register.

BETH JACOB COURSES

At Beth Jacob Congregation, 147 Overbrook Pl., — Beginning Monday, Jan. 27, 8:30 p.m., a 10-week series on Machsevet Harav Kook (in Hebrew) and classes on basic Judaism and Hebrew (Siddur) reading skills; Parshat Hashavua, Tuesdays 11:30 a.m.; Torah for Teenagers Tuesdays 5:30 p.m.; Akedat Yitzchak, Tuedays 8:30 p.m.; Gemarah: Maakot Wednesdays 9 p.m.; Bagels and Halachah, Sundays following davening at 8 a.m. **Rabbi Jay Kelman** 638-5955.

PRAY 'N LEARN

Pray 'N Learn has resumed Shabbat mornings at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, led by **Elliot Malamet**, 9:30 a.m., Room 29. 789-3213.

MIDWINTER FUN FAIR

Leo Baeck Day School Midwinter Fun Fair, Sunday, Feb. 9, noon to 3 p.m., 36 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill, with arcade games, arts and crafts, face painting, entertainment, a choice of pizza, cold drinks, candy floss, bake sale. Raffle prizes include a grand prize of a free weekend at Four Seasons Hotel in downtown Toronto. Admission free. **Barbara Laimon** 905-731-7582.

HOLISTIC HEALING

Free weekly ongoing lectures in Holistic Healing modalities, Hypnotherapy and Meditation (based on Jewish sources and principles). Your Choice Clinic 665-2370 or 739-7626

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups — Separation and Looking Ahead, begins Feb. 4; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Jan. 27; Young Widows/Widowers group, begins Jan. 29. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

CCCJ EVENTS

The Young Professionals Network of Canadian Council of Christians and Jews events, 364-3101:

Annual general meeting Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m. All members and friends welcome.

Fourth annual YPN Membership Party, Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Milano Restaurant, 325 King St. W.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for the March 5-26 vacation trip to Israel which includes 10½ days of touring. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Jan. 23 is Tu b'Shvat celebration with guitarist **Yitzhak Argman**. Jan. 30 is a lecture on Hebron: History and Holy by **Aaron Dahary** plus a TV program on the subject From Samuel to Jeremiah. Aaron Dahary 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Thursday mornings — women's hairdressing, $5, Avon cosmetic free manicures, members only; Monday, Jan. 27, Scarborough Town Centre, members $5, non-members $8; Monday, Feb. 3, Thornhill Square, bingo, coffee and cookies, discounts at most stores, $2; Tuesday, Feb. 4, free blood pressure clinic, Firstat Nursing Services; Sunday, Feb. 9, Valentine dance with **Michael Khinkis**, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 12, *Ragtime*; Sunday, May 4, bazaar, all new merchandise, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre; May 7-20, trip to Israel; June 4, *Forever Plaid* in Kitchener. Call regarding all upcoming trips. Membership due $12. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre program Creative Expression in Art with **Sharona Reubeni**, art therapist, Thursday, Jan. 30, 1:30 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1:30-3 p.m. for review of fall 1996 and planning for 1997. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Lifelong Learning Institute Music Appreciation program, The History of Music, with **Lenka Lichtenberg**, ethnomusicologist and performer, Mondays, 1 p.m., Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Jan. 29 is a free evening discussion. **Anna**.

Movie, *Mrs. Winterbourne*, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2:30 p.m.

Songs from across the world with **Margarita Maslov**, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC Seniors and University of Toronto Jewish students Tu b'Shvat celebration, Thursday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m. Introduction to Yoga — try simple exercises, learn about benefits. Come to relax. Thursday, Jan. 30, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

BJC has limited immediate Toddler daycare spaces available.Toddler care includes music, swim and Fun Centre specialties. 636-1880, ext. 248.

WEIZMANN MEETING

Pictured at the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science annual meeting held in Toronto recently are (from left) H. Thomas Beck, chairman of the board; Gloria Snow, executive director; Dr. Allan Gordon, chair, Toronto chapter; Prof. Paul Brumer, guest speaker; Dr. Jay Alan Smith, president, Toronto chapter; Sharon Zuckerman, national president; and Leonard Barkin, treasurer.

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From coast to coast

Spector appointed publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Norman Spector, who will take over as president and publisher of the *Jerusalem Post* May 1, says he will spend several months getting a feel for the country and the paper's role in Israeli politics before making any changes.

In time, though, he expects the *Post*, which has made a sharp turn to the right since it was purchased by Canadian Conrad Black in 1989, may "very well find itself in the mainstream" of Israeli public opinion.

Spector will also make development of the *Post's* international edition a priority. "I want to increase its subscriptions and advertising and further develop the French-language edition and the Internet edition, and maybe launch a Spanish edition," he said in a telephone interview.

Spector, a 47-year-old bachelor, will replace Yehuda Levy. Another Canadian, Hollinger Inc. executive David Radler, remains chairman of the board.

Spector, who was ambassador to Israel from February 1992 until August 1995, after serving as then prime minister Brian Mulroney's chief of staff, insists Hollinger Inc.'s offer to head the *Post* came as a surprise. "I was not on the job market," said Spector, who has been vice-president (corporate affairs) of Imperial Tobacco since August. He will leave that position in a few weeks.

"I'm not at all unhappy [at Imperial] and I thought carefully about the offer, but I feel it is an opportunity I couldn't miss," he said.

The change of career, from the Canadian corporate boardroom to publishing a newspaper abroad, is not as radical as it may appear, he said.

"It's true I've never been a journalist, but I know the territory [Israel], so to speak, and speak the language [Hebrew and some Arabic], and I've had a bit of involvement with writing through my column in the *Globe and Mail*."

He is also confident his years as a political insider have equipped him with the skills needed to analyse the complexities of government, here or elsewhere.

Asked how he thinks Israelis will react to a Canadian taking the *Post* position, Spector replied: "I'm well known to Israel's leaders and many of the people. I think they have confidence in me."

Orthodox shul launched in Victoria

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — An Orthodox synagogue, Congregation Aish Hatorah, has been launched in Victoria.

The synagogue holds Shabbat services every two weeks at the Jewish Community Centre, using a Torah borrowed from Congregation Emanu-El, Victoria's Conservative synagogue and siddurim provided by Congregation Schara Tzedeck in Vancouver. There is no rabbi or cantor. The Torah is kept at Emanu-El and transported to the centre on the Friday afternoon before a service.

So far, the congregation has no affiliation with any national or international group.

Arnie Niederhoffer, one of the organizers of the congregation, told *The CJN* that about 30 families attend services regularly. At holiday times attendance has surpassed 40 to 50 congregants. The operation, he said, "is being run on a shoestring," but a formal dues structure will be determined at a meeting late in January "and the business of the congregation will proceed."

Some members have come from Emanu-El, while others, who have not been affiliated with a shul, said they were not comfortable in Conservative traditions, said Niederhoffer. "There was no rift between the congregations, just a difference of opinion over what kind of worship ritual should be used," he added.

Niederhoffer believes that as Victoria's Jewish population expands, the community will be large enough to support two denominations.

Services are conducted by knowledgeable members, of which there are several in the congregation. There are no plans to look for a rabbi, or to put up a new building. Nor are there any campaign plans to raise funds, he said.

Children of Aish Hatorah members continue to use the Hebrew school facilities of Emanu-El, and the two congregations will work closely together, says Steve Feldman, Emanu-El's president. His shul is currently trying to raise $2 million to build a school and offices on a property adjoining the present 134-year-old synagogue, which is in the heart of downtown Victoria.

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Janet Allard, Owner

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HADASSAH-WIZO IS WORKING TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. JOIN US.

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO is hosting its third annual "Women for Women" Breakfast. **Its purpose:** to raise awareness and funds for women's projects in Israel and here at home. Join us to hear three women being honoured who make a difference.

Joan Grant-Cummings
Women's health activist, President of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women.

Camelia Frieberg
1994 Genie award-winning producer of "Exotica". Currently producing Atom Egoyan's "The Sweet Hereafter" and Jeremy Podeswa's "The Five Senses".

Michele Landsberg
Award-winning columnist for the Toronto Star with columns ranging from contemporary feminism to politics and education.

Date: Sunday, February 9th, 1997
Time: 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Place: The Toronto Prince Hotel, 900 York Mills Rd.
Cost: $25. (includes buffet breakfast)
$100 Patron (includes buffet breakfast)

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No negotiations over Golan: Bibi

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Golan Heights must remain in Israel's hands because of its strategic, historic and economic importance, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told a French newspaper.

The future of Jerusalem, too, "will never be negotiated," the Paris daily *Le Figaro* quoted Netanyahu as saying in an interview published Saturday.

But Netanyahu also said he could envision a Palestinian state, provided the term "state" is carefully defined to protect Israeli interests and security.

"We neither want to govern them nor interfere with their existence," the newspaper quoted him as saying. "But we do not wish to find ourselves in a position that threatens our lives and our future."

Asked whether the future of the Golan Heights is negotiable, Netanyahu replied: "Absolutely not. We have to keep the Golan for strategic, historic and economic reasons.

"Why should we abandon our water resources? We can live without petroleum, but we can't deprive ourselves of water," Netanyahu said.

In Damascus, a Syrian official reiterated Damascus' demand that Israel accept the principle of withdrawing from the Golan Heights before talks resume between them.

"The talks will not resume until the current Israeli government accepts the principle of full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to the pre-war June 4, 1967, border lines," one official told Reuters.

Meanwhile, Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam returned home from Cairo after talks with Egyptian leaders on how to boost Arab solidarity, officials said. Khaddam was accompanied by Foreign Minister Farouk Shara. Syrian officials said that Khaddam, who met President Hosni Mubarak during the visit, "discussed the Arab situation and means of reactivating joint Arab action."

In an implicit reference to the Hebron deal, Damascus' state-run radio said that by signing the deal, Netanyahu was trying to delude the world and show that he is a man of peace.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said he expects the peace negotiations with Syria to resume shortly, now that the Hebron redeployment has been carried out.

"I hope that within a very short time we will have a new situation where the leader of Syria and the leader of Israel can sit together, discuss the subject and find a solution for the problem," Mordechai said.

Speaking to reporters while monitoring the first day of IDF redeployment in Hebron, Mordechai said Israel was interested in returning to the negotiating table.

"Every day we are asking President [Hafez al-]Assad and the government of Syria to come forward to continue the negotiations and to find a solution for the problem between Israel and Syria," Mordechai said.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher called on Netanyahu earlier to test Syria's willingness to make peace.

In a farewell interview, Christopher said Netanyahu's agreement with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to withdraw Israeli troops in the West Bank could prompt an accord with Syria.

"He's crossed an important threshold," Christopher said.

He compared Netanyahu's dealings with Arafat to a similar transformation by Yitzhak Rabin, who cut two deals with Arafat and shook hands with him on the White House lawn.

Christopher complimented Netanyahu for dealing with Arafat.

"The prime minister has recognized a need for pragmatism in the situation," Christopher said.

On all fronts, he said, "there is no doubt this will improve the relationship between Israel and the rest of the Arab world."

Arab countries will be encouraged by Netanyahu's acceptance of a road map for a pullback in Hebron and elsewhere on the West Bank, Christopher said.

Sharon renews call for national unity government

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon renewed his call for a national unity government.

Sharon has been advocating a broad coalition for several months and has been holding regular meetings with Labor leader Shimon Peres.

Around Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, however, Sharon's latest pronouncement was doused with cold water. In the Likud it is argued that Sharon's remarks stem from his increasing frustration inside the government, including not being consulted about the Hebron agreement.

Speaking on Channel 1 and 2 weekend newsreels, Sharon said, "A broad coalition could prevent a situation in which essentially one man decides. It doesn't matter who the man is. It's nothing personal."

Sharon argued, "It would be highly desirable, if possible, to reach a broad national consensus in which, admittedly, no side would be able to realize all of its objectives. The problems ahead are even more difficult and complex than what we have just come through."

Sharon was apparently hinting at the scheduled mid-March beginning of the permanent status talks, where presumably the government would have an easier time resisting excessive Arab demands if it could count on broad support.

Sharon expressed the hope that he "would take a greater part in the coming negotiations. I had not been made party to the policy-making thus far and I feel that had I been part of the team we could have come up with a far better deal, with greater security for Hebron's Jews. I am convinced that Jews must be in Hebron or there would be no access to the Machpela Cave, to the ancient cemeteries and to other Jewish holy sites."

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This Journey Lasts A Lifetime

Swiss panel to examine destruction of bank documents

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Swiss banking experts and government officials will be invited to attend a meeting of the international commission looking into dormant Jewish assets in Swiss banks. The subject will be the destruction of documents at the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS).

Commission Chair Paul Volcker notified the six commission members that the meeting will be held at the end of this month in Zurich.

In a letter to Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg, Volcker said he has been in contact with both the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) and Swiss government officials regarding a possible breach of the understandings between the Jewish organizations and the SBA. A joint effort, he said, will be made to expose all information regarding accounts of Holocaust victims.

Volcker stressed that, if indeed documents had been destroyed at the UBS, this would be a violation of legislation recently adopted by Switzerland on efforts to reveal the fate of Jewish funds deposited in that country during the Holocaust period.

According to media reports earlier this month, UBS, Switzerland's second largest bank, sent documents for shredding which allegedly contained information on deposits made by Holocaust victims. Burg then wrote to UBS President Mathis Cabiallavetta with a request that he reveal immediately all information relating to the deposits. According to the reports, UBS had the names of some 2,600 Jewish account holders, whose deposits are worth hundreds of millions of dollars, but this list has reportedly disappeared together with the monies.

For their part, UBS heads have asserted that the banks held only $34 million belonging to Jews killed in the Holocaust.

Jewish organizations have uncovered documents indicating that UBS also stored valuable art works — looted from Jewish families — for the Nazis. These included masterpieces by Van Gogh and Cezanne, among others.

Documents found by the Jewish organizations purportedly reveal the transfer of large sums of monies from UBS to the Nazis. One such document talks of a sum, equivalent to $150,000, "provided to the enemy" by UBS during a two-week period during World War II.

Burg, who is one of the six commission members, said that it was essential that an auditor and investigators appointed by the commission enter each of the Swiss banks to hold spot checks. "We will go from bank to bank until we discover exactly who destroyed how much and when," he said.

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The Week in Israel

Jan. 13

• The Prime Minister's Office announced that Benjamin Netanyahu would meet with a delegation of American Reform rabbis on Jan. 26, for the first time since his election. The rabbis are lobbying against proposed legislation prohibiting non-Orthodox conversions in Israel.

Jan. 14

• Foreign Minister David Levy met with visiting members of the U.S. House of Representatives foreign appropriations subcommittee to emphasize Israel's commitment to the Oslo Accords.

Jan. 15

• Ehud Olmert's trial began. Olmert is charged with illegal election campaign funding practices arising from his tenure as Likud party treasurer in 1988.

• Police believe the slaying of a 60-year-old Jewish man in Jerusalem's Ramat Sharet neighborhood was an act of terrorism and not criminally motivated.

Jan. 16

• Cabinet Minister Ze'ev Begin resigned his cabinet post as Minister of Science to protest the agreement on Hebron.

• Israel summoned the South African ambassador to express its concern about its planned $650-million (US) arms sale to Syria. *(The United States, which considers Syria a state sponsor of terrorism, warned South Africa that it might cut off aid if it proceeds with the sale.)*

• Researchers from Hebrew University have discovered evidence of infanticide of newborn males and females practised by Romans living in Ashkelon 1,600 years ago.

Jan. 17

• The Central Bureau of Statistics announced inflation in 1996 totalled 10.6 percent. This compared with 8.1 percent in 1995 and 14.2 percent in 1994.

• The police launched a massive search for Sara Kahalani, the mother of Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani. Sara Kahalani, 78, suffers from Alzheimer's disease. She failed to return Thursday to her Old Age Home in Nes Ziona.

With files from JTA

Ties with U.S. improve

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Last week, after three months of arduous negotiations, Israel and the PLO finally signed the much-delayed Hebron agreement. It is important for several reasons.

It is the first tangible expression of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's resolve to proceed with the Oslo peace process, which he had belittled before last May's general election.

It will strengthen Netanyahu's evolving partnership with PLO chieftain Yasser Arafat and thereby increase the level of trust between Israel and the Palestinians, which had fallen to a nadir of late.

It will have a salutary effect on Israel's ties with Egypt, Jordan and the Gulf states, which had accused Netanyahu of dragging his feet.

It will improve Netanyahu's relations with President Bill Clinton, who had been increasingly impatient with the thrust of his policies.

The United States, the prime mover of last week's breakthrough, had been pushing hard for a Hebron accord and, at Arafat's insistence, for a " road map" setting out the parameters of Israel's next three withdrawals from rural areas in the West Bank.

The negotiations, which are supposed to settle this unfinished business, left over from the 1995 Oslo 2 pact, will be extremely difficult and will test everyone's mettle to the fullest. But for now, Israel can breathe a sigh of relief that its bilateral relations with the United States, which had eroded since Netanyahu's accession to power, seem to be back on track.

Judging by his first meeting with Clinton at the White House last July, Netanyahu did not get off to a good start with him. Clinton was unable to extract from Netanyahu a promise not to build new settlements in the territories, nor could he coax from him a date for an Israeli redeployment from Hebron.

Clinton, upon conferring with Netanyahu, declared that "the historic relationship between the United States and Israel...will not change." But having said that, Clinton, who had established a reputation as the most pro-Israel U.S. president in history, issued a veiled warning. "The tide of history cannot be turned back." he said pointedly, referring to the need for pressing ahead with the Oslo process.

Warren Christopher, Clinton's secretary of state, sounded a similar theme when he visited Jerusalem shortly after Netanyahu's installation as premier. " Real peace without security is not possible, and real security without peace is also impossible," he observed.

During the first months of Netanyahu's tenure, the Clinton administration gave him the benefit of the doubt. Clinton voiced optimism that Netanyahu was committed to pursuing peace, while Christopher urged Arab states not to " prejudge" his government.

The Clinton administration's faith in Netanyahu was misplaced on two counts.

First, Netanyahu rejected a U.S. request to close, even temporarily, a new entrance to the Hasmonean tunnel in Jerusalem. As Palestinians rioted, Clinton said that both sides should refrain from needless provocations. In response, Netanyahu said that while he valued America's friendship, he was more concerned with preserving Israel's claim to Jerusalem.

Second, Netanyahu announced that financial incentives would be restored to settlements in the territories. This prompted Clinton, who had never publicly criticized Israel's policies, to scold Israel. The settlements, he said in no uncertain terms, were " absolutely" an obstacle to peace, preempting the outcome of final status talks.

Clinton's fundamental dispute with Netanyahu over the future of the settlements has not dissipated with the successful conclusion of the Hebron negotiations. But in the afterglow of Israel's agreement with the Palestinians, Netanyahu has been given a second chance to mend his relations with Clinton, whose inaugural on Jan. 20 ushered in his second term as president.

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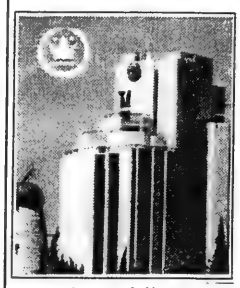
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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel seeking lucrative Polish military contracts

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Defence officials are hopeful that a delayed meeting held on Friday between Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and his Polish counterpart in Jerusalem paved the way for lucrative Polish military contracts.

Mordechai met with visiting Polish Defence Minister Stanislaw Dobrzanski prior to heading to Hebron to supervise the first day of IDF redeployment there. The meeting was to have taken place the day before, but Mordechai canceled it to be in the Knesset for the debate on the Hebron withdrawal. It was rescheduled only after Dobrzanski, who was accompanying Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewics, subsequently complained that Israeli politicians were ignoring him.

"Mordechai apologized and explained to him why he couldn't meet earlier, and he accepted that," said Kuti Mor, who is responsible for foreign relations at the Defence Ministry and accompanied Mordechai to the meeting. "The meeting ended with very strong optimism on both sides."

Dobrzanski told Mordechai he had visited ElOp and Elbit and was very impressed with the upgrading they had to offer and that Israel had a good chance of winning a contract to modernize Polish equipment, Mor said. Dobrzanski also invited Mordechai to visit Poland.

Poland, which is seeking membership to NATO, is interested in modernizing its military, but Dobrzanski admitted his country was facing difficult challenges due to its shortage of funds. Israeli officials said it was suggested that Israel and Poland work together to upgrade Polish equipment and include a third country to help cover costs.

"They spoke of business and Dobrzanski expressed optimism that even though matters are not closed, Israel was seriously being considered in any upgrades," Mor said. "But we are up against stiff competition."

A consortium of Israeli companies — Elbit, ElOp and Rafael — is bidding to upgrade the Polish Huzar helicopter, but is competing against the U.S. company Rockwell International Corp.

MKs urge boycott of station

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor MKs Sunday called on their colleagues to boycott Arutz 7, the right-wing pirate radio station, and will try to stop Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres from giving an interview to the station next Sunday.

An interview with Labor leadership candidate MK Ehud Barak broadcast on Arutz 7 Sunday triggered angry protests from Labor MKs and others on the left, who called on MKs to curb their "microphone lust."

Labor MK Eitan Cabel sent a letter to all the party's MKs urging them to refuse to give interviews or cooperate in any way with the station, because it is operating illegally and incited against the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Cabel spoke to Barak, who told him that he had been asked to appear on Eitan Danzig's program, Interview of the Week, some seven months ago. Barak finally agreed to do it, in an attempt to address listeners not likely to be identified with Labor.

"We don't want to exclude any sector of the public," a source close to Barak said, noting that Labor lost last year's elections because it had no connection to certain parts of the population. Speaking on Arutz 7 does not mean one agrees with them, the source added, noting that many Labor leaders have been interviewed on the station, including Ori Orr, Uzi Baram, Dalia Itzik, and Peres himself.

Itzik, head of Labor's response team, admitted she was in a dilemma concerning Arutz 7, which had branded Rabin a "traitor." She said she would try to convince Peres not to do the interview, which is scheduled to be broadcast next Sunday.

"Peres has been the target of such tirades of hatred and bitterness from that station and there is no reason for him to be interviewed there," she told Israel Radio.

As for her own appearance on Arutz 7, Itzik said, "Until the elections and for a long time afterwards I refused to cooperate with the station. Last week I broke down and gave them an interview, because I thought it was wrong to abandon their listeners to the station's wild incitement."

She said Labor, when it was in power, failed to close the illegal station "because they were afraid of the public represented by that station and no one dared mess with them. Maybe Cabel is right and we should boycott the station until they clean up their act."

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid blasted "the shameful interviews" given by Labor MKs to Arutz 7.

"Labor's MKs should stop looking for excuses to justify speaking on Arutz 7, a subversive channel trying to acquire an air of legitimacy," Sarid said.

THE YEAR OF ZIONISM

President Ezer Weizman of Israel recently opened "The Year of Zionism" in honor of the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress. During the year, a variety of programs are planned around the world related to the theme, "Zionism is Doing." [WZPS photo]

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Suicide studies chair launched at U of T

TORONTO — Among young adults in Canada, suicide is the most common cause of death after motor vehicle accidents.

The first university position in North America dedicated to suicide research, the Arthur Sommer Rotenberg Chair in Suicide Studies has been established at the University of Toronto. Dr. Paul Links of the university's Department of Psychiatry will be the first incumbent.

Links will lead research on suicide, one of the leading causes of death for people under 35 years of age. Every year in Canada, approximately 3,500 people take their own lives and thousands more attempt suicide.

Links is clinical program director-medical and deputy chief of psychiatry of the Wellesley Central/St. Michael's Hospital's joint Mental Health Service, where he will continue the clinical work crucial to his research. Prior to joining U of T in 1994, he was professor of psychiatry at McMaster University. He has served as a council member with Ontario Psychiatric Association and is currently president-elect.

He has published over 50 articles in scientific journals and two books relating to his research on persistently suicidal individuals.

Under his leadership, the research group will focus on clarifying the cause of suicide and suicidal behaviors and developing effective interventions and preventative strategies.

Arthur Sommer Rotenberg, a Toronto physician and graduate of U of T's Faculty of Medicine, took his own life in 1992 at the age of 36 following a long struggle with bipolar affective disorder (manic depression).

The initiative to fund a chair in suicide studies in Rotenberg's name was led by his mother, Doris Sommer Rotenberg. The fundraising committee for the chair raised $1 million in cash and pledges, with U of T matching the private funding to cover the full cost of $2 million.

New book helps young brain tumor patients, parents discuss concerns

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Doris Rosenberg used to feel awkward about entering a child's hospital room for the first time and introducing herself as a social worker, a term with which many children are unfamiliar.

As a staff member of the Hospital for Sick Children's neurosurgery department from 1988 to 1994, Rosenberg, who now has a private practice, came up with the idea of the "talking lady" to explain her role.

Now Rosenberg and her husband Elliot, a Toronto lawyer, have published *The Talking Lady Presents: Having a Brain Tumor*, a book written by Doris to help young brain tumor patients and their parents discuss their concerns.

Her idea of writing the book began about half a dozen years ago with a fruitless search for child-oriented material for her patients. "I made a few phone calls in Canada and to the United States. Nobody had anything. In fact, I was told if I had anything, to send it down to them."

Rosenberg, a native of Montreal and a graduate of McGill University, was also influenced by the memory of her sister, Terry Belle Klein, to whom the book is dedicated. Klein, who died in 1988, was born with physical and mental handicaps and developed Crohn's disease in her teens.

"Helping her certainly influenced me in terms of helping others. She was probably one of my first patients. I remember her all the time."

Having a Brain Tumor, colorfully illustrated by Toronto artist Tom Mortensen, is a 48-page workbook/storybook with places for children to draw their feelings, wishes and fears so they don't become "locked [in]. It provides a strong measure of hope [to] talk about these things and not fall apart."

Doris Rosenberg

The book is "unique in its interactive presentation," said Eleanor Pask, executive director, Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation Canada. It should be read with a parent or professional, she advises. "It opens an avenue for discussion."

Providing opportunities to talk is key, said Rosenberg, 43. "You don't ever force anybody. Sometimes it happens that they're quiet, and that's okay. Everyone is different."

In North America, approximately 5,000 children a year "from every ethnic background" are diagnosed with a brain tumor in North America, she said. The characters in Rosenberg's book, including a boy named Avrum, reflect the diversity.

The Rosenbergs, parents of a preschooler, have attended three brain tumor conferences in recent months to promote their new publication. Elliot, in addition to editing and publishing the first run of 5,000 copies under the name Talking Lady Press, also tracked down corporate sponsors like the "angels" they found at Kodak Canada and Batten Graphics to help underwrite the cost of publication.

To their initial surprise, some of the people they met felt the book might also be useful for healthy children who have family members with brain tumors.

As the book's author, Rosenberg shed a few tears and shared hugs with some of the people she met at the conferences. "It's a different way of connecting with people. When you're working as a professional [social worker], you give of yourself but you don't share."

Future plans for the Rosenbergs include writing and publishing more books addressing the psychological needs of children with various medical conditions, as well as more generic children's books.

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Business student a talented artist

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Multi-faceted 19-year-old York University student Limore Twena, who combines a business administration program with an elective in painting, presents an exhibition of oils on canvas, called Life Through Colour, through to Jan. 23 in the Student Centre Gallery (next door to the Underground), 4700 Keele St. W.

"It's not usual for a business student to be a painter as well," Twena says, but this collection confirms that her art is very much a part of who she is.

Dynamically colored, her works explore a considerable range of themes.

The Bride, an adaption from her mother's wedding photo, is all brightness and anticipation, strong turquoise, yellow, orange — not traditional bridal tones, yet joyful. One concession to tradition is the white blossom head-dress that suggests the expected stability of marriage.

Twena's paintings delineate figures and faces against a generally abstract or impressionistic background. She does not plan them in detail. "That way I'm more free, spontaneous," she says.

But each one says something.

Conflict, two arresting blue figures crouched in front of a cave filled with flames, reveals each individual's response to the other through body language. The first reaches out; the second withdraws behind folded arms.

There is a similar duality in much of what Twena does.

Pregnancy focuses on a young woman looking over her swollen belly, big eyes reflecting a certain apprehension mixed with acceptance.

The Obstacle examines another kind of split. A man and woman are poised on top of a Grecian flower urn but there are no flowers. He is seated, "stuck," says Twena, "perfectly satisfied to be exactly where he is, not wanting to change." But their relationship has become stagnant. She stands with one foot out; she wants to leave, to move on.

"We have to go forward or we regress," Twena says. Certainly she is constantly moving forward.

Twena studies business administration for practical reasons. In a global economy the computer is the future, she maintains, and she is determined to be part of that future. Already she has worked part time with an Internet company making WEB pages.

However, she has other interests. For 13 years she studied dance, ballet and jazz. She continues to study voice, including opera.

A graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, she is involved in Jewish and Hebrew performance — in the recent Jerusalem 3000 musical, *Caravan* and an annual Bet Halochem film program. She has entertained at Baycrest, singing in Hebrew and Yiddish. Patients have got up and danced to the familiar melodies. "That made me feel good." she says.

Three years ago, Twena participated in the March of the Living. And she accompanies her grandfather, Henry Melnick, a Holocaust survivor originally from Poland, when he lectures on his experiences. She very much wants to carry on for him some day.

With all this, what are her plans for the future?

"I don't really know," she says, but she definitely expects to use her business training — "the possibilities are endless."

"And I'll know how to market my own paintings," she adds.

Canadian McCarthyism subject of documentary

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — During the McCarthy era, my zayde was prohibited from boarding a flight to St. Louis by airport security officials. After retaining a lawyer to resolve the matter, he discovered that his father had once donated $2 to a Communist publication. My zayde was therefore stigmatized as a security risk.

But the question remained: How did the Canadian government learn about an innocuous charitable donation to a Yiddish newspaper?

The documentary, *The Un-Canadians*, answers this question and many more. Scheduled to air on Jan. 29 at 9:00 p.m. on Cityty, the program reveals the activities and confidential documents of the "Security Panel," a secret government agency which, along with the RCMP security service, developed a Canadian blacklist during the Cold War.

Approximately one million Canadians, many of whom were Jewish immigrants, were added to this list of alleged subversives.

Director Len Scher's father was one such blacklisted man. Having arrived in Canada after surviving the Holocaust, Morris Scher, a Montreal tailor, was prohibited from boarding a flight to Israel and denied Canadian citizenship for many years.

While researching his father's plight, Scher, an investigative journalist, unearthed the stories of those who, like his father and my zayde, had been targeted by the Security Panel as national security threats. His findings are recorded in his book *The Un-Canadians* for which his documentary is named.

Through newsreel footage and

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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Canadian McCarthyism subject of CityTV documentary

[Cont'd. from page 34]

in-depth interviews, Scher's documentary relates the stories of blacklisted peace activists, civil servants and union workers whose activities comprised over 800,000 files gathered by the RCMP. Interestingly, many of these files chronicled the lives of Jewish people whose roots were in the Soviet Union, many of whom, after immigrating to Canada, still subscribed to its leftist ideologies.

"If you hated Communists and you were a former Nazi sympathizer, or even a Nazi war criminal, you could get into this country before anybody with left-wing sympathies and somebody who was Jewish," says Scher.

Among the Jewish blacklistees in *The Un-Canadians* is Rabbi Abraham Feinberg whose leftist activities earned him the nickname of the Red Rabbi.

A peace activist and co-founder of the Toronto Disarmament Network, the film uncovers how Rabbi Feinberg was under RCMP surveillance for approximately 40 years.

In addition to examining the life of Rabbi Feinberg, Scher interviews Dan Daniels, a Montreal journalist and former Communist. Expressing his feeling of having being violated, Daniels reveals how the red squad of the Quebec provincial police raided his Montreal apartment and confiscated his personal letters, books and manuscripts.

And then there is Leo Orenstein, a writer and former employee of the CBC who learned of being blacklisted when he was denied a guaranteed promotion by CBC executives on the grounds that he was a security risk.

Subsequently, Orenstein met with the RCMP, who questioned him for four hours about his family's roots in the Soviet Union, his father's affiliation with the socialist Workman's Circle and his own involvement in Communist youth groups. Eventually, Orenstein cleared his name, but the residual effects of being blacklisted still persist.

"I didn't want anything in my history to affect [my sons] adversely. And so I was a little concerned about that, because I feel that this thing could happen again...and so I checked with my children first before I was interviewed by Len Scher."

Yet despite the fears that the making of *The Un-Canadians* evoked, the documentary has enabled Scher to tell his father's story.

IMF adds Israel to the 'Ivy League'

BY DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has decided to add Israel to its list of industrialized countries, commencing in April, the Bank of Israel announced last week.

The central bank said it hopes the listing will help Israel's chances of improving its international credit rating and general economic standing, which is also dependent on the country's future macroeconomic policy and performance.

Currently, Israel is credit rated A3 by Moody's Investors Service and A minus by Standard and Poor's. The higher Israel's credit rating, the less interest it has to pay in raising money on foreign bonds markets.

The decision to include Israel in the list was taken after the central bank called on the IMF to rethink the country's status.

The IMF informed the bank the decision was taken in light of the ongoing accelerated changes in the economy.

South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan have also been added to the IMF's "Ivy League" states, a list which until now included 23 countries, headed by the United States, Japan and Germany.

The standard of living, together with economic and financial market development, were given as the reasons for the inclusion of the five states.

Cabinet approves structural reforms

BY DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel's cabinet recently unanimously approved the vast majority of the Treasury blueprint for structural reforms in the public sector.

Eighteen recommendations were accepted of the 25 formulated by the budget department. The remaining measures were still being discussed.

Among the proposals approved were:

• Opening public transportation to competition, which according to Finance Minister Dan Meridor would lead to cheaper fares.

• A public committee to examine the possibility of raising retirement ages for men and women. Finance Ministry spokesperson Eli Yosef denied media reports that the cabinet was to consider increasing retirement ages for women to 65 and men to 70.

• Granting a third cellular telephone licence before the end of June.

• Establishing a satellite television network.

• Opening new gasoline stations throughout the country. National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon said at least 250 are urgently required.

• Reforming the Standards Institute, so that it only has responsibility for essential checks such as health, safety and security.

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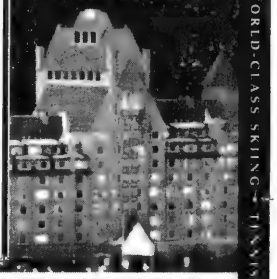

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Italian classic one of the best Holocaust movies

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

It's hard to imagine, but nine international distributors once dismissed *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* as "a small, ethnic film." So much for their judgment.

Little did they know that it would be recognized as one of the finest films of the Italian cinema and as one of the best movies ever made about the Holocaust.

Twenty-five years after its release, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* is back in circulation, having been restored and fitted with Dolby stereo sound. It opens on Jan. 24 at the Cineplex Odeon Carlton theatre.

Having seen the original, I wondered how I would react to the new version. It is not as deceptively powerful the second time around, but happily, it is still quite impressive, richly deserving its accolade as an Academy Award winning production.

Directed by Vittorio De Sica, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* takes place in Ferrara, Italy, between the years 1938 and 1943, framed by the imposition of the first anti-Semitic laws enacted by the fascist regime and the deportation of Italian Jews.

Achingly beautiful at times, the film is largely set in the walled estate of the Finzi-Continis, a wealthy and refined Jewish family whose tree-lined luxuriant gardens insulate them from the spreading cancer of anti-Semitism.

As Jews are increasingly marginalized in Italian society, the Finzi-Continis open their palatial home to the friends of their children, the fetching Micol (Dominique Sanda) and her sickly brother, Alberto (Helmut Berger). Among the frequent visitors are Giorgio (Lino Capolicchio), a middle-class Jewish student infatuated with Micol, and Malnate (Fabio Testi), a Communist and the only non-Jew in their circle.

Romolo Valli and Dominique Sanda in *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*, now playing at the Carlton Cinema in Toronto.

As metaphors go, the Finzi-Continis' garden is a perfect one. Here, amid the flaming flower beds, the stately trees, the languid tennis courts, the attentive household staff and the innocent twitter of birds, the ugly face of Benito Mussolini's anti-Semitic government seems far, far away, as if in another world.

But inexorably, the fascists close in. Jews are banned from the city's tennis clubs, universities and libraries. Micol wonders whether she will ever be able to resume her studies of the American poet Emily Dickenson. Giorgio is asked to leave a library.

Some Italian Jews, like Giorgio's father (Romolo Valli), a member of the governing fascist party, cannot grasp the enormity of the new era in Italian politics. In an argument with his son across the dinner table, he claims that Italy and Germany are as different as night and day and cannot be compared.

In a wink to the viewers, the level-headed Giorgio disagrees, signalling his father's blindness.

It is an instructive scene. During the 1920s and 1930s, Italian Jews flocked to the fascist party in disproportionate numbers, never realizing that Mussolini would adopt an anti-Semitic program and thus betray them. Giorgio's father, who becomes more disillusioned with his lot as *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* progresses, is a prime example of the naivete which characterized much of the Italian Jewish community in those days.

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis is satisfying in all respects. The script, based on a semi-autobiographical novel by Giorgio Bassani, flows smoothy. The acting is naturalistic. The sets are magnificent. The musical score is both appropriate and heart-rending, particularly its rabbinic denouement.

I was not as moved by the film as I was in the early 1970s, when it triumphantly burst upon the scene. But it is still a touching testament of a family and of a time.

Artists & Poets

With the arrival of Passover in the spring, *The CJN* will be introducing a new Literary Supplement. We therefore invite the authors and poets among our readers to submit original and previously unpublished works of fiction, memoir, biography or poetry to us. The works must explore Jewish themes. The fiction cannot be longer than 1,500 words.

You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. *The editor.*

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

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• The Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS) was established in Toronto in 1991 to nurture and promote the Jewish and Yiddish performing arts, the artists and their works, according to its president, **Gloria Valentine**.

JASS has announced six lecture series on the arts, language and health. All take place at the Earl Bales Community Centre, Bathurst St., south of Sheppard Avenue, North York. Three courses are offered in February.

How To Enjoy Being A Performer, with international speech consultant and actor Murray Kash. Feb 5, 12, 19, & 26, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Exploring Yiddish, with Yiddish activist Richard Bassett (no prior knowledge of Yiddish necessary). Feb. 6, 13, 20 & 27, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Jews In Film, with film historian Sheldon Glass and screenings of four classic films. Feb. 6, 13, 20 & 27, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Each course is $50. Register to JASS, 4415 Bathurst St., Suite 1402, North York, M3H 3S1. 416-638-2222.

Lectures on Art

• Slide show, lecture and reception on Secular Art from Sacred Roots: Jewish and Israeli Artists in the 19th & 20th Centuries, features two officials of Christie's auction house. Presented by the Koffler Centre of the Arts and Christie's Canada. Jan. 23, 6 to 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York. Admission free but please RSVP to **Leah Carey**, 416- 960-2063.

• Is Art An Investment? Lecture by **Prof. K. Carpenter**, chair of the Faculty of Visual Arts, York University. Second in New Cultural Series. $15 in advance, $17 at the door. Jan. 28, 8 p.m. York U., Ross N940. 416-636-0316.

Jews of Renaissance Italy

• Iron And Star: Jewish Brescia in Renaissance Italy, an exhibit curated by Franco Bontempi at the Italian Cultural Institute, 496 Huron St., Toronto. Monday to Friday, 2 to 5 p.m. until Feb. 20. 416-921-3802.

Hebrew Lit in Translation

• Israel's Institute for the Translation of Hebrew Literature has recently announced the release or imminent release of several anthologies of Hebrew writing in translation:

The Oxford Book of Hebrew Short Stories is a new survey of Hebrew prose in English, including pieces by classic and contemporary writers.

The Anthology of Hebrew Poems on the Theme of Peace, includes more than 80 poems spanning the modern period, and is set for publication by Viking/Penguin in 1997.

New Women's Writing From Israel includes stories in a wide range of styles, published by **Frank Cass** of Great Britain.

Gallimard Press in Paris is preparing to release two French-language anthologies, *The Modern Hebrew Poem* and *The Modern Hebrew Short Story*.

More On Waxman

• Congratulations to actor-director **Al Waxman** for being named as a member of the Order of Canada two weeks ago. An article on Waxman that appeared recently in these pages may need clarification, as several lines were inadvertently dropped.

As he directs **Neil Simon's Lost In Yonkers** which starts Feb. 4 at the Atlantis Theatre in Toronto, the former *King of Kensington* is gearing up to play Willy Loman in **Arthur Miller's** *Death Of A Salesman* at the Stratford Festival, opening in June.

The Toronto-based actor, who has appeared in hundreds of television shows and films, recently acted in *The Rescuers*, a made-for-TV movie co-starring **Elizabeth Perkins** and directed by **Peter Bogdonavitch**. Filmed recently in and around Toronto, the movie tells the story of "some non-Jews who helped Jews in the Holocaust." Waxman also recently acted in *Critical Case*, a film directed by **Sidney Lumet** due for a theatrical release next year.

Even before becoming a recipient of the Order of Canada, Waxman expressed satisfaction at the course of his career in recent days.

"I've just finished two movies, I'm directing a play, and then I'm going into Stratford to act, so it's a rather enjoyable time for me," he said.

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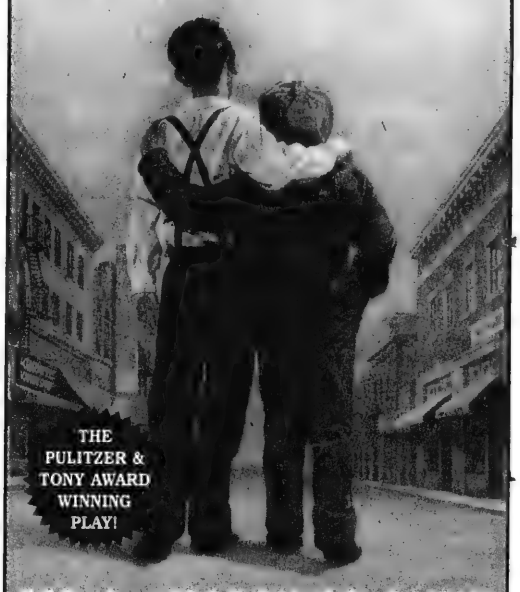

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Travel, Arts & Business

Few tangible traces left of Frankfurt's Jewish ghetto

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

FRANKFURT — At the end of the 19th century, Frankfurt's ghetto ceased being an exclusively Jewish neighborhood and passed into the mists of time.

The ghetto, home of the famous Rothschild banking family, was established in the mid-15th century and was closed by Napoleon's army in 1806.

Today, its only tangible traces are found in the basement of a municipal building opposite the old Jewish cemetery.

The foundation walls of five ghetto buildings, as well as the remains of two mikvahs and a waste water canal, can be viewed at the Judengasse museum on Konrad Adenauerstrasse in the heart of this bustling city, the financial centre of Germany.

Visitors who seek further insights into the history of Jews in Frankfurt – birthplace of the Holocaust memoirist Anne Frank and the sociologist Theodor Adorno – can head for the museum's bank of computers.

There, with a press of a key, you can access the names of virtually every Jewish person, some 33,000, who lived in Frankfurt prior to Hitler's accession to power in 1933.

The walled Jewish cemetery, which functioned between 1270 and 1820, was devastated by the Nazis. But inexplicably, they left scores of tombstones standing, including the weathered grave of Meyer Amschel Rothschild, the patriarch of the Rothschild clan.

The gray walls of the cemetery are embedded with approximately 11,500 small metal plaques in memory of the Frankfurt Jews who perished during the Holocaust. Installed this year, the plaques are engraved with the name of the victim and the place he or she was murdered.

Frankfurt, however, is not only a depository of the dead. Its Jewish community of 6,500 is growing, augmented in recent years by an infusion of Jews from the former Soviet Union. In all of Germany, there are 58,000 registered Jews, making it the third-largest Jewish community in Western Europe.

Frankfurt Jews are proud of their spacious, ultra-modern community centre on Savignystrasse, which opened in 1986. It is in the Westend, a sedate middle-class neighborhood favored by Jews before the Nazi era.

But dangers, real or imagined, lurk. A concrete barrier was recently erected in front of the building, a precaution taken by the police following the 1994 bombing of Buenos Aires' Jewish community centre.

Frankfurt is not the only city in Germany which may be of interest to a Jewish traveller.

Two cities in the former German Democratic Republic – Dessau and Erfurt – are also worth visiting.

Dessau – birthplace of the philosopher Moses Mendelssohn and the composer Kurt Weill – is a centre of Bauhaus architecture.

The original Bauhaus building, damaged during the war, still stands, having been renovated and reopened as a school in 1976. A bombing raid destroyed Moses Mendelssohn's house, but a plaque designates the site.

Kurt Weill's legacy is preserved in a restored Bauhaus building, the only documentation centre of his life and work in Europe. A Kurt Weill Festival is staged annually to coincide with his birthday on March 2, 1900. Weill, a cantor's son who is best known for *The Three Penny Opera,* was forced out of Germany in the early 1930s. The last remaining Jews of Dessau were deported in 1941.

Erfurt, the capital of Thuringia and of the eastern German horticultural trade, recently marked its 1,250th anniversary. It is a remarkably beautiful city of magnificent squares and historic half-timbered buildings, 32 of which stand on one of the longest covered bridge in Europe, the *Kramerbrucke,* which was finished in the 14th century.

Walk across it and you'll see the walls of a 15th century synagogue, exposed by an Allied bombing raid. Further on, in close proximity to a parking lot, are the remains of a mikvah and the ruins of a 19th century synagogue currently being restored as a Jewish-Christian centre.

Sheldon Kirshner travelled to Germany as a guest of the German National Tourist Office in Toronto.

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Champion wrestler known for his optimistic attitude

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In his day, Morris Sobel could do 100 pushups, lead an exercise class and do dozens of those difficult "jackknife" situps. And that was in his late 70s.

As a younger man, Sobel was a champion wrestler, a phys. ed. trainer for police and pro sports teams and, most importantly, a mentsh who saw only the good in other people.

A longtime fixture at the Jewish Community Centre's (JCC) northern branch, Sobel died recently at the age of 82. He was remembered both for his astounding physical achievements and the good nature and positive perspective he brought when dealing with others.

"He had a tremendous reputation," said Archie Rottenberg, who knew Sobel for 50 years. "He had the ability, the patience and the personality that everyone responded to."

"He was well liked and well respected by all the members here," said Jim Emery, director of facilities of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), where Sobel worked out in his later years.

"He always encouraged people. He was always optimistic and happy. He got people to extend themselves with a helpful word," said Rabbi Wayne Allen, who delivered the eulogy at his funeral.

For many members of the JCC and the BJC after that, Sobel was the guy who ran the exercise class for the more "seasoned" members of the club. His style and techniques harkened back to a pre-aerobics age when that kind of workout was more commonly known as calisthenics.

"He made sure we were in shape," Rottenberg said, adding, "None of us could keep up with his exercises."

Sobel's fame as a well-conditioned athlete dates back to at least the 1940s. In 1942 and '46, he was Ontario heavyweight champ and in '46 was also Toronto and District Champion. A year later, he was crowned Whipper Billy Watson Heavyweight City Champion and in 1949 and '50, he coached the University of Toronto wrestling team.

In his late 40s, he and wife Diane moved to Calgary where they were in the hotel business. A physical fitness aficionado, Sobel continued to wrestle and remarkably, in 1962 he defeated the Alberta champion — a man 20 years younger — to win the Alberta heavyweight title.

During their Alberta hiatus, Sobel was called upon to whip the Calgary and Edmonton police forces into shape and his techniques were so prized that he was hired by the Calgary Stampeders to do the same with their football players.

After returning to Toronto a few years later, Sobel renewed his relationship with the JCC and served as athletic director, director of the men's health club and later, as an exercise instructor. He was instrumental in organizing the health club's holiday luncheons four or five times a year, when members would be treated to a meal and a discussion with a rabbi of the holiday's significance, Emery said.

Sobel was also a founding member of the Beth Tikvah Synagogue. From his seat on the right side of the sanctuary near the outside aisle, he was often called upon to lift the the Torah after it was read on Shabbat. From that he got his nickname, "Mr. Habgah," Rabbi Allen said.

Rottenberg, who met Sobel when both trained at the Brunswick Y, said Sobel's exploits earned him a writeup in *Time* magazine. Despite that acclaim, "he was never arrogant, never boastful. He was a community man who was known for his decency and his humility," Rottenberg said. "If any thing went well for anybody, he never begrudged them. He was not a jealous person... He always tried to find the good in people."

Morris Sobel, wearing his Y trunks decorated with a Magen David, as seen in his heyday in 1942 when he won the Ontario heavyweight wrestling championship.

Top athletes honored

By TOM TUGEND
Special to The CJN

LOS ANGELES — Fourteen former athletes from six nations have been elected to the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

They will be officially recognized in July at the organization's museum, housed in the Wingate Institute in Netanya, Israel.

The five American athletes are: Arthur Bluethenthal, Princeton University All-American in football, 1911-12; Milton Green, Harvard's world record-setting high hurdler, 1935-36; Solly Krieger, world middleweight boxing champion, 1938-39; Mort Lindsay, tenpin bowling pioneer champion, 1912-34; and Sid Tannenbaum, New York University's All-American in basketball, 1946-47.

Also named were Johan Harmenberg, Swedish world champion and Olympic gold medalist in epee fencing, 1980; Hans Haas of Austria, Olympic weightlifting gold medalist in 1928 and silver medalist in 1932; Pierre Darmon, France's No. 1 seed tennis player in the late 1950s and early '60's; and Sandor Gombos, Olympic and World Champion gold medalist in fencing from 1926-28.

Named in addition were five members of The Netherlands' women's gymnastics team, which won the first Olympic gold medal in the event at the 1928 games. They were Ana Polak, Helena Nordheim, Estella Agsteribbe, Judijke Simons and Elka de Levie. Except for de Levie, the gymnasts and their coach, Gerrit Kleerekoper, perished in the Holocaust.

To be honored with the Sports Hall's Pillar of Achievement Award are Margalit Sonnenfeld of Israel, coach of 76 medal winners in the Paralympics for disabled athletes, 1969-92; American William Lippy, founder and chair of the Israel Tennis Centres; and Murray Olderman, American sports writer and cartoonist.

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Breathtaking 5,500 sq. ft. custom home, 3 car garage, built-in appliances, hardwood, premium lot & more! *Allen Sidofsky

UPPER FOREST HILL VILLAGE $548,000
Large wide lot, large 4 bdrm with fin. bsmt., centre hall plan, main floor den, great Forest Hill buy. *Leon Kogan

OVER 1 ACRE LOT – YONGE & HWY. 7
Renovated large sidesplit, or build a new house on 100x408 ft. lot! Large enough for pool & tennis court! *C. Fleischmann

JUST LISTED ON SPRING GATE – ABSOLUTELY IMMACULATE!
4+ 1 bdrms, prof. finished basement, beautiful private lot overlooking park! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BATHURST & CENTRE "ROSEDALE NORTH"
$329,900! 4 bdrms, main floor family room & laundry room, skylight, appls, 2600 sq. ft., neutral decor! *A. Sidofsky

"SPRING FARM" HOME – WALK TO SHUL
About 2,800 sq. ft., 4 bdrms, finished basement, 5 appliances, loaded! Must sell! *Shula Schwartzman

BATHURST & CLARK "SPRING FARM"
Large 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt, super size rooms, double garage, extras galore, shows well + + + *Ted Waxman

NEW WESTMINSTER & CLARK
About 3,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrms, neutral decor, quiet crescent, priced to sell! *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST & STEELES $279,900
Best buy! Great 3 + 1 bdrm bungalow on large lot! *Helen Gould

CLARK & NEW WESTMINSTER - 1ST AD!
3 bdrms, double garage, walk-out basement, ideal for in-law suite, large rooms & great lot, only $245,000! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST & CHABAD - CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!
4 bdrm, dble garage, air, part fin. bsmt, 4 pc ens. *T. Waxman

CONDOMINIUMS

THE "CONSERVATORY" HILDA & CLARK
Stunning 2 bdrm condo, split bdrms, $199,900! *Helen Winer

BATHURST-STEELES $179,000
LARGE 3 BEDROOM UNIT WITH BALCONY
Hardwood fls, 2 full baths, corner unit, best view, all appls., must sell! *L. Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

2 ACRES OF WINTER WONDERLAND IN THE CITY
Spec. custom loaded with upgrades. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

CHOICE LOCATION LOWER VILLAGE $1,149K
Reno'd stone beauty, fab. views. B. Peltz** 488-2875

5 DONCLIFFE – HOGGS HOLLOW BEAUTY
3 stry, 6+ bdrm executive SOLD Mark Cowan 226-1987

BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOUSE ON THE RAVINE
Buy or rent, contact David Wagman* 488-2875

NEW LISTING! ALEXANDRA WOOD AREA
Total reno 5 bdrm, 3 bath, centre hall, must see! R. Sud* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! EGLINTON/ROSEWELL $579K
Gorgeous 6 yr. new home, SOLD t. F. Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

FABULOUS BAYVIEW GLEN RED. $569K
100'x150' lot, 4 bdrm, immac. Barbara Peltz** 488-2875

BATHURST/CARMICHAEL
50 ft, 6 rm. bung., finished basement. Rose Simon* 226-1987

RENTAL - ANTIBES TOWNHOUSE
3 bdrm fin bsmt, fireplace! Bonnie Singer 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

ANNEX/WALK TO U of T/SUBWAY!
$195,000, 1 br & den, low maint. I. Hemmerich* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

GREAT BUY!
4 bdrm cottage in Belle Ewart close to all. Rose Simon* 226-1987

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CENTRAL

1ST AD! LOWER VILLAGE-RAVINE
$995,000 oversized principle rooms w/out bsmt., 5 bdrms., hrdwd. flrs. quiet street. Samantha Graff*

GLENCAIRN/BATHURST
3 bdrm., raised bung. 2 bdrm. bsmt in-law ste. 50'x132' lot. Won't last! Call Today! Olga Schrage*

NORTH

MISTY/SANDFIELD $1,098,000
Quiet crescent Kelbar custom home, lib. & fam.rm. 9 ft. ceilings, 5+1 bdrms., spa, pool, fin. rec. room. S. Graff*

HARRISON RD. EXECUTIVE BUNGALOW
4 + 1 bdrm., on a 100'x125' lot with pool, appl., & loaded with upgrades. Major reno 1985. Shelly Teichberg**

JUST REDUCED - $289,000
Meticulous home located on best part of street, 131 ft. deep lot, 4 bdrms & dble. garage. Cheryl Graff*

IN THE MANOR BORN/JUST LISTED
Bathurst Manor $275,000 for the perfect 3 bdrm bung. with priv. lwr. lvl. shows a 10 - Sanders Bayne**

GREAT RENTAL $3,800.00
Bayview/York Mills - Fab. up-dated exec. home. Avail. Now!! 1 yr. or longer. Owen P. S. M. Alberga*/S. Stern*

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BATHURST/LAWRENCE – JUST LISTED
Spotless 6 rm. bung., updated kit., fin. bsmnt., cntl. air, gar., 2 separate drives. Walk to ammenities. Must be seen.
Contact: **RUTH RYBAK,** *Broker* (416) **787-7151**

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
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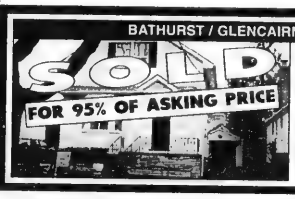
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



A reach charmer! Renovated & decorated, 4 bdrms., fam. room, hrdwd. floors, $279,0 SOLD y A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

WE HAVE MORE ANXIOUS BUYERS WHO WANT TO LOCATE IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING YOUR PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL US!

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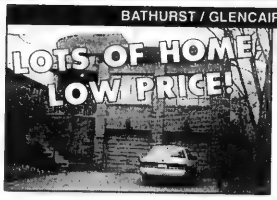
$116,900 U.S. PUTS A FABULOUS ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD AND THE SEA AT YOUR FEET

Luxury 1 + 2 bdrms. available at pre-construction prices, starting at $116,900 U.S. Fabulous central location. For more information call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD — NEW LISTING!
Prestigious executive home! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge family room, library. Hot location — A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING!
51 foot frontage, rare opportunity! Mostly land value, presently rented. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Custom built executive home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge family room w/ fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded w/ upgrades, only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION BUILDERS: BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Two lots side by side, each 32.5 x 132 ft., only $179,000 each! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

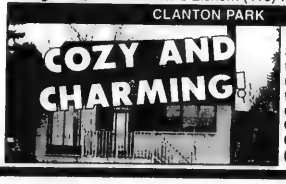
PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES CONDO – REDUCED
Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $199,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – PRESTIGE PLUS!

Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, asking $389,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

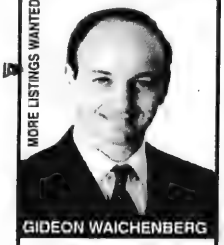
CLANTON PARK



Detached 3 bdrm., 3 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, fabulous location close to park, quiet cul-de-sac. ACT NOW! Only $229,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



GIDEON WAICHENBERG

• Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, sun rm, balcony, locker, 2 pkg, approx. 1400 s.f..
• 124 Mcgillivray 3 br. bung., 50x115, dble. gar. $269,900.

RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

Thornhill, 4 bd., 2 storey, $329K G. Baron Rltr.,. 665-3044.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Duff./Steeles, bach. bsmnt. apt.,sep.entr,$490/mo 665-8586

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Lake Placid, 3 bd., 1 1/2 bths. a/c, 2 appls.,gar. $49,000. U.S or Best Offer. 519-941-9375.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrm. condo., beautifully furn., avail. Jan. 15 - Apr. 15, will only charge for 2 mos 416-633-4798

Coconut Creek, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, lge. terrace, lake view, newly furn., avail. Feb. 15. $1,500./mo. U.S., min. 2 mos. 635-9419.

Hollywood, oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, avail. Mar. & April, $2,000./mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

THE BEST CONDO VALUE MID-TOWN!

If you are looking for space and excellent service, then you must inspect this 2200 sq. ft. suite offering 2 bedrooms and a den. Beautiful hardwood floors and cornice mouldings. A well-planned eat-in kitchen with a view. Many upgrades and extras! Three bathrooms. 24 hour security. Truly a 1997 value! Offered at $460,000.

ROSLYN AVERY, *Sales Representative*
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BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY
Lovely 2 bdrm + den, Fab. layout - approx 1400', 2 prk. & 5 appls.
PAULINE GOLD - 905-889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

55 Prince Arthur, elegant, midtown condo., 2210' sq. ft., 2 bdrms., 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, hrdwd., wet bar, numerous upgrades, 24 hr. concierge, valet pkg., furnishings available. $525,000. 925-1667.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

100 Antibes, upscale, lux. 3 bdrm. + sol, 2 baths, 6 appls, cable, eat-in kit., 2 car. pkg., $1450., refs. req. 663-6198.

Bath./Lawr., lux. lge. 2 bdrm. + fam. rm., 2 baths, sol., new renov., pkg., secur., rec., immed. $1,525./mo. 787-6886.

Bath./Neptune, elegant,3 bdrm, 2 bath, reno'd, close to TTC, $1200./mo., reliable. 783-6796.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Egl. area, bach. avail., + pkg., ground flr.,$569.69. Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm, Call 485-1193.

Bath./Shepp., 1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. March 1st, 635-5031.

Bath./Steeles, bus to York Univ.,lge. 1 bdrm., furn., ground level,sep.entr. 416-736-0873.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
Highrise.
Only 6 apts on each floor.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

BAL HARBOUR
Florida - Fabulous furnished 1 bedroom, 1½ baths, eat-in kit. Minimum 4 Months.
Call
Lillian Cooper
(416) 418-0199 Immediately.

THE ULTIMATE VACATION. Luxury & privacy in a tropical paradise, 3 bdr., 3 bath villa, Ft. Laud., 2400' sq. ft., home theatre, 5 TV's, hot tub, pool, sports, kid's rec. Ideal for family/2 couples. Wk./mo. 445-6200.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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(LOCAL MOVING)
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Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

205 INDUSTRIAL/ COMMERCIAL SPACE

Excellent Business Opportunity
Commercial Building for Sale
Corner Location
Under Power of Sale
Building previously used as a cleaning business for over 50 yrs., current zoning is for multiple residential; commercial zoning possible for mini-mall, several stores and/or offices. Ample pkg. with free city pkg. adjoining. Bldg. is 4400' sq. ft., location is Cambridge, 1 hr. west of T.O. Asking price: $130,000. For further info. call 416-531-7749.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SHOE STORE.
A-1 location.
Steady customers.
G. BARON R.E. 665-3044.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Caregivers, live in/out for Seniors, needed immediately. Please fax resumé to 482-8278.

Part-time, exper., telesales rep. req'd., (Bus. to Bus.). Computer literate, 416-782-6012, voice mail 12.

Paving Company, specializing in industrial & commercial, seeks sales person. Call Tony or John at 741-5865.

Hamische Rabbi wanted, small friendly conservative congregation looking for spiritual leader/membership builder, full/part-time. Call 716-442-5827.

246 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed for small retirement home, Yiddish, Polish or Russian speaking an asset, Please contact Wendy at (416) 398-5486.

247 DAY CARE

Chaverim Playgroup, 2 yr olds, 9am - 12pm. Bath./Shepp. area, Jewish Program incl. blessings, holidays, etc. Kosher snacks. Call Batya 635-1901 or Shari at 905-731-7303.

DAY CARE in my home. Bath./Shepp., n/smoker, 2 yrs old & up. Please call 638-2771.

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher plus assistant, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

A mature woman with exper seeks twice weekly babysitting. Lots of TLC. 223-8909.

Domestic Help & Nurses avail 24 hrs. 656-6695.

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(FILIPINO OWNED)
LOW PLACEMENT FEE
EMPLOYERS/EMPLOYEES
NANNY/NANNY/CAREGIVER
PLS CALL 905-475-2518

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
• **No Fee to Employer**
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Cleaning lady avail. every 2nd Tues., Fri., & every Sat. Call Elizabeth, 249-2920.

European lady will clean your home, refs. avail. upon req. Call Lerica 416-621-7926.

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, refs. avail. 416-665-4746, Barbara.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will keep your home clean & tidy on a regular basis at reas. rates. Call Angie 780-9874.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Young Polish woman will do house cleaning, baby sitting or other job offers. 297-8337. Kathy.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

COMPANION for elderly man, live-in from Fri. 7pm to Sun. 7pm. Some cooking & light housekeeping. Exper., refs. req'd. 398-6833.

Nanny req'd., Bath./Egl., P/T, legal, refs. req'd. 416-787-5468.

Senior Jewish couple req. live-in housekeeper with healthcare exper. & refs. Chaplin/Eglinton area. 416-486-8174.

258 HEALTHCARE

DENTISTS
Exceptional Opportunity
Bathurst/North
Located in a high traffic health care facility Turn-key situation can include practice management & marketing. For more information, please call
(416) 590-1333

Exper. HCA seeks employment to look after elderly. 747-8900.

Kind caregiver for elderly to take to appts., shopping, Forest Hill. Refs. avail. 416-423-4656.

Reliable & caring lady will take care of the elderly, exper., exc. refs., 733-7527, Olga.

Woman seeks job to take care of elderly, days work, house cleaning,refs.,exper. 763-7594.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/ Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For info. contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5986 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates.** Toronto's most successful Jewish introduction service. Visit our web site; www.soulmates.net. Join now! Evelyn, 905-709-3868.

Bringing People Together is what I do best. Photos.Top rated service. 20 yrs. exper. Free consultation. 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1230** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

AGUNAH? I want the Jewish community to understand what it's like to be an AGUNAH, so I am writing my Ph.D. dissertation on this topic. If you want to share your story, please call me, Lisa, at 590-1277. **Complete confidentiality assured.**

Looking for William or Edward Green, Major ST, T.O. Post WWII. Write: S. Ranger, 1012-1339 Meadowlands Dr., Nepean, Ont. K2E 7B4.

Janice, If you prefer flowers & just turned 44, please call again. 315-9965.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive, tall, athletic, prof. male, 37, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-3863.

Gentleman looking for lady for long-lasting relationship. Serious callers only. 488-4782.

I have a beautiful brother, attr., gentle, 41, who is mentally challenged & dreams of meeting a sweet, sensitive woman for long term relationship. 691-6270.

Prof. male, 40, seeks pretty female 30-41,for dining, movies, dancing & friendship. CJN Box 6852.

SJM 35, Prof., tall, attractive, n/smoker 631-4706, leave msg.

Tall, handsome prof. male, 46, seeks marriage-minded family-oriented female, 30-39. Attractive, down-to-earth, intellectual women please reply to CJN Box 6871.

Young, attr., prof. single female, looking for a Jewish unattached male. Sincere, warm hearted, age around 40, with no dependents. Include recent photo, full name & address. Thanks. CJN Box 6873.

Charismatic, creative girl of 55, longs to communicate with intelligent, fit business man, with humour & passion for quality relationship. Call 484-1766.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

I'm looking for person to share **BLUE JAYS tickets** for season,100 level.905-660-0524

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Dubi Arie (under the Wings of God, and the shadow of Amalek) original etching, hand painted. $12,500./Best Offer. 905-761-5212.

Little Tykes Cottage Bed. Pink,$100. 905-889-7830, evgs.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Looking for a very large dining room set. 905-731-0968

330 OBITUARIES

Horowitz, Rabbi Aron, passed away in hospital in Rehovoth Israel, on January 11, 1997, in his 86th year. Beloved husband of Rachel. Loving father of Gad, Yigal, (and Atara); Asher, (and Mirit). Proud grandfather of Tamar, Naomi, Yael, and David (deceased); Jonah & Sarah Survived by sisters and brothers Dvorah, Biela, Isaac, David, Yaacov, and Israel. He will be missed by many relations, students & friends. Funeral in Israel on Monday, January 13, 1997. Shiva at son Asher's home, 416-531-8723. Donations to the Jewish National Fund.

FELDMAN, Dorothy - on January 3, 1997, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #1003.
SILVERBERG, Adam - on January 3, 1997, late of 3900 Yonge St., #1010.
SMITH, Ken - on January 3, 1997, late of 38 Orchardview Blvd., #807.
LEWIS, Jean - on January 4, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
FERGUS, Allan - on January 5, 1997, late of 11 Bamboo Grove.
GOODMAN, Elaine - on January 5, 1997, late of 399 Empress Ave.
STROM, Ethel - on January 5, 1997, late of 3 Ullswater Crt.
WINER, Ruth - on January 5, 1997, late of 300 Antibes Dr., #513.
HINITZ, Joudith - on January 6, 1997, late of 265 Codsell Ave.
SHINER, Huck - on January 6, 1997, late of 11 Ava Rd.
ZWEIG, Betty - on January 6, 1997, late of Bayview Extendicare.
MUKAMAL, Saleh - on January 7, 1997, late of 121 Francine Dr.
PEIKES, Ralph - on January 7, 1997, late of 411 Duplex Ave., #1502.
RESNICK, Shirley - on January 7, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
WAGMAN, Bella - on January 7, 1997, late of 439 Sherbourne St.
WARSH, Edna May - on January 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BOWMILE, Mary - on January 8, 1997, late of 38 Orchardview Blvd., #602.
KASLER, Betty - on January 8, 1997, late of 575 Avenue Rd., #905.
SILVERSTEIN, Harry - on January 8, 1997, late of 28 York Downs Dr.
TARADASH, Rose - on January 8, 1997, late of 115 Alexis Blvd.
JUBAS, Marshall - on January 9, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr., #1004.
KISLUK, Thelma - on January 9, 1997, late of 201 Glenayr Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The Inside Back

330 OBITUARIES

OSTERMAN, Leonard - on January 6, 1997,
ROSEN, Sophie - on January 6, 1997.
WALDMAN, Ruth - on January 6, 1997, late of 617 Roding St.
TODEROVITZ, Nadine - on January 7, 1997, late of 210 Roseborough Cres.
SZEKACS, KLARA - on January 9, 1997, late of 9 Forest Ridge Dr.
BERKOWITZ, Jonas - on January 10, 1997.
SIGAL, Mollie - on January 10, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SOMERS, Hattie - on January 10, 1997, late of 225 St. George St.
TIGELMAN, Hana - on January 10, 1997, late of 2 Denava Gate.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

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Chabad Gate Plaza
7241 Bathurst St.
Thornhill
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CATERING
FREE DELIVERY
SHIVA MEALS, BRIT MILAH, BAR/BAT MITZVAHS, MEETINGS
FREE BAGELS FREE DELIVERY NO G.S.T.
Last minute orders or come in.
We have freshly prepared foods to go.

Organizers pleased with seniors walk-a-thon

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — About 125 Jewish seniors and their families and friends turned out at the north Winnipeg Garden City Shopping Centre on Jan. 12, to Walk The Garden Path, an innovative walk-a-thon jointly sponsored by the Gwen Secter Creative Living Centre, a north Winnipeg seniors club, and the Sharon Home, the city's Jewish nursing home.

"It was an exercise that both of our organizations had been kicking around for years," says Phyllis Dana, secretary of the board of directors of the Gwen Secter Centre. "A joint venture was an appealing idea. There are no other joint programs like this in our community."

Sarah Weisman (seated) and daughter Ros Silver, honorary co-chairs.

The walk-a-thon was an exercise in both fundraising and public relations. One of its objectives was to educate the public and heighten public awareness about seniors — from the active, well and fit who frequent the Gwen Secter Centre to the frail and elderly who make up much of the population of the Sharon Home.

Naida Rubin, the home's director of development, reports that 21 residents — some in wheelchairs or with walkers, some walking on their own — participated in the walk-a-thon accompanied by family members or companions.

"We anticipated that we would have 40 residents there," she says, "but the weather was so cold that we had to be careful with some of them."

Among the participants were centenarian Sarah Weisman and her daughter, Ros Silver, who were two of the honorary co-chairs of the event.

"It would have been better if I could have walked," says Weisman, a five-year resident of the home who has been using a wheelchair for the past two years. "Still, I have a mouth that can talk. The home needs the funding."

The walk-a-thon organizers also encouraged Jewish Winnipeg seniors who are currently in warmer climates to participate in Walk the Garden Path by walking wherever they were on Jan. 12.

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PRALINE SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

4 cups cooked, mashed sweet potatoes	1 tsp salt
3 tblsp melted butter	1/8 tsp pepper
1/3 cup orange juice	1/4 tsp allspice
1/4 cup brown sugar	1 tsp grated orange peel
2 tblsp brandy	1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp ground ginger	
Praline topping:	1/2 cup chopped pecans
1/3 cup brown sugar	1/2 tsp cinnamon

Combine all ingredients. Mix well with an electric beater. Pour into a well-buttered 2 qt. shallow casserole. Combine all praline topping ingredients and mix until well blended. Spread over sweet potato mix. Bake 30 minutes at 350°..

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About Life

Dear Ella,

My friend Cheryl, whom I have known for many years, is the cause of much anxiety for me. Cheryl and I grew up together, we did everything together including spending countless hours on the telephone.

Many years have gone by and although we both have families, she still loves to *butchkeh* (talk) on the phone. I however, would rather spend my limited spare time with my husband and kids.

When Cheryl calls, I try to get off the phone as politely as possible but I can't seem to hang up that easily. After telling her that I must go she usually says "OK, it was nice talking to you but just let me ask you one more question..." and the conversation continues. The kids nag at me to get off the phone so they can use the Internet (we only have one phone line) and sometimes I even get my husband to answer the phone and say that I'm not home. The whole thing is out of control and I am beginning to resent her. How can I cure this problem without losing a friend?

All Talked Out

Dear All Talked Out,

Sounds like this situation has gone a bit too far. Putting yourself and your family in a position where they need to lie for you is not acceptable.

What you need to do is have a good long talk with Cheryl, but not on the telephone. You can't speak calmly and reasonably when you have a child nagging at you to get off the phone and when you yourself are in an angry and resentful state.

Arrange for an evening out. When you are face to face and not under pressure you can explain to Cheryl that you are not a "phone person." Tell her that the time you have with your family is precious and you don't want to give that up to chat on the phone. Let her know that she is important and a good friend and that you are there for her if she needs you, but you simply can't spend your evenings chit chatting on the phone.

Hopefully Cheryl will understand that you have priorities and she will find someone else who shares her passion for the phone to take your place for those telephone marathons.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.

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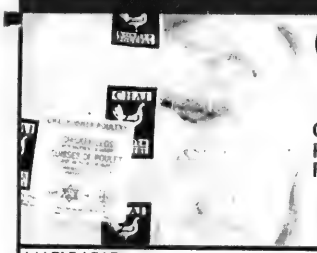

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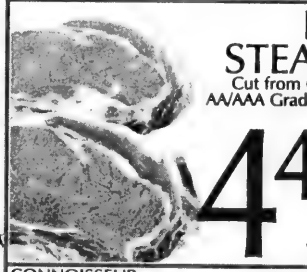

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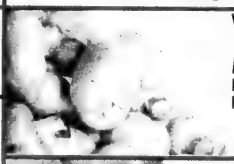

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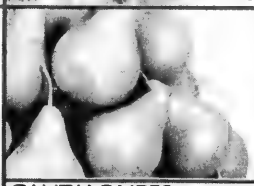

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This Week

Coast to Coast

CJC national office to stay in Quebec, Richard Vineberg says. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Elinor Caplan may run for federal Liberal seat. *Page 6*

Hunger prevalent in community, food bank organizer Loren Fried says. *Page 14*

International

Hebron agreement shows Netanyahu's shifting to centre of political spectrum. *Analysis.* *Page 33*

Arts

Iron and Star: Art exhibit traces the Jewish community of Brescia, Italy. *Page 35*

Sports

Hockey game in Sofia, Bulgaria tarnished by anti-Semitic insults. *Page 38*

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Israel demands PA amend charter

By EVELYN GORDON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian Authority's (PA) failure to amend the PLO Covenant is a gross violation of the Oslo Accords, the government declared Sunday in an official statement by the Government Press Office (GPO).

According to the Prime Minister's Office, the statement was put out in response to the American "note for the record" accompanying the Hebron accord, which detailed unfulfilled Israeli and Palestinian commitments. Since the topics listed in this note are expected to be topics for negotiation in the coming months, the government considered it important to begin an information campaign on how the PA has violated its commitments and why rectification of the violations is crucial. Such a campaign is especially necessary with respect to the covenant, since much of the world, including the previous Labor government, accepted PLO Chair Yasser Arafat's claim that the covenant was changed last April.

The statement was prepared before Arafat's weekend interviews in Paris, in which he said he would not amend the charter until Israel adopts a constitution, according to an official in the Prime Minister's Office.

In its five-page statement, the GPO noted that amending the covenant to eliminate the numerous articles calling for Israel's destruction was

Continued on page 34

CONTENDING WITH THE RAIN AND EACH OTHER
More focused on the rain than they are on each other, a Palestinian passes an Israeli soldier in Hebron's town centre during a storm last week on the day that the redeployment agreement was signed between Israel and the PA. ***[Reuter/RNS photo]***

Canada anti-Israel in UN

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At last year's session of the United Nations General Assembly, Canada lined up with the majority and voted for resolutions generally critical of Israel.

Of 21 resolutions on the Middle East put before the UN, Canada supported 15 and abstained on five. In one instance, Canada and Israel backed the same resolution.

The resolutions, introduced by a coalition of Arab and Muslim countries, covered the Palestinian question, Jerusalem and the territories, Israeli settlements, a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East and Lebanon.

15 of 21 votes against; 5 abstentions

Canada's voting pattern appeared to reflect an increasing tendency to favor a European rather than an American perspective on the Arab-Israeli conflict, said David Goldberg, director of research of the Toronto-based Foundation for Middle East Studies.

Rodney Moore, a Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson in Ottawa, disagreed with this assessment.

"We're not moving toward one group or another," he claimed, adding that the thrust of Canadian policy is to be "fair and balanced" to both sides.

In a similar vein, a Canadian diplomat at the UN, who preferred to remain anonymous, said that Canada's support for these resolutions was intended to bolster the current peace process in the Middle East.

Taking issue with this interpretation, Goldberg said the resolutions were unfair to Israeli interests, politicized debate on Arab-Israeli issues and represented a shift back to the days when the UN was reflexively anti-Israel, prior to Israel's rapprochement with the PLO.

"What we're seeing now, since the election of Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister, is a return to more overt political resolutions," he said.

However, if the peace process produces concrete results on the Palestinian and Syrian fronts, the UN may well become " less overtly anti-Israel," Goldberg noted.

An examination of the resolutions highlights the problem.

Continued on page 34

CIFTA mission set to go

OTTAWA — International Trade Minister Art Eggleton will lead Canada's biggest-ever trade mission to Israel from Feb. 21 to 27.

Up to 70 Canadian business people could join Eggleton on the trip, set up to inaugurate the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement, (CIFTA) which came into force Jan. 1.

The delegation will explore the feasibility of joint Canada-Israel ventures and boosting Canada's exports to Israel.

Meetings with Israeli cabinet ministers are in the planning stages, Eggleton's office says.

INSIDE

Look for our 24-page Bridal advertising supplement.

Allegations swirl around Israel's government — please see page 6

The News in Brief

CANADA

Human Rights Act

VICTORIA — British Columbia's Human Rights Act officially became the Human Rights Code on Jan. 1.

Under the code, there will be two administrative entities: the Human Rights Commission and the Human Rights Tribunal. In addition, an advisory council of some 11 community members will bring public concerns to the commission and advise on human rights issues in the province. Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P) regional director Erwin Nest said he expects CJC-P will be represented on the advisory council.

One of the four members of the tribunal is Barbara Humphreys, a member of Victoria's Jewish Community Centre.

Holocaust Writing Contest

TORONTO — The provincial writing contest on the Holocaust is being sponsored this year by Wanda D. Lerek, author of *Hold On To Life, Dear*, and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

The subject is What are the lessons of the Holocaust for Canadians? The contest is open to all students in grades 7 to OAC and entries must be postmarked by March 1. Winners will be announced April 7. For more information call 416-631-5689.

ISRAEL

Israeli Contest

JERUSALEM — The Israeli Ministry of Education and Bar-Ilan University have announced an international study competition on Jewish identity, to be held in honor of the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress.

The competition, which will be open to Jewish youths age 11 to 16, in both Israel and the Diaspora, will cover Jewish history, holidays and many other issues related to Jewish identity.

On Jerusalem Day, which falls in May, participating countries will select representatives, who will then compete in the finals in Basel, Switzerland — the site of the first Zionist Congress in 1897.

They will then travel to Israel for an educational seminar at Bar-Ilan University, scheduled for the end of June.

The three top winners will receive a scholarship for a future year of study at the university.

Those students wishing to compete must register by Feb. 15.

For more information, contact Benny Hager at the Jewish Agency for Israel, 110 East 59th St., New York, N.Y. 10022 or call 212-339-6071.

Settlement to Expand

JERUSALEM — Israel has approved the construction of 60 new housing units in a Jewish settlement in the Jordan Valley.

The move, which sparked criticism from Palestinian officials, came only days after Israel turned over most of the West Bank town of Hebron to self-rule.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu defended his government's approval of the private construction project in Ma'aleh Ephraim.

He added that Israel planned to continue expanding Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

WORLD

Model UN Program

NEW YORK — Yeshiva University will hold its National Model United Nations for 520 student delegates from 31 yeshivah high schools across Canada and the United States Feb. 9 to 11 in Vernon Valley, N.J.

It is the largest model UN of its kind and was established by the university to serve Jewish high schools who could not attend similar events that are held under secular auspices on the Sabbath.

Shaare Zedek Conference

NEWPORT BEACH – Judy Feld Carr of Toronto and Israel's ambassador to the United States, Eliahu Ben Elissar, will be among the featured speakers at the first North American Shaare Zedek Medical Center Conference, taking place here Feb. 16-19.

Deportation Ordered

NEW YORK – The United States has won a court order of deportation against New Jersey resident Ferenc Koreh, who worked as a propagandist during World War II in Nazi-allied Hungary and publicly advocated the persecution of Jews.

The U.S. government, however, agreed that it would not act to remove Koreh, 87, from the United States unless his rapidly deteriorating health improved. Koreh has a blood disorder and requires transfusions.

RRC Appointment

WYNCOTE, Penn. – The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC) has appointed Toronto resident Dr. Joel Hecker as director of the department of Modern Civilization. Hecker is a graduate of the University of Toronto and holds rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University.

Medieval Shul Found

MARBURG, Germany – The remains of a medieval synagogue, including a keystone engraved with a Jewish star and a niche for the holy ark, have been unearthed in Marburg, a picturesque town set on the slopes of the Lahn valley in the central German state of Hesse.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Jan. 28,1972

U.S. APPROVES PLANES FOR ISRAEL

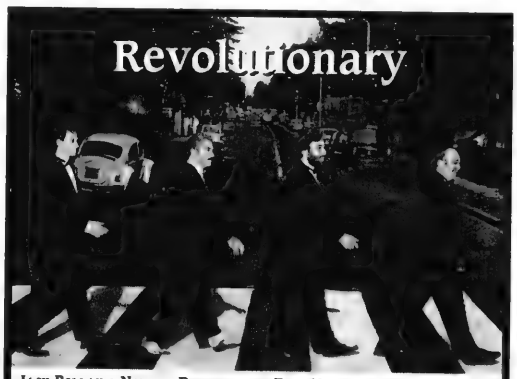
Israel will be receiving 40 Phantoms and 80 Skyhawk supersonic aircraft in 1972, according to a report in *Time* magazine. Mrs. Golda Meir's visit to Washington was apparently a decisive factor, but the defeat of America's ally Pakistan has also, it is thought, contributed to advancing the date of resuming aircraft shipments to Israel.

MOVE TO FIRE EDUCATOR SPARKS ROW

A motion calling for the immediate dismissal of Rabbi Ben Hollander as director of the Beth Tzedec Synagogue's department of youth and education, has been deferred by the board of governors in the face of vigorous support of the rabbi on the part of many parents.

Instead of adopting the motion which was approved by the board's executive, the governors postponed action until after a congregational meeting to be held next month. At this time the entire synagogue's membership will vote on Rabbi Hollander's situation.

No specific charges were aired against Rabbi Hollander other than that he refused to acknowledge the authority of the board of governors on the issue of education policies.



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CJC national office to stay in Quebec

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A controversial proposal to move Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) national office to Ottawa was a "non-starter" during the two days of meetings Jan. 18 to 20 in Toronto with the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) Canada, president Richard Vineberg told *The CJN*.

"Nobody is interested in moving. CJC will not move," Vineberg said.

CJF-Canada's proposal to move CJC-national out of Quebec was one of several it had made. Some of the other proposals included selling off CJC's Montreal headquarters and merging CJC's Quebec, Ontario and Vancouver regions with their respective federations. As a result, CJC officials were gearing up for a showdown with their chief funder last week.

Vineberg made the proposals in a controversial November memo.

But according to Vineberg, anybody anticipating a Toronto showdown was in for a disappointment.

"There was a very good interchange of ideas," Vineberg said. "We had excellent meetings."

The issue of "merger," he said, "did not even come up," although much of the weekend discussion focused on how CJC regions and federations could "work more closely together."

The third major issue – the sale of CJC's headquarters in Montreal – also seemed less likely to occur since CJC had plans to offset the cost of maintaining the building by renting some of its offices to Jewish organizations, Vineberg indicated.

"CJC is looking at bringing people into the building," he said.

CJC president Goldie Hershon was pleased about the "healthy exchange" in Toronto and about the decision to keep CJC-national in Montreal. "I think moving out is now a dead issue," she said, although CJC's strategic planning committee is looking to enhance CJC-national's Ottawa presence.

Goldie Hershon

'Healthy exchange'

Hershon hoped that the CJC annual budget of $3 million would remain stable. It is already "[budgeted] at the bone," she said, and any further paring would necessitate cutting back staff.

Vineberg said federation campaigns have essentially remained "flat" across Canada.

In that light, he anticipated CJC's next budget, which has to be finalized by June, to be "give-or-take the same," although he did not specify how "give-or-take" would actually translate into dollars and cents.

Vineberg characterized the Toronto discussions, which broke up into three strategic planning sessions, as "productive," with the focus on how CJC regions and federations could "pool resources" and establish a "cooperative agenda" on such issues as small communities, Israel and community relations.

He said nothing "concrete" was decided because resolving such issues is an ongoing "process" and not something finalized at any one time.

In her remarks to the conference, Hershon spoke of CJC's attempt to "involve federation representatives at the national and regional levels in our decision-making process.

"We support close working relationships between lay and professional leadership in CJC and federations," she said. "We share the objective of being the best possible service to the Jewish community members, wherever they may reside."

Congress urged to reject restructuring attempts

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Attempts to structure the Canadian Jewish community on United States models should be resisted.

This was one of the messages sent to the Council of Jewish Federations (Canada) (CJF) by officers of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region at their meeting last week. The officers were reacting to the memo sent by CJF president Richard Vineberg in November to the national Congress office.

The main thrust of the region's Ontario officers' complaint was that the changes proposed by the CJF would impose a format for Jewish organizational life in Canada based on the U.S. model, where a multiplicity of voices speak for the Jewish community. This would effectively eliminate the CJC in its traditional role, the officers said.

"The essence of the situation is whether the CJC is to be independent or just another agency funded by the federation," region chair Moshe Ronen told a standing-room only meeting of the Ontario executive Jan. 23.

His officers' report said the federation has failed to raise enough money in Canadian Jewish communities to enable organizations to deliver services in education, social services, assistance to immigrants, or in the political realm.

"The federations can no longer fund the necessary services to the community and they recognize that they cannot fund its political activities. So they are trying to rationalize this by attempting to move into the latter realm and creating for themselves a raison d'etre that they never previously had and cannot fulfil, due to a lack of funds."

The executive meeting, attended by CJC president Goldie Hershon and three former presidents, passed a motion by a large majority affirming the need for an independent CJC, but asking for guidelines so that CJC and the federation can live and work together.

[cont'd. on page 7]

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Mega-week in Ontario

The "mega-week" of legislative initiatives earlier this month by the government of Ontario was an aggressive, bold attempt to restructure the funding and the delivery of services to Ontarians.

In a consecutive, five-day staccato of ministerial announcements, which, as I wrote last week, "buried Ontarians like stones under a torrent of hot lava," the Progressive Conservative government of Mike Harris acquired $5.4 billion of primarily educational responsibilities from municipalities, and in turn, cast off onto the municipalities, $6.4 billion of primarily social housing, public health, special-care homes, welfare, child care and long-term health care responsibilities. Policing, transportation and library responsibilities were also transferred to the municipal level.

In a balancing of arithmetical ledgers, the government announced the creation of a $1 billion community reinvestment fund to fill the breach, as it were, when newly imposed municipal financial obligations exceeded municipal financial capabilities.

The centrepiece of the government's funding redesign was its proposal to reform the residential property tax system.

In its campaign to rearrange the duties between the province and the lower, more local tier of government, the province has fired an enormous fusillade of far-reaching, even historic, changes for the future of Ontario.

Though aggressive and bold, is the campaign wise? Is it right?

In typically candid form, the government has made no attempt to disguise the justification or the philosophical underpinning for the campaign. It wants to save money, to reduce the size of government, to become more "efficient." Saving money is the single most pressing policy objective, if not the raison d'etre of the government.

To be sure, saving money and cutting costs are worthy objectives. But should they be the only objectives, or the key driving objectives, as they seem to be, with this government? And is this the best way? Are the means appropriate to the ends?

No one can foretell the future, especially since neither the full financial nor operational details of the government's plans are fully known. But many policy analysts and economists are predicting that the impact of the "disentanglement" will be social and financial disaster for the large cities of the province and thus too, for the millions of people who live in them.

Even the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Toronto, the government's natural ideological ally, has rejected the attempted shift of duties. "The government is making a mistake in principle...We do not believe it is reasonable to hold local councils responsible for social services costs that arise from economic conditions over which they have little control," said George Fierheller, president of the board.

As Fierheller's reaction implied, absent in any of the ministerial announcements during volcanic mega-week was even the slightest reflection on the substantive propriety of shifting to the cities and municipalities, for now, half of the responsibility for social welfare services. Where was the discussion, if not the proof, that it makes good, not common, sense on the merits?

To which level of government - provincial or local – is the role of planning, funding, regulating, administering and maintaining the range of essential social welfare programs more appropriate, *in principle*? What does it say about the provincial government that it sees nothing wrong in casting aside its historic responsibilities without a widely-based, expert discussion on the matter?

'Peace, order and good government'

Since our very first days as a country, our governing ethos has been as distinctly Canadian as our mountains, our forests, our lakes and our streams, vastly and more poignantly different than, for example, our American neighbors.

Whereas the American founding ethos was based on "...life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," ours was based on "peace, order and good government."

The former rings a loftier, more stirring sound. But the real difference is not in the alliteration. It is, quite profoundly, in the focus and the effect of the words.

Every individual is unique, the bearer of immeasurable, infinite worth and entitled to equal rights and opportunities under the law. But the well-being and the safe-keeping of the community have a "higher" place in the hierarchy of values.

Ontario's Human Rights Code plainly acknowledges this hierarchy in its preamble even as it champions and protects the rights of the individual. "...so that each person feels a *part of the community* and *able to contribute fully to the development and well-being of the community*. (Our emphasis)

The development and well-being of the community has always been the first priority of government. But until quite recently, the extent of the community's well-being was never measured solely by the level of taxation or by the size of the bureaucracy. Of course, they are important factors and ingredients in assessing the community's well-being. But they are not the measure of it.

The community's well-being must be measured by the extent to which we fulfil the responsibilities of which we wrote last week, namely, to "the stranger, the orphan and the widow." As we wrote then, "we must not separate from the community." The obligation to help those who are in need is uncompromising. It is incumbent upon us all. It is the moral, the just and the proper way to behave.

Is the provincial government's policy – aimed at divesting itself of a great deal of those responsibilities primarily for the sake of saving money and not for the sake of better fulfilling that obligation – in keeping with "good government?" What message does it send to the needy, to the rest of the population, who look to government for guidance, leadership and example?

In the Canadian context, "good government" has always been measured by the extent to which the appropriate level of government showed direct, active concern for the miseries of others.

"*Patoach tiphtach,*" you must open your hand to the needy, and, "*naton titen,*" you must give them assistance."

It may be useful to look at Deuteronomy 21 for a sense of how "good government" might be defined in the context of the attempts by western governments worldwide, not only Ontario's provincial government, to cast aside historic responsibilities.

When an unknown person is found dead, the leaders of the community nearest to where his body was discovered must publicly proclaim "Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it." The rabbis interpreted this declaration to mean that "No one came within our jurisdiction whom we discharged without food and whom we did not see and whom we left without providing an escort."

Nechama Leibowitz observed that the "concept of bloodshed was interpreted in a very broad manner to include even indirect responsibility for the death of a human being through neglect to attend to his elementary needs. The public as a whole and the community nearest to the slain and its elders are all responsible for the terrible deed committed in the field. Their whole way of life, their social order, economic educational and security institutions are answerable..."

There is no ambiguity.

It may be right for the provincial government to disentangle. But it is not right to disengage. Good government creates the conditions for economic progress; but economic progress is enhanced, not diminished, by humane, caring social welfare policies. *MBD*

Greater Toronto Area

Peace process gets new lease on life: Sultan

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Knesset ratification of the Hebron agreement by an overwhelming margin – 87-17 – gave the current Mideast peace process a new lease on life, Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, suggested last week.

The peace process, which is of "cardinal importance" to Israel, needed an unambiguous show of national unity for it to proceed, he told an audience at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

A 50 percent margin would not have been convincing enough, he noted, alluding to the passage of the 1995 Oslo 2 accord by just one Knesset vote.

Sultan implied that the pact, concluded by Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat on Jan. 15, is an improved version of the Hebron agreement signed by the previous Labor government.

Firstly, it provides better security arrangements for Hebron's 450 Jewish inhabitants and, secondly, it re-establishes the principle of reciprocity.

Until recently, the newly installed envoy claimed, that principle had been largely overlooked, and the Palestinian side benefited from an "indulgent attitude" when not fulfilling their obligations.

Now the Palestinians will be expected to live up to their commitments by fully amending the PLO's national covenant, fighting terrorism and preventing incitement and acts of violence.

With the Hebron accord having been signed, Israel is presently negotiating "the framework and the terms" for future Arab-Israeli coexistence.

Sultan said that Israel's negotiating partner, the Palestinians, are perceived as weak, but in fact they "enjoy wide Arab and international support. All that makes present stages of the peace process difficult and sometimes an agonizing experience for us.

"But I am confident that at the end of the day, with your support and solidarity, we will achieve peace and security," he said, referring to the Diaspora.

In a speech largely devoted to Israel's ties with Jewish communities, Sultan said that mutual understanding and mutual respect should form the basis of the relationship.

"The question is how to make it less of an abstract expression and more of a tangible part of daily life."

Sultan said that Hebrew serves as a bridge between Israel and the Diaspora and contributes to Jewish continuity. "Hebrew is not merely a language but rather a culture," he said.

A Jew from the Diaspora can't really feel at home in Israel, or connect with the country, if he or she regards Hebrew as a foreign tongue, Sultan added.

Citing a study, Sultan said that Jewish continuity in the Diaspora depends on Jewish education and continuing links with Israel.

Turning to aliyah, Sultan made two points.

The majority of Jews do not live in Israel and are unlikely to move there any time soon. Nevertheless, the idea of aliyah, however impractical for some, should be transmitted by parents to children. It, too, fosters continuity.

Sultan, a senior diplomat who served as ambassador to Egypt before being posted to Canada, contrasted the warmth he has felt here with the atmosphere he found in Cairo.

Hebron the centre of Jewish history cycle: rabbi

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The city of Hebron, most of which is now under Palestinian control, is the centre of the cycle of Jewish history, asserts Rabbi Mordechai Becher.

"Hebron is where G-d made his covenant with Abraham; it is where David was anointed king of Judah and ruled for the the first seven years of his reign; and it will be where the Jews will be informed of the coming of the Messiah, he said.

Rabbi Becher was speaking at Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill. The rabbi was for several years senior lecturer at Ohr Somayach before he returned to Israel last fall.

Stressing that he was speaking as a rabbi and not as a politician, Rabbi Becher roamed through Jewish history to show the centrality of the beleaguered city.

Hebron, he said, the site of Me'arat Hamachpela, the cave of Machpela, is the first place that connects the Jewish people with the land of Israel. Along with the Temple Mount and Shechem, the tomb of Joseph, "we bought it — we didn't conquer it, steal it, or use pressure to get it — to show that our claim to it is above any type of criticism."

Abraham bought the cave of Machpela as a tomb for Sarah, and it later became the burial sites for himself, Isaac and Rebeccah, and Jacob and Leah, he said. (According to tradition, Adam and Eve are also buried there.)

Abraham paid an enormous price for it, Rabbi Becher said: 400 shekels, at a time when the average wage, according to the Code of Hammurabi, was six or eight shekels per year.

"Abraham knew, because G-d had told him, that he and Sarah and Isaac would have an impact on the entire world."

At the Temple in Jerusalem, he went on, where human beings reached the spiritual world, the priests looked towards Hebron to see when the sun rose, so that they could begin the daily sacrifices.

Similarly, it is the duty of a king to bring the spiritual and physical world together. "He is responsible for Israel running in such a way that not only its physical impact on the world, but the spiritual impact is calculated.

"Every war, every alliance, every action is based on how to bring Torah to the world."

The purpose of Israel, he said, is to follow the example of Sarah, who was buried in Hebron — to be a vehicle to bring the Torah and heaven to earth."

David, he said, was anointed in Hebron, because he was supposed to do the same thing on a communal level as Sarah did on an individual level.

The Me'arat Hamachpela is the only tomb mentioned in the Bible where someone went to pray, said Rabbi Becher."Caleb [one of the spies sent by Joshua to spy out the land] prayed there that the other spies wouldn't just look at the physical difficulties of conquering the land, but could see the spiritual possibilities."

Someone could have said the same thing in 1945, he added wryly, about the possibility of the establishment of a Jewish state.

The Jews, he said, have kept returning to Hebron."They were exiled by the Babylonians, and came back 70 years later. They were expelled by the Greeks and later by the Romans, and they came back."

The Turks didn't allow the Jews to live in Hebron for hundreds of years, he said, but Sephardic authors and representatives of Lithuanian yeshivot came there.

Muslims said Jews couldn't go up more than seven steps to the cave of Machpelah, but they did, he said, and built yeshivas there too.

Rabbi Becher recited more of the history of Hebron: Jews were massacred in 1929, and they came back; there was another massacre in 1936, and they came back. They were expelled in 1948 by Jordan, and came back in 1967 and built Kiryat Arba.

And most recently, a group of women and children moved into the Hadassah hospital in Hebron, and are still there, he said.

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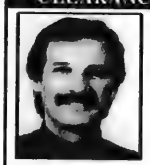
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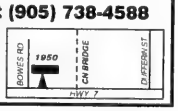

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Greater Toronto Area

Caplan considering running for federal seat

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Former Ontario health minister Elinor Caplan is considering seeking the federal Liberal nomination in the new riding of Thornhill in the next election.

If Caplan goes ahead, she'll join four others — including two veteran Vaughan councillors — who are seeking the nod for the federal Liberals in Thornhill.

Caplan, the Liberal MPP for Oriole, told *The CJN* she was approached by the federal Grit campaign to take a stab at Thornhill, a riding that won't exist until the national vote, expected later this year or early in 1998.

"It's a big decision. I'm seriously considering it," said Caplan, a 12-year Queen's Park veteran.

She downplayed the fact that she doesn't live in York Region, pointing out that she doesn't live in Oriole riding either. However, "no decision has been made yet."

No date has been set for the Liberal nomination. Insiders say it won't be later than this spring.

Thornhill will be among a few new and several redrawn federal ridings created as a result of Canada's increasing and shifting population. It will be bounded by Steeles Avenue, Highway 400, Rutherford Road and Highway 404. Its population will be about 95,000 and it's been estimated that it will be 25 to 35 percent Jewish, making it one of the most "Jewish" ridings in Canada.

Thornhill will be carved out of York North, currently held by Liberal Maurizio Bevilacqua, and Markham-Whitchurch-Stouffville, held by independent Jag Bhaduria.

Also seeking the federal Liberal nomination are Vaughan ward 5 councillor Bernie Green; ward 4 councillor Mario Racco; Frank Carnevale, a past president of the Ontario Young Liberals; and Doron Aronson, a 25-year-old former assistant to several members of Parliament and now an employee at the Foreign Affairs department.

Green, whose campaign is off to a quick start, says he has support from several multicultural groups, including Ohr Somayach, Chabad Lubavitch of Southern Ontario, Or Haemet Sephardic School and his own synagogue, Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation.

In the Conservative camp, Markham regional councillor Bill Fisch will seek the Tory nomination in Thornhill.

Fisch, 47, has served six years as a Thornhill ward councillor in Markham and two years as regional councillor. He's active in B'nai Brith and is a member of Darchei Noam Congregation.

Bill Fisch

Elinor Caplan

In a recent statement, Fisch said federal Conservative leader Jean Charest "personally" encouraged him to seek the nomination.

Also seeking the Tory nod is Barry Cline, a Toronto architect with a long list of community and political involvement at the provincial and federal levels.

Cline, a B'nai Brith member too, has worked on the advance teams of several provincial and federal Tory leaders.

The Progressive Conservative nomination in Thornhill will take place March 3 at Le Parc banquet hall on Highway 7.

There will also be a Thornhill riding at the provincial level, with the same boundaries as its federal counterpart. It will be carved out of York Centre, held by transport minister Al Palladini, and Markham, represented by Tory MPP David Tsubouchi.

But that won't happen until the next provincial election, when Ontario voters will elect 27 fewer MPPs, as part of Premier Mike Harris' policy of reducing the size of government. From then on, all provincial ridings will have the same names and boundaries as federal ones.

Longtime Liberal MPP Monte Kwinter told *The CJN* he will run in the next provincial election, but doesn't know yet in which riding.

Because of the rejigging of electoral boundaries, Kwinter's Wilson Heights riding — Ontario's most Jewish electoral district — will disappear. The new riding in which he'll run will be composed of half of Wilson Heights, nearly half of Downsview and a small part of Willowdale riding.

Teachers' union to examine Paul Fromm dismissal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A lawyer for the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers Federation (OSSTF) will examine the reasons given for terminating the employment of controversial teacher Paul Fromm, to determine whether the teachers organization should get involved in the case, a spokesperson for the teachers group said recently.

The lawyer will determine whether there is just cause for the notice of termination and will report his or her findings to the federation. Should the lawyer conclude there is no just cause, the OSSTF will represent Fromm at a subsequent arbitration hearing, said Jim Forster, associate general secretary for the group.

Forster said Fromm had contacted the OSSTF and requested its assistance in the wake of a termination notice he received from the Peel Board of Education. The notice of termination came after B'nai Brith Canada revealed Fromm had violated conditions of his employment when he participated in meetings of white supremacist groups.

As a member of the teachers association, Fromm is entitled to request its assistance in employment matters. Should the lawyer retained by the OSSTF find the Peel Board had just cause to end Fromm's employment, the matter will be concluded as far as the OSSTF is concerned, Forster said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Crown says Kalejs lied as case wraps up

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After months of hearings, Crown lawyers wrapped up their case against Konrads Kalejs last week arguing the alleged Nazi war criminal is a liar whose testimony is not worthy of belief.

Kalejs repeatedly lied on the stand at his immigration hearing when he denied involvement in the Arajs Kommando, a Latvian volunteer unit that aided the Nazis in the roundup and murder of Jews, said Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh. His version of events has "no air of reality" and is contradicted by numerous witnesses who served with Kalejs in the Arajs Kommado and identified him as a senior lieutenant in the unit. Furthermore, five wartime documents attest to his membership in the police unit. His allegations they are forgeries are unsupported by evidence and have "no air of reality" to them, MacIntosh told adjudicator Anthony Iozzo.

MacIntosh and co-counsel Bonnie Boucher concluded the Crown's final submissions in the marathon case against Kalejs, which began hearings last May. Government authorities are seeking to deport Kalejs, an Australian citizen, on the grounds he was involved in war crimes and because he is not a genuine visitor to Canada. He was ordered out of the United States in 1993 after a lengthy court battle there.

In testimony at his Canadian hearing, Kalejs denied he ever served in the Arajs Kommando, saying he was a student at the University of Riga and spent much of the war gathering food and working on a farm.

Kalejs, who acknowledged he served in the Latvian army before the war, admitted he served on one occasion under German SS Gen. Stahlecker in early 1942.

That testimony was contradicted by documentary and oral evidence that showed Kalejs was involved in the Arajs Kommando (AK) as a senior lieutenant virtually from its inception in the summer of 1941 and his role as commander of a guard unit at the Salaspils concentration camp. MacIntosh reviewed the evidence that was played on videotape at the immigration hearing and which was recorded by U.S. authorities for Kalejs' American hearing. Witness after witness identified Kalejs, he said.

Rolands Bahsteins said Kalejs was among the first to join the Arajs Kommando; Rudolf Soms said he heard about Kalejs' unit being involved at a battle in Saniki at which prisoners were massacred; Viktors Ennitis remembered Kalejs being present when two Jews were hung by German officers at Salaspils; and Viktors Arajs, after whom the unit is named, told a U.S. investigator that Kalejs was a company commander in February 1942 and that Kalejs accompanied Stahlecker to Russia in October 1941.

In addition, five certificates tendered to the University of Riga attest to Kalejs' membership in the Arajs Kommando, MacIntosh argued. They were tendered because under the Nazis the university was purged and only those considered reliable and who performed service for the Germans were admitted, he said.

MacIntosh pointed to two certificates that Kalejs admitted he sent to the university in 1941 — one that attested to his anti-partisan, "self-defence" activities early in the war and the second which attested to his membership in the Arajs Kommando. Kalejs' testimony that the AK certificate was false and was prepared at his behest by a friend in the unit to facilitate his university enrolment is not believable, MacIntosh said.

Kalejs told the inquiry that had he received the partisan certificate first he would not have submitted the (supposedly false) AK document. But in testimony in the United States, he said he obtained the partisan certificate first and handed it in with the AK document to increase their impact, MacIntosh pointed out.

"The real reason Kalejs handed in the Arajs certificate was that he knew the Germans and Latvian authorities would be more impressed with the fact he was serving with the AK than anything else and that this fact would give him a preference over members of self-defence groups and others getting into a university. " MacIntosh said.

MacIntosh discounted Kalejs' claim that the "damming" documents were Soviet forgeries, saying Kalejs offered no evidence to back up that assertion. Kalejs chose not to enter any forensic evidence questioning the documents' authenticity, he noted, adding that if the Soviets were attempting to frame Kalejs, they would have produced documents containing a "smoking gun."

Kalejs' counsel were scheduled to begin their summation on Monday.

* * *

Canada's record in dealing with Nazi war criminals has caught the attention of *60 Minutes*. CBS' flagship newsmagazine show has prepared a documentary on the topic expected to air on Feb. 2.

Financing motion rejected

[cont'd. from page 3]

A move by delegate Arieh Rosenblum to have the CJC raise its own financing failed after both Ronen and Hershon said they would rather work things out with the federation.

Delegate Wayne Tanenbaum was one of the few to support the federation proposal. "They are not trying to abolish the CJC, they are trying to cut the budget," he said.

The CJC must look at a need for its own reorganization as well as examining the role of the federations, said Robbie Diamond, associate national Congress chair.

In a spirited defence of the CJC's role, Hershon declared: "There is nothing incompatible in having a strong parliamentary Congress (the CJC) and a strong federation in Canada. There is nothing wrong with the fundamental structure of the community. We should all give generously to the UJA. I hope that the federation's move to downsize is behind us."

She asked delegates to propose to their federations that the CJC budget not be cut.

A plan by the CJC to save money by opening a national advocacy office in Ottawa, perhaps with other national groups, was turned down by the federation, the minutes of the Ontario region meeting show.

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC calls for laws to fight hate on Internet

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress is urging Metro Council to initiate a number of steps against racist groups, including advocating the use of criminal and civil law to tackle hate on the Internet.

"The Internet is not sacrosanct," states a report prepared by Congress for the Access and Equity Centre of Metro Toronto.

The report suggests Council should support use of the law against those who use computer networks to peddle hate. Council should also gather data and monitor hate groups on the Internet, establish a forum for Internet service providers to develop a code of ethics for Internet use and establish its own "Web sites" with links to other Web pages on hate groups and how to respond to them, the report suggests.

The recommendations were part of a broad spectrum of suggestions offered by Congress to address a problem that is not going away, said Bernie Farber, Congress director of community relations and editor of the report. While organized hate groups, such as the white supremacist Heritage Front, are now at a low point in their histories, they have a core of supporters and the organizations may resurface when the circumstances are right, the report states.

Civic politicians must recognize the existence of the problem and be prepared to confront manifestations of hate with strong public statements and by ostracizing hatemongers from city-owned buildings, Farber said.

They should also address the issue of computer hate, which "has to be seen as a serious criminal activity." Farber noted that police have dealt with the issue of child pornography on the Internet and "they can also deal with hate on the Net."

The report, which is divided into seven segments and includes a section written by Elizabeth Moore, a former Heritage Front spokesperson, points out that the "history of hate groups and their leaders is almost tidal — a regular ebbing and flowing of their fortunes. The movement reached strengths unheard of in the early 1990s."

While it has suffered recently following revelations it was infiltrated by a government mole, "the real danger as we head into the 21st century is that a significant number of hate group leaders have emerged who are experienced organizers and who understand the importance of 'preparing the soil' before the seeds of hate may grow," the report states.

Among the recommendations offered in the report:

- Metro Council should ask their representatives on the Metro Toronto Police Services Board "to press for the transformation of the police hate crimes unit to a dedicated full-time unit whose sole function is to investigate all hate-related crimes within Metro Toronto;"

Bernie Farber

- "Metro Council should press local school boards to offer mandatory courses on anti-racism;"
- Metro Council's Equity Centre should obtain public education tools such as CD ROMs (computer discs), videos and printed material on confronting white supremacy;
- Metro Council should refuse to give grants or business to those in the private sector who offer facilities to hate groups.

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Toronto Na'amat president aims to boost group's presence

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If Paula Schipper has her way, every woman in Toronto will have the name Na'amat on her lips.

Schipper, 45, president of the Toronto council of Na'amat Canada, says that during her term of office, which began in September, she wants everyone to know of Na'amat's work.

"Fundraising, in this day and age, is not an easy task. If everyone knows about the work we do, they are more willing to give their hard-earned money," she says.

All money raised in Canada by Na'amat goes to Israel to support the organization's projects including day-care centres, legal aid clinics, centres for the prevention of domestic violence and health care centres.

Schipper, a part-time fitness consultant, joined the organization 20 years ago when she moved here from England and says that "immediately upon joining I knew that my philosophy and the philosophy of Na'amat meshed. I am interested in anything that helps women."

A recently completed project, she says, is a women's shelter and counselling centre built in cooperation with the city of Tel Aviv. "There are a lot of domestic violence issues here and in Israel. Our money goes to Israel but our mandate is to educate women everywhere."

Paula Schipper

Program for women planned

Na'amat is currently putting together a program for women that will run at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Topics include The Law and You, Consumer Protection, Surviving Separation and Wills, Bequests and Power of Attorney. "The more women know, the better off they are," says Schipper.

A legal aid clinic held weekly gives women a half hour of free legal advice from volunteer lawyers. As well, Na'amat has prepared a brochure alerting women as to what to do if they or anyone they know are trapped in an abusive relationship.

She concedes that women today have limited time and so it is difficult for them to volunteer. "What we're doing is trying to find larger fundraising projects so the work can be spread around.

"We are also trying to attract new members by offering them the programs that they want. It is important for us to give something to our members."

Schipper, who attends a minimum of two meetings a week, praises Na'amat for helping her hone her organizational skills and develop confidence.

Deportation proceedings begun against alleged war criminals

TORONTO — Federal authorities have launched deportation proceedings against two more Canadian residents for allegedly lying about their wartime activities in order to gain entry to Canada.

The two alleged war criminals have been given notice of the government's intention to deport them, but their names will not be released until a deadline passes for challenging the proceedings in early February.

Cases against two further suspects will be launched by the end of March.

The announcement came the same day alleged war criminal Antanas Kenstavicius died in British Columbia on the first day of his immigration hearing. The two events prompted Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber to urge government officials to begin proceedings against all war crimes suspects without delay.

"While we welcome the announcement [of two further cases], they must name the remaining suspects immediately. There is no time left. Shame on them if they don't. The only justice that's going to be left for these people is to expose them to their neighbors for who they really are and the longer the government waits, the greater is the potential for them to die peacefully in their sleep."

For years, Jewish organizations including Congress have called on the government to launch actions against alleged Nazi war criminals and two years ago, federal authorities promised to bring forward 12 cases. With the cases expected in March, all 12 will have been named, although none of the cases is close to being concluded.

— P.L.

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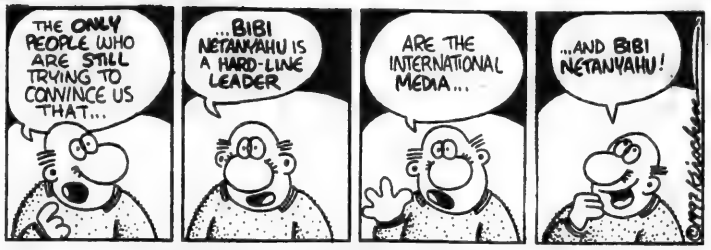
Dry Bones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Less drama, more thought

The Ontario government of Mike Harris has clearly demonstrated a propensity for the sweeping and the dramatic in its approach to legislative initiative.

During its first year of office, it tabled the infamous omnibus Bill 26, somewhat self-servingly called An Act to achieve Fiscal Savings and to promote Economic Prosperity through Public Sector Restructuring, Streamlining and Efficiency and to implement other aspects of the Government's Economic Agenda. That particular legislative initiative brought a sharp, public outcry both for its unprecedented scope and for the government's intention to essentially avoid submitting it to meaningful consultation. The bill was eventually passed, as the government's majority ensured it would, but not until some degree of public input was forced upon the government and more than 150 amendments were made to the bill.

In its second year of office, the government has again moved very dramatically, in giant legislative steps. It is rushing to dismantle seven existing municipal councils in greater Toronto in favor of one mega-council. It is reforming the residential property tax system. And it is moving quickly to "disentangle" between the provincial and the municipal levels of government, the panoply of important services currently provided to the residents of the province.

When looked at in their overwhelming reach and detail, the initiatives are far too broad and the proposed schedule of their implementation far too hasty, for the public to properly analyse and evaluate their long-term impact. From "sublime" services such as education, health, welfare and housing to the more "prosaic" ones such as transportation, sewage and libraries, every single aspect of daily life in Ontario will be effected by the proposed changes.

Are the issues not sufficiently complex to warrant less-hurried, more thoughtful consideration? It seems to us and to a great many social policy analysts, economists and commentators that they are.

Critical voices are being raised from the usual quarters of self-interest and partisan opposites. But they are also being raised by prominent members of the business constituency who question the propriety of some of the changes the government wishes to impose on Ontario society.

Last week the Speaker of the legislature, Chris Stockwell, censured the government by finding it in contempt of the legislature for its failure to respect the conventions and the norms of the legislative process as if the process were some minor administrative nuisance that it had to tolerate. The apology by Municipal Affairs Minister Al Leach, the minister responsible for the contempt, was no doubt sincere. But his apology, though welcome, missed the point. The government's penchant for rushing through complex, controversial and far-reaching proposals is unseemly.

Streamlining the government is indeed a worthy aim. But dismantling it is not. Nor is disengaging it from social welfare service areas where it ought to remain firmly and permanently active.

The government of Ontario is so driven by the ideology of efficiency and cost savings that it disdains the *sina qua non* of well-researched, well-reasoned, empirically-logical, sound, public policy. It is justified in adopting business principles by which to run the government. But running a government, any government, is not the same thing as running a business. Service to the people is surely a larger, more noble pursuit than service to shareholders.

What the people of Ontario need from their provincial government is less drama and more thought.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"In these times, so progressive in most respects, we know ourselves to be surrounded by the old, old hatred:Anti-semitism...Perhaps our enemies are unaware how deeply they wounded the sensibilities of those of us who were, perhaps, not the primary object of their attacks." *(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress.)*

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Jan. 30, 1793 Samuel Hart of Halifax was elected to the Nova Scotia State Assembly. He had to swear a Christian oath but probably did not convert. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Stop hate against any religion

Re: Paul Lungen's article (*CJN*, Jan. 16), "Anti-Semitic articles appear in Canadian Arab press."

I find the issue very disturbing. Many thanks to Sasson Mayer who made the effort to translate some of these articles and bring the matter to light.

I strongly believe in freedom of speech. Any person has the right to criticize Israel and Zionism when that person is not in agreement with their policies. However, no one should have the right to write lies against the Jews. There is no doubt that the latter is an anti-Semitic action that is outside freedom of speech and should not be tolerated. I hope that our lawmakers and politicians take note of this and take the necessary steps to stop any newspaper from spreading hate against any specific religion.

Ramzi Loya
Toronto

Disputes comment on Holland's record

Sheldon Kirshner quotes David Silberklang, Yad Vashem's chief historian, as saying that Holland's record is over-inflated, given the fact that 90 percent of its Jewish citizens perished during the Holocaust. (*CJN*, Dec. 19)

Just by using "over-inflated," does he show this inclination himself? After all, to inflate such a serious matter as deaths is criminal. To use "over-inflated" is murdering the language.

According to Solomon Grayzel, there were 150,000 Jews in Holland and 20 percent or 30,000 survived. In the Nuremberg trials it was determined that 4.5 million Jews were killed, and according to Max Dimont, seven million Christians.

I remember vividly the strike throughout the country to protest the order for the deportation of Jews. ("Nederlanders" as my father called them). But the Jewish leadership acquiesced and when the Jewish people left anyway, the strike was called off.

He is not the only one doing research.

G.M. Stehouwer
Toronto

Sheldon Kirshner replies: Whatever the reasons, Holland compiled one of the most dismal records with respect to the number of its Jewish nationals killed during the Holocaust.

Red Cross knew the truth all along

Daniel Kurtzman's revelation (JTA) in the Jan 2 edition of *CJN* that Red Cross documents reveal knowledge of Nazi atrocities...was indeed no news to me.

By the end of February 1945 while an inmate in Camp I Dachau-Landsberg, I was one of a group of boys and young men hand picked to fill a hastily erected model hospital. After a hectic week of preparations in which we were transformed from half-dead skeletons into almost human patients, we were visited by several representatives of the International Red Cross.

Several weeks later, after we were transferred to Camp 4 Dachau-Kaufering, every inmate of that camp received a small parcel with the Red Cross crest on it, containing one package of sugar cubes, one can of milk or cream and one pack of cigarettes.

Benjamin Kujawski
Montreal

Thunder Bay likes Toronto link

As president of Thunder Bay's Shaarey Shomayim Synagogue, I want you to know how indebted I and the members of my community are to Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, specifically Jennifer Turack (director of Community Services and Youth Activities) for putting together "synagogue link."

This project is truly a dream come true for a number of us in the community here who struggle, day in day out, to maintain some semblance of Yiddishkeit while living so very very far from the mainstream of Canadian Jewish life.

"Synagogue link" was an unqualified success, and we know that it was only the first of what will evolve into an ongoing electronic link between Toronto and Thunder Bay. Out of a synagogue membership (*in gantzen*) of not more than 50 souls, we had 19 turn out for the event. This translates to an equivalent Toronto Jewish per capita turnout of some 50,000 people. We really are quite pleased with our local response.

It is comforting to know that Congress' Ontario region takes responsibility for us who live in this rather remote part of the province.

Dr. Frederick R. Ball
Thunder Bay

Will Israel survive?

Why is it so hard to come to a peaceful solution in the Middle East? The situation can only be understood if we know Jewish history from the time of Abraham. If we do not believe what the Bible has to say concerning the Jewish people, how God led them in the past, and how He will yet lead them in the future, we will never understand what is going on in that land right now.

And not only that, if we don't watch it, we will blame Israel if the peace process fails. If there were a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, would there then be peace in the land? Who would guarantee it?

The Syrians want the Golan Heights, in exchange for another peace deal. Can the State of Israel survive when it gives up all that the others want? Well, maybe they will at least leave Israel the Western Wall, where they can go and do their weeping while the rest of the world laughs.

David Graves
Randolph, Man.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Towards a definition of Jewish education

By RABBI MARVIN B. PACHINO

The cry of alarm was sounded at the beginning of this decade, in the wake of the depressing message of the 1990 National Jewish Population Study in the United States.

While the statistics of that study may not precisely reflect the reality of the Jewish community in Canada, we heard the message. We, too, participated in conferences and discussions that addressed the future of the Jewish community. We, too, appointed commissions to investigate the phenomenon of intermarriage and the prospects for Jewish continuity. We, too, recognized our vulnerability.

Continuity became the buzzword of the '90s and somehow, hard pressed pedestrians across the continent found the dollars to fund continuity projects. They may not be huge sums, but they add up. And they are being disbursed, for the most part, for trendy, touchy-feely projects whose impact on the broad issue of Jewish continuity is questionable.

Along the way, study after study, conference after conference confirmed that the most reliable bulwark against assimilation and intermarriage is Jewish education. However, it was stressed, the efficacy of the safeguard that may be provided by Jewish education depends upon both quality and quantity.

Intensive Jewish education — namely day school education through high school — is demonstrably the most meaningful factor in the shaping of one's Jewish identity and one's Jewish commitments. It would appear, therefore, that this is where the community's focus must be directed and its resources, human and financial, channeled. Unfortunately, this is not happening to the extent that it should, but that is a subject for another discussion.

What I wish to address here is the problem of defining "Jewish education," because not all that passes today as Jewish education is cut from the same cloth. There is no standardization of curricula, and each school is a veritable school system unto itself, with a board of directors and a committee structure that are committed to preserving its institutional turf.

In itself, this is not necessarily a bad thing. However, it is confusing to the public and it makes it well nigh impossible to objectively evaluate the level of a school's success. Indeed, what might qualify as success in one school may be viewed as less than that by another.

I receive several inquiries a month from young parents who are about to enrol their first child in a day school. Since I work in the high school setting and our school absorbs the graduates of many of our local day schools, it is their assumption, nay, their hope that I will point them in the direction of the best elementary school in town.

Aside from the need for me to be politically discreet, I try to guide these confused young parents towards the articulation of their definition of a "good" Jewish education. What subject matter must be mastered in order to acquire a "good" Jewish education and for one to be considered a Jewishly educated person? What are the minimum number of weekly hours required to deliver a "good" Jewish education?

What role is there for the affective and experiential components of Jewish education, and how much weight should be given to them vis a vis the cognitive component?

Not to be overlooked is the value of mitzvah observance and the Jewish religio-moral lifestyle that parents endeavor to inculcate in their children.

By definition, education is imparting knowledge and skills through systematic instruction and training. This is certainly true of Jewish education, as well. Without core knowledge and understanding of the texts of Judaism there can be no meaningful Jewish living. But living Jewishly requires even more.

The school may step in to complement and supplement the home, but the school can never replace the home. Parents will, ultimately, discover that the best day school cannot overcome a child's cynicism toward Jewish studies and Jewish values when the home is not seen by the child as identifying with the lessons of the school's curriculum.

This is already apparent in elementary school. It is blatantly true in high school. A very great financial commitment is demanded of parents who send their children to Jewish day schools, and I neither minimize nor disparage that commitment in any way. However, where the commitment to the primacy of Jewish education and the passion of Jewish life are absent, it is extremely difficult to persuade youngsters that their Jewish education is crucial for the functioning of an intelligent, well-adjusted adult Jewish personality.

This famous photograph by Roman Vishniac captures a time when young students were comfortable with the "classical sources of Judaism and with Jewish traditions and values." [*A Vanished World*, Roman Vishniac, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1983]

In addition to knowledge and skills, there is the critical issue of identifying with a value system and behavioral code that are not "in synch" with that which prevails in the general society. Judaism's code does not abide the cynicism, the obsession with pleasure, the coarseness, the vulgarity and the outright immorality that have won acceptability in today's world.

Jewish education that is true to itself must foster sensitivity to Jewish perspectives, identification with the Jewish world view and a commitment to fashioning one's life in accord with the timeless teaching of our faith. To achieve this we must go beyond texts.

More than 40 years ago, Abraham Joshua Heschel stated it this way: "What we need more than anything else is not *textbooks* but *textpeople*. It is the personality of the teacher which is the text that the pupils read...The modern teacher...is the intermediary between the past and the present...Yet he is also the creator of the future of our people."

In other words, unless the teacher, in his or her lifestyle and personality, is the embodiment of the texts he or she is teaching, students will not develop the conviction from which is born the passion for Jewish living. Consequently, in defining Jewish education, the teacher plays a more important role than does curriculum.

In this connection, what is often missed is the fact that the best Jewish education neither begins nor ends in the school. Its beginning is in the home, where *parents* are the *textpeople*, where the Jewish book is read, the Jewish song is sung, the Jewish ideal is articulated, Jewish practice is natural and the framework for Jewish living is put into place. Here, the role of parent as teacher is of unparalleled significance.

In the same essay from which I quoted above, Heschel insisted that the significance of Judaism does not lie in its being an instrument for Jewish survival or a tool for Jewish continuity. Its significance lies, rather, in its being a fount of spiritual wealth, a source of deeper meaning in confronting life's struggles, and the matrix of those guiding principles which must inform the conduct of a Jew in his or her most mundane activities.

This is what Jewish education must be about. Jewish identity and Jewish continuity are meaningless except in this context. The attempts to extract and focus upon the universal aspects of Judaism to the exclusion of the parochial and particularistic will, in the end, fail to bear fruit.

One manifestation of such attempts is the development of social action and community service programs in many Jewish schools, ours included. To give it a Jewish twist, they have been labelled *chesed* programs or have been cloaked in that overworked and terribly misunderstood term, *tikkun olam*. Students are urged, in some cases required, to become involved in volunteer work for communal organizations and agencies, to visit the sick, assist the elderly, and generally extend themselves in behalf of others.

No one can say that this is anything but good. In fact, there are specific mitzvot involved and being performed. Nonetheless, I continue to harbor certain gnawing misgivings with regard to the way we have imposed these social service requirements upon students. My misgivings here are not dissimilar to those I have with regard to the prebar/bat mitzvah requirement of youngsters to attend Shabbat services over a specified period of time.

Unless synagogue attendance and *chesed* activities are an integral element in the parental life pattern, how long before the children realize that these are nothing more than burdens placed upon them because they are not big enough, independent enough, to fight back? When will they realize that these activities bear little, if any, relevance to the real world of adults? At which point will they rebel?

As well, the term *tikkun olam* as a Jewish value is specious when it is used to express only a piece of the concept that frames the Jewish imperative. The operative aspect of the concept is generally not noted by those for whom *tikkun olam* has become the essence of their Judaism. Either they never knew or they have forgotten that the Jewish notion is of *tikkun olam b'malchut Shaddai*, the perfection — repair, if any will — of the world under the Kingdom of the Almighty.

God's idea of a perfected world and His expectations for human behavior in that world define for Jews what *tikkun olam* truly is. Remove God and His commandments from the picture and you are left with secular altruism.

One does not have to be Jewish to be committed to the cliche of *tikkun olam*. A number of public and private schools have, in fact, incorporated social action into their programs.

Uninspired by Jewish spiritual values, uprooted from the soil of Jewish principles which transform a "good deed" into a mitzvah, these activities, however desirable they may be, will probably have no import for Jewish identity and continuity.

In a recent essay, Dr. Michael Rosenak, professor of Jewish Education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, took note of the fact that "attempts to educate Jews without bringing them into contact with the sources that are the cultural trademark of Jewishness have not met with much success." Rosenak further asserts, "We cannot afford to make do without the wisdom of our tradition and [without] the attempts of Jews to live by it in our times."

I often have the feeling that we are too self-conscious about being who we are supposed to be; so we work very hard at blurring the lines that characterize our distinctiveness. We are uncomfortable with the classical sources of Judaism and we are ill at ease when it comes to linking ourselves and our life style with Jewish traditions and values.

What, then, is the "cultural trademark of Jewishness" if not a firsthand knowledge of our own sources and a commitment to a pattern of behavior that is inspired by those sources? What sort of Jewish identity can it be that does not draw its defining characteristics from the principles and values that constitute the Jewish heritage?

When all is said and done, these are the fundamentals that are essential to a definition of Jewish education, and these are the measures of its effectiveness.

Rabbi Pachino is the headmaster of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Opinions

An egalitarian Shabbat in Jerusalem

ISRAEL DIARY IV

No one can escape the Shabbat aura in Jerusalem, even if it is punctuated by flying stones and cries of "Shabbos." Most of the city welcomes the day of rest in some way, from those who cease all activity at the sound of the siren marking the beginning of Shabbat, to those who spend Friday night with friends and family, and Saturday morning head for the beach.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

A dilemma: Where do we find the egalitarian, traditional atmosphere of our own synagogue? We try Kol Nishama where, as we enter, over 200 people of all ages and stages have begun a familiar *Lecha Dodi*. We are tapped on the shoulder — Vancouverites! One, a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College (HUC), invites us to the school and on Monday we arrive at 8:00 a.m. for the minyan.

Both men and women participate wearing *tallit* and *t'fillin*. Following a d'var Torah, the group breaks up and we are led on a tour by rabbinical student Tali. Students have just finished the ulpan and are preparing for the beginning of fall classes. At present there are more women than men among the more than 80 training to become rabbis, cantors, and Jewish education directors for the Reform movement.

Of the two main buildings to the campus located next door to the King David Hotel, the first was built before 1967, when this area stood on the edge of no man's land, facing the tantalizingly inaccessible Old City. The view is breathtaking. The second building was designed by Moshe Safti and is a charming combination of Middle Eastern arcades and gardens, surrounding a more practical area of classrooms and library. There is a *gan* (kindergarten for children) and a small archaeological museum named after the pioneer archeologist Nelson Glueck.

Classes last from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the additional requirement of participation in social action projects. Those without the fluency in Hebrew Tali enjoys must catch up. In addition, she tells us as we sit down in the rather spartan student lounge, they have to face the bewilderment that Israelis have as to exactly what Reform Judaism is. Not overt hostility, she hastens to add (although that hostility exists), but ignorance of alternatives to the Orthodoxy most familiar to secular Israelis.

Part of the answer to this ignorance may be the new president of HUC, Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman. He is the first non-classical "Reformer" to head the institution and his Orthodox background and strong Zionism make him "a great role model" for the class he will ordain. The students are enthusiastic about him and about the program initiatives underway. The first year for rabbinical students will emphasize the study of Hebrew text, with students able to give a *daf shiur*, an exposition of the text they study.

Rabbi Zimmerman is making progressive Judaism visible in Israel. A member of the only inter-denominational rabbinical association in the county, Rabbis for Human Rights, he has been quoted extensively in the media. Along with other non-Orthodox rabbis, he was featured in a recent *Jerusalem Report* on non-Orthodox Judaism in Israel.

Some in the rabbinical establishment, and of course, the Haredim, consider North American Conservative and Reform Judaism as "non-Jewish" sects bearing no relationship to true Judaism. Conservative and Reform congregations in Israel no longer receive government support, unlike recognized Orthodox rabbis and congregations, schools, and yeshivot.

In addition to regular classes and volunteer work, students enjoy such special events as a colloquium week planned for the fall, where they will hear Alice Shalvi, an Orthodox scholar and outspoken advocate of women's rights, and Avraham Infeld, head of Melitz, an institute dedicated to Jewish education in the Diaspora.

In fact, these students are already preparing for their eventual careers in congregations. Tali spoke of the challenges the pulpit offers. Like rabbis of every denomination, they are already conscious of the gap between clergy and congregation in praxis and knowledge. It is their goal to enable their congregations to realize their greatest individual and communal potential for *tikkun olam*, repair of the world. And what does Tali want to achieve as a rabbi?

"My first interest was to contribute my strengths" (and, with a laugh) "my weaknesses to the community. In the past year, I realized the huge need in North America for meaning in family life and spirituality. Judaism has all those ingredients and I would love to give back to the Jewish community in North America what Judaism gives to me — enjoyment in life, a sense of where we come from and obligation to a sense of justice."

Sounds to me like a mission any rabbi, regardless of denomination, shares.

About children and parents

Even though our son and two daughters are now in their 20s, some poems I wrote for them when they were younger still seem fresh. To me, anyway.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

Our son Noah was born with Down's syndrome and next time I'll discuss what we can do for people in comparable situations as they become adults. In the meantime, you might want to subscribe to a new magazine called b'yadeinu. *It aims to provide information and communication for those involved with special needs individuals in the Jewish community.*

Contact b'yadeinu *by writing the editor, Susie Mittelman-Sokol at 800 Steeles Ave. West, Suite B10-183, Thornhill, Ont. L4J 7L2.*

To My Son Noah

if you are wondering
why you look more like
some of your classmates
than you do like your sisters
it is because seas are split
and smaller things
are sometimes forgotten
like your undivided, extra
twenty-first chromosome
which has given you
the gorgeous eastern look
that is oriental
on oriental

you are my oldest child
and will always
be our youngest
love us more than
we know how to return
teach us more
than we can learn
the important things
you mastered
long before all of us
and the less important
still gets integrated
well — just more slowly —
as you frolic into the future
unafraid

when you recited
the Bar Mitzvah blessings
to a hushed congregation
we felt our own fates
draped with your prayer shawl
on those noble shoulders
and when your manchild's voice
delivered us all in triumph
the cries you heard
were those of newborns

you console the doubters
you messenger of God
sexton of our home
guardian of our Sabbath
herald of precious new weeks
it is you Noah
who is navigating the ark
that saves us
as we continually
come to you in twos

the part of us with faith
the part of us with fear

Babel

When Zaida
didn't want me to understand
he spoke Yiddish
and when I learned Yiddish
he would speak Polish
and when I got older
in order to confound him
I used French
as my properly schooled children
now use Hebrew
to keep things from me
and when I talk to them
in perfect English
about where we can
speak their secret tongue
all day long
they still don't understand

To My Children

first
learn Torah

then
find yourselves

Helping the less fortunate

This column is a follow-up on last week's where I reported on the Out of the Cold program: religious institutions sheltering and feeding the poor on their premises.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

A lot of people become uncomfortable when they hear that their synagogue (or church or mosque) is undertaking a form of social activism that may be termed "political." Religion and politics, they say, don't mix, and rabbis like other spiritual leaders should stay out of the fray and stick to their business. But just precisely what is their "business?"

I should say quickly that this kind of statement is heard more often in Christian than in Jewish circles. For Christianity is primarily directed at individual salvation, toward having the right kind of faith and doing the right thing, like loving your neighbor.

Judaism begins with community

Judaism, on the other hand, does not begin with the individual, it begins with the community. While everyone remains an individual and is subject to mitzvot, it is our membership in the Jewish community that forms the necessary framework of Jewish life. Look at the prayer book, which invariably speaks in the plural. *We* invoke the Divine Presence, and on the High Holy Days *we*, as a people, confess our sins, even though not everyone in the congregation has committed the particular *averah* that is being recited. Therefore, when some people are poor, everyone of us is affected. It is very much Judaism's concern.

The prophets frequently operated in the political realm. Moses, when he confronted Pharaoh, was asking the Egyptian ruler to make a vast socio-political change in his country and liberate thousands of slaves. When hundreds of years later (in 589 BCE) the Babylonians were threatening to take Jerusalem, slave-owners let their serfs go free as the Torah commanded. The owners hoped that God might be assuaged and miraculously the Babylonians did cease their siege. But as soon as they left, the slave-owners re-indentured their serfs, with the result that the prophet Jeremiah chastised community and king for going back on their ethical duties. He prophesied that the Babylonians would return and that the city would be destroyed — which in fact it was soon thereafter. In the same vein did the rabbis of later centuries always consider social issues to be the province of religious demand. Our synagogues are not operating in the abstract; unless they are rooted firmly in the social needs of their time they do not fulfil their religious task.

In the Diaspora, we have on occasion tended to feel that "they" — i.e. non-Jews — should look after these matters. It was the wrong conclusion then and it remains wrong today. Feeding the poor, objecting to socially disruptive polices of governments and advocating the establishment of a society free of discrimination — all these are religious tasks and hence they challenge us as Jews as much as anyone.

The Kirshner File

German Jews' emotional bonds proved tragic

When Adolf Hitler assumed power 64 years ago this week, Germany was home to approximately 525,000 Jews. Within a few years, the community was devastated.

Roughly one-third emigrated before Kristallnacht in 1938. Another one-third left in the following 10 months, leaving 164,000 Jews in the Third Reich. Of these, 123,000 eventually perished in the Holocaust.

These figures beg a question: Why, in the face of such a virulent strain of state anti-Semitism, did so many Jews obstinately remain in Germany?

This conundrum is posed by John Dippel in a superb new book, *Bound Upon a Wheel of Fire* (HarperCollins, $38.75), which turns on the divergent lives of six German Jews who epitomized the cultural, patriotic and economic ties that kept such people from fleeing.

Dippel's subjects, who serve as representative samples of German Jewry, are: Leo Baeck, the chief rabbi of Berlin; Robert Weltsch, a Zionist luminary; Hans-Joachim Schoeps, a German nationalist youth leader; Bella Fromm, a newspaper columnist; Max Warburg, a banker; and Richard Willstatter, a Nobel Prize-winning chemist.

Dippel — who likens their emotional bond to Germany to an abusive marriage — explains that rootedness, complacency, incredulity, smugness, naivete, wishful thinking and opportunism (some Jewish businessmen temporarily fared well in a resurgent Germany) accounted for their reluctance to pack their bags.

Ultimately, all six did emigrate, but only under the greatest of duress. Their attachment to Germany was dictated by an abiding belief that they were true Germans. Having matured in an emancipatory era when they were no longer automatically treated as pariahs, they felt comfortable and at ease in Germany.

Granted, they realized that anti-Semitism was deeply embedded in their homeland on the grassroots level and that anti-Jewish political parties sought to roll back the gains they had achieved since the 1870s. And yet they also knew that, relatively speaking, they were a blessed generation. But with the rise of Nazism, their genteel bourgeois existence was yanked from under their feet.

Rabbi Baeck called for calm and reason, and though his illusions were finally shattered in the wake of Kristallnacht, he stayed behind. "I will go when I am the last Jew alive in Germany," he said. Deported to Theresienstadt in January 1943, he survived his ordeal. He immigrated to the United States in 1948, became the president of the World Union for Progressive Jewry and returned to Germany to lecture on several occasions. He died in London in 1956.

Weltsch, editor of the *Jewish Observer*, claimed that the "abnormalities" in Germany would disappear if Jews affirmed their Jewish identity. Jews could then find a niche within the new order. In 1938, however, he settled in Palestine. And after covering the Nuremberg war crimes trials, he moved to Britain. He spent the final three years of his life in Jerusalem.

Schoeps, desperately believing that an accommodation with the Nazis was possible, thought that a form of second-class citizenship for Jews would mollify Hitler. But he, too, was finally disabused of his notions. Sent packing to Sweden, he moved back to Germany in 1946, dying in 1980.

Fromm, who was romantically involved with a high government official, left Germany in the late 1930s on the advice of powerful non-Jewish friends who had protected her until then. She settled in New York City, wrote for American publications and died in 1972.

Warburg, like Fromm, was thoroughly assimilated, and was convinced that Nazism would not last. But after his bank was "Aryanized," he immigrated to the United States, where he died in 1946.

Willstatter believed that he could somehow disassociate himself from reality by burrowing into his research. But in 1939, he gave up. With the help of a German diplomat, he slipped into Switzerland. Three years later, he succumbed to a heart attack.

In hindsight, these German Jews were tragically naive. But would you, dear reader, have behaved differently?

Racist state

Hitler's Third Reich has the dubious distinction of being the first — and so far only — state whose official dogma was unmitigated racism.

Racial theories were not exclusive to Germany, but they enjoyed the widest currency there.

The reasons are explored by historians Michael Burleigh and Wolfgang Wippermann in *The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945* (Cambridge University Press), a lucid, thoroughly-researched volume which plumbs the origins and practices of Nazism.

The thrust is on the persecution of the Jews of Germany, but the book also deals with the fate of the gypsies, the mentally disabled, so-called social deviants and homosexuals.

Race theories in what is now Germany have their antecedents in the 18th century. But it was left to an Englishman and Germanophile, Houston Stewart Chamberlain (1855-1927), to postulate the theory that the Germans were the most superior people on earth, and that the Jews represented a demonic threat to the chosen German race.

Blended with traditional, theological anti-Semitism, and the growing accusation that Jews were responsible for the negative fallout of rapid industrialization and modernism, Chamberlain's concepts were seized upon by a failed painter and former corporal in the German army named Adolf Hitler.

Considering Jews the embodiment of evil, Hitler made no distinction between German and foreign, rich and poor, religious and non-religious, or baptized and unbaptized Jews. Hitler succeeded in combining and radicalizing "all previous strains" of anti-Semitism into a potent force.

Burleigh and Wippermann are adept at tracing the institutionalization of German state anti-Semitism.

The first anti-Jewish laws, enacted in April 1933, sanctioned the dismissal of non-Aryans from the civil service. The next wave of anti-Semitic legislation, in 1935, disenfranchised Jews, forbade intermarriage and banned Jewish doctors, professors, teachers and notaries from state service.

The tempo of anti-Jewish actions slowed in 1936 and 1937, but picked up with a vengeance in 1938, the year of Kristallnacht. Many of the laws were designed to exclude Jews from the economy and render them destitute. On the eve of World War II, nearly one-fifth of the Jewish population was dependent on charities.

In July 1941, Hermann Goring entrusted Reinhard Heydrich with the task of "making all necessary preparations" for bringing about "a complete solution of the Jewish question." The sober bureaucratic language disguised the Nazis' real intent — the systematic extermination of European Jewry.

The infamous Wannsee Conference in a Berlin suburb in January 1942 sanctioned the Final Solution throughout Europe. To the tinkling of cognac snifters, the Holocaust was officially launched, with all its attendant consequences.

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Food bank's presence grows

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Loren Freid

TORONTO — In the 11 years he's run the North York Harvest Food Bank, you'd think Loren Freid had seen everything.

But developments in recent years have surprised even him. In fact, he considers them "really scary."

"People you wouldn't think of come to food banks." They're university-educated victims of corporate downsizing, members of [formerly] two income families now on social assistance and people fearful of losing their jobs, he said.

Add these new users to the people who've been struggling to make ends meet for years and who face a 22 percent cutback in provincial welfare allocations, and you see a lot of hunger in the community, Freid said.

The government cutbacks have forced some to make awful decisions — "decide if you'll pay the rent or feed your kids. That's a horrible position to be in," he said.

In an interview in his spartan office in the food bank's 9,000-square-foot location on Chesswood Avenue, Freid looked back at the organization as it marked its 11th birthday. Back then, fresh from university with a liberal arts degree and after a visit to Winnipeg, Freid was impressed with the work being done by the city's Harvest Food Bank. With no immediate plans for the future, Freid decided that North York needed something similar. Toronto at that time was coming out of a recession and while the economy was good, people were struggling to get back on their feet in the aftermath of the slowdown.

When he approached merchants, many didn't believe that North York had a problem with hunger, he recalled. But thanks to the support of Adi Kolber and Bernie Pont and their B'nai Brith chapter, Freid was able to get the food bank off the ground.

The first location was a cramped 3,000-square-foot facility at Finch and Weston where food was warehoused prior to delivery. In that first year, the food bank distributed 100,000 pounds of food while holding promotions to increase its profile in the community.

At the time, "I had no thought I'd be around 11 years later. I thought I'd get it off the ground and a professional would take over."

The food bank struck a nerve in the community and became a success. Distribution grew from 100,000 to 300,000 and then to 700,000 lbs. in just a few years. In its fourth or fifth year, it hit the one million pound mark, where it has languished for some time. Freid speculates that despite Torontonians' traditional generosity, donor fatigue has set in. For the past six years, contributions to the food bank have plateaued and there doesn't appear to be any indication that will change any time soon. In addition, people who have given to the food bank in the past are now coming there for help, he said.

Facing that bleak reality, Freid has grafted another mission onto the food bank's traditional role of amassing provisions — "telling people why others don't have enough food."

He's started an information campaign, talking to Members of Parliament and to provincial legislators. "We give them this information. They shouldn't be creating policy in a vacuum," he said.

Freid maintains that this approach predated the Ontario Tories' policy of cutbacks to welfare, but said that recently "we're more vociferous telling the people the situation is worse. Because we're a food bank, we're right in there and we get a certain perspective that other organizations don't get."

As North York has grown, it has acquired the problems of other big cities, including hunger and poverty. More and more people are seeking assistance all along Yonge Street, from York Mills to Finch, he said.

To supply the sites that provide food, like the Lansing United Church or the Jane/Finch Community Ministry, the food bank has a staff of three full-time employees, two part-time workers and more than 100 volunteers. About 10,000 hours of volunteer time are amassed each year. The food bank operates on an annual budget of $250,000 and distributes about $2 million worth of food each year to more than 35 non-profit feeding programs, making it one of Canada's largest food banks, he said.

Freid takes a salary out of that yearly budget, but when he started the food bank, he didn't pay himself during its first six months of operations. Afterwards he took home the grand sum of between $200 and $300 a week.

The food bank has been rewarding to him in other ways. He met his wife, Lisa, through the food bank when she volunteered there. And he took pride in seeing the enterprise grow to become important in the community.

"When you're the founder of something, you get a certain satisfaction out of its success," he said.

After 11 years with the food bank, Freid has a simple message for the people of North York. While they've made a tremendous impact in fighting hunger, they should continue to be "understanding of people who come to food banks. They come due to need and we ask them to get involved, do more, and ask questions of their elected officials about what they're doing about the hunger problem in Metro Toronto."

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Community Matters

Goldstein salutes UJA Federation

David Goldstein stepped down last week as UJA Federation's Campaign '97 chairman, after leading a $35.5 million fundraising drive. He'll be co-chairing the Top Gifts Division for Campaign '98. In this interview with ***Community Matters*** *Goldstein discussed the high points of his 14 months at the helm.*

David Goldstein

Q What were the major highlights of the 1997 campaign?

A The Prime Minister's Mission that Bonnie and I led last May to Moscow and St. Petersburg was definitely one of them. In particular, I will never forget the time we spent in a bomb shelter in Kiryat Shmona while katyusha rockets were coming down around us. I really felt our presence made a difference to the people we were with.

The Campaign Launch in August and then Super Sunday in September really set the tone for the campaign. I remember feeling like we could do anything.

Q What accomplishments in this campaign are you most proud of?

A Obviously it was very important to us this year to campaign for new gifts. Even though there are many people out there we still have to reach, we've made some real progress and campaigners are working hard to keep up the momentum.

Q How does working with UJA Federation compare with other volunteer work you've done?

A I think the time frames at UJA are unique. Things happen much quicker and there's often a sense of urgency driving things ahead. But even though many of the programs are put together quickly, you would never know from the outcome.

The quality of the volunteers and staff is really what makes it all happen. They make me look good.

Q Were you surprised by anything you experienced as Campaign chairman?

A Wherever I travelled I was overwhelmed by the respect people have for Toronto's UJA Federation and the campaign. Many people told me how much they admired our programs and the techniques we use. It made me very proud.

Q Will you miss anything in particular?

A I'm a people person and through UJA Federation, I've been given the opportunity to meet so many different people. I'll miss the constant interaction.

Q How did your experience affect you personally?

A I feel very lucky to have been given the opportunity to represent such a well respected organization. The whole experience of working with such dedicated volunteers and staff was very rewarding. I also made some very good friends.

Q What advice do you have for your successor Leo Goldhar?

A I told Leo that time flies by quickly so make the most of it.

Vicki Campbell

Campbell counts on new volunteers

Vicki Campbell believes she raised more than money this year as UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair. She helped to raise a new generation of leaders.

The Women's Campaign performed superbly in both areas. It accounted for $4 million plus toward the overall total and the newly launched mentoring program, which teamed up more experienced volunteers with novices, "did a lot to make first-time campaigners feel more at home while making calls," according to Campbell.

Other achievements cited by Campbell include attracting new contributors and the ongoing progress of sharpening awareness about UJA Federation.

Campbell considers the International Lion of Judah Conference in Jerusalem, which she attended, one of the year's highlights. There she listened to Jewish women recounting how their lives were saved by the UJA Federation-funded Jewish Agency.

"I not only felt privileged to meet these women, " explains Campbell, "but also to share their stories with others."

Daren feels inspired

Michael Daren

An 89 year old gentleman named Jack, just Jack, was the one person Michael Daren will remember most when he looks back on his term as Vice Chair of the UJA Federation 1997 Campaign.

Jack lives alone in a one bedroom apartment near Bathurst St. and Lawrence Avenue. His wife died more than 10 years ago and his children, who live out of town, hardly ever see him. If it weren't for weekly visits from Senior Care, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, and daily excursions to the Bernard Betel Centre, Jack, like many other elderly in his situation, would live a bleak existence.

Daren learned of Jack's story because his wife Carolyn is the Senior Care volunteer who makes Jack's world a brighter place.

"Jack calls me each week to tell me that my wife is an angel," explains Daren. "Volunteer visits and other services UJA Federation provides for seniors throughout the community are important because they send people like Jack the signal that they haven't been forgotten."

Daren says that knowing how much of a difference UJA Federation can make in the lives of so many inspires him. "Aside from family, this has been the most satisfying part of my life." In the upcoming campaign, Daren will chair King David's Circle.

Engel eager to move ahead

For veteran volunteer David Engel, the only thing more exciting than being Vice Chair of UJA Federation's 1997 campaign is looking forward to an even more successful Campaign '98. Engel will be joined by Glennie Lindenberg as next year's Vice Chairs.

"We've accomplished so much in one year," says Engel, "so I just want to keep plowing ahead and keep the momentum going."

Engel says he's most proud of strides made in raising UJA Federation's profile in the community.

"Thanks to all the outreach we've done more people are recognizing the centrality of UJA Federation and that translates into more contributors."

And more outreach is exactly what Engel wants to see in the 1998 campaign. "The challenge will be to communicate our message to segments of the community we haven't yet reached."

David Engel

What will Engel remember most about the 1997 Campaign? "So many of the people I worked with have become friends," he explains. "The dedication of the volunteers and staff is really something like to be around."

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Community Matters

WHAT A CAMPAIGN!

UJA Federation's Campaign '97 is one of the most successful in years, with the final campaign total expected to touch down at $35.5 million or more.

It was a campaign packed with historic events and unprecedented challenges as governments dramatically reduced funding for many services.

These are some highlights of a campaign that reached beyond the top.

UJA FEDERATION

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

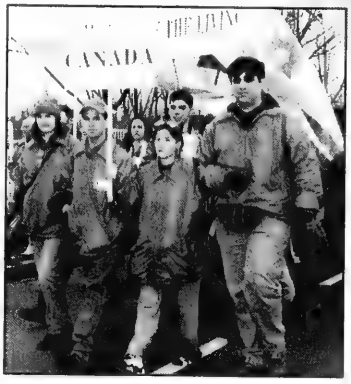
In January, 1996, UJA Federation raised $400,000 in just two days for immediate assistance to the Jewish poor.

FUNDS FOR THE FUTURE

$100,000 in UJA Federation continuity grants were awarded in February to 15 outreach projects designed to strengthen Jewish identity. An additional $170,000 was disbursed in October.

MEGA MISSION

Mission 3000, February 19-28, the largest mission to Israel in Canadian history, sponsored by United Israel Appeal and UJA Federation, took over 1,000 participants from Metulla to Eilat. There were 400 mission members from Toronto.



MARCH OF THE LIVING

In April, more than 100 high school students from the Greater Toronto Area received a sobering education in Jewish history on the UJA Federation/UIA March of the Living. The Canadians joined 5,000 other young Jews on the emotional journey from Auschwitz to Birkenau before visiting Israel.

BURG AND BARAK

UJA Federation brought Avrum Burg, Chairman of the Jewish Agency and Ehud Barak, front runner for Israel's Labor party leadership to Toronto in October.

JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

UJA Federation's Community March For Israel, May 26, drew an extra large crowd of 7,000, celebrating Jerusalem's 3000th birthday. This year's Walk - Steppin' Out For Israel - is on Sunday, May 25.

LOVE UR ROOTS

That was the theme of UJA Federation's Community Campaign Launch in August, featuring Al Waxman and Israeli recording artists *Shorashim*. The Launch at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts captured the hearts of over 1,000 participants.

Michael Budman (l) and Don Green (r) Launch sponsors of Roots Canada with Al Waxman (2nd from left) and Campaign Chairman David Goldstein.

SUPER SUNDAY

It started at 9 a.m. on September 8, ending 12 hours and $2 million later. A record number of volunteers, including more than 250 representing 28 businesses, organizations and schools, collected pledges from 6,000 community supporters.

Debbi Stern and dad, Don Rafelman, co-chaired Super Sunday.

NEW GIFTS TAKE OFF

October's New Gifts launch signalled the start of the most concentrated effort to reach first time contributors ever undertaken by UJA Federation. A series of new gifts telethons, including the first ever in York Region, raised over $800,000 from more than 2,500 donors.

PARTNERSHIP MISSION

UJA Federation leaders on the Prime Minister's Mission experienced a Hizbulla bombing raid inside a Kiryat Shmona shelter.

WONDERFUN

Another first. UJA Federation's WonderFun Day at Paramount Canada's Wonderland brought 2,000 community members together in the Fall.

IT'S OVER

The campaign officially closed last week, but calls and visits will continue to those who have yet to be reached.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

WHAT A CLOSING!

The official closing of UJA Federation's 1997 campaign was celebrated in typical UJA Federation fashion - a little reminiscing, a little fressing, some laughs and a lot of thank you's. More than 250 community volunteers joined UJA Federation leaders and staff at Beth Tzedec Synagogue to celebrate the past year's success and to toast one of the best UJA Federation campaigns ever.

▲ *Former UJA Federation Campaign Chairs Wendy Eisen and Neil Nisker co-chaired the campaign closing.*

▲ *Abe Glowinsky (left) and Murray Rich.*

▲ *Presence from the past. Former UJA Federation Campaign Chairmen (l-r) Jerry Shear, Sam Sable and Gerry Halbert.*

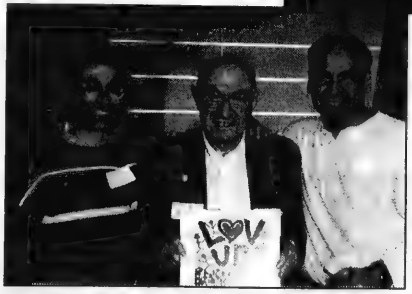
▲*York University students (l-r) Terry Rothenberg, Robin Fryer, who won the "UJA on Campus" award, Yael Kinar and Michael Weinberger.*

▲ *Campaign '97 Chairman David Goldstein (left) and his successor, Leo Goldhar.*

▼ *Campaign Vice-Chairs Michael Daren (left) and David Engel (right) present campaigner David C. Green with the award for "Most Cards Covered."*

▲ *Women's Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell (left) presents Elizabeth Erlich with the award for "Most Interesting New Program." Erlich created the Junior UJA Tzedakah All Star Team.*

▶ *(l-r) Lorraine Sandler, Vicki Campbell and Bonnie Goldstein.*



▲ *UJA Federation President Sandra Brown.*

▶*Talk about a long shot! UJA Federation campaign staff.*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 30, is deadline for Feb. 13 issue and Thursday, Feb. 6, is deadline for Feb. 20. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0929.

Saturday, Feb. 1

JUDAISM AND FEMINISM

At Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood Shabbat, **Prof. Reena Zeidman**, chair, Jewish Studies at Queen's University, speaks on When Women Touch the Moon: A Fresh Look at Judaism and Feminism. Luncheon, by prepaid reservation, followed by seminar discussion with Zeidman.

BBYO COMMUNITY DANCE

BBYO Community-Wide Dance (teens grades 8-13), 8 p.m. to midnight, Bathurst Jewish Centre. $5 members, $8 non-members. Join BBYO now for $49. **Stephanie** 635-9411.

Sunday, Feb. 2

PARENTING FAIR

Aish HaTorah is bringing speakers from around the city to share their expertise about the many aspects of parenting, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. Parenting Fair includes seminars for parents and age-appropriate programs for kids. $20 all-day family pass. 905-764-1818.

YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood breakfast features **Marc Levine,** probation supervisor for Young Offenders of North York, speaking on Jewish Children and the Young Offenders' Act, following 8:30 a.m. services.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

RELIGIOUS ZIONISM

Canadian Friends of Darche Noam and Mizrachi Bayit lecture by **Rabbi Sheya Karlinsky**, rosh yeshivah, Darche Noam/Shapells and Midreshet Rachel of Jerusalem. Topic: Religious Zionism in a Post-Zionist Era. 8 p.m., Mizrachi Bayit, 296 Wilson Ave. $5.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Information session for students (18 plus) interested in volunteering as a medic for Magen David Adom this summer in Israel, 6 p.m., Israel Aliyah Centre, 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300, 633-4766.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, analyzes and discusses *The Portrait of a Lady* by **Henry James** 1:30-4:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Feb. 3

JEWISH IDENTITY

Jewish Identity in the New Millenium, three views from Israel, with **Prof. Sergio DellaPergola, Prof. Yair Zakovitch** and **Dr. Ze'ev Mankowitz** from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; moderator **Prof. Irving Abella**, Centre for Jewish Studies at York, 8 p.m., York University, Winters College Study Hall (Steeles, Founders College Rd.) Sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Toronto chapter, and New Leadership Division, the Centre for Jewish Studies, York University and the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. **Merle Goldman,** 485-8000.

ALIYAH INFORMATION

The Israel Aliyah Centre presents an Aliyah Information Night for college and university students, 8 p.m., Lipa Green Building, Room 241, planned in conjunction with Jewish Campus Services and Tehilla. Topics include job opportunities and training programs, university programs, summer jobs and internships and more. **Miri Gur** 633-4766 or **Jay Wohlgalernter** 222-2260.

CHOOSING JUDAISM

Partners in Jewish Living presents Choosing Judaism — Sharing Experiences, 7:30 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. All converts to Judaism, their spouses and fiance(e)s are welcome. **Rabbi Irving Beigel** 782-1501.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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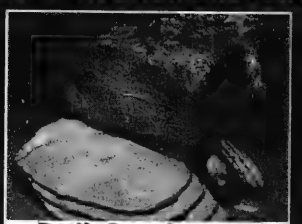
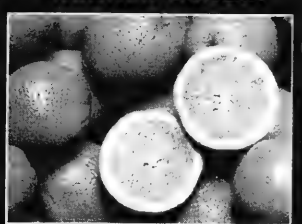
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
441 CLARK (AT HILDA)
Centre Street
Clark Avenue West
Bathurst Street
Yonge Street
Shaalav Avenue
• KOSHER MEAT • KOSHER FISH • KOSHER DELI • KOSHER GROCERY • KOSHER BAKERY •

Whole White Fish
Lake Huron, Fresh! Subject to Availability, 5.05 kg
229 lb.

Western Sour Cream
Regular or Light
500 mL tub
.99



Peri's Beef Pastrami
From the Deli,
2.15 /100 g
979 lb.



Sweet Navel Oranges
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Kosher, Canada Grade A
4.39 kg
199 lb.

Cavendish French Fries
Frozen, Assorted Varieties, 1 kg poly bag
.99

Regular Coleslaw
Tastefully Yours From the Deli
.99 /100 g
179 lb.

Peaches or Nectarines
Product of Chile, No. 1 Grade, 3.51 kg
159 lb.

Medium Ground Beef
Glatt Kosher, Value Club Pack, 7.67 kg
348 lb.

La Biscotte Rice Cakes
Assorted Varieties
150 g pkg.
.99

Large Rye Bread
From The Bakery
Baked Fresh Daily, 550 g loaf
199

Babka
Fresh From The Bakery
450 g
369

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

HOME-BUYER'S SEMINAR

Professional advice on issues relating to purchasing a home. Learn how to qualify for interest free loans and reductions in mortgage rates up to one percent, 8 p.m., Beth Jacob Congregation, 147 Overbrook Pl.

Tuesday. Feb. 4

PARLEZ VOUS FRANÇAIS?

Il existe à Toronto une lodge du B'nai Brith de langue française, qui se réunit tous les premiers mardis de chaque mois. La prochaine réunion, 8 p.m., 15 Hove St. Le sujet traité ce soir là sera Cent ans de Sionisme, 1897-1997. 255-6086.

JEWISH MEDICAL ETHICS

The Israel Medical Association (Canada chapter) evening, Hippocrates, Maimonides, and Common Law, keynote speaker **Dr. David Novak**, chair of Judaic Studies, University of Toronto plus panel discussion with **Prof. Bernard Dickens**, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto; **Dr. Michael Gordon**, Baycrest Centre; **Rabbi Mark Dratch,** Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Women's Institute of Torah Study series, Feminine Images of the Bible, with **Rochie Wagner** continues with Women Can Conquer the World, 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Dr. $4. 905-881-2012.

CHILDREN OF SEPARATION

Holy Blossom Temple action committee program on Children of Separation and Divorce features children telling their experiences (on video) and a panel consisting **Dr. Alice Charac**, child psychiatrist; **Dena Moyal** from Office of the Children's Lawyer; **Gordon Wolfe, executive director,** Jewish Family & Child Service.

STORIES OF FAITH

The Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto presents An Evening with Jewish and Christian Storytellers, Tales of Two Peoples: Stories of Faith, Stories of Life, featuring **Leslie Robbins** and **Helen Porter**, 7:30 p.m., Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 252 Bloor St. W. Room 3-313. 941-9356.

Thursday, Feb. 6

AISH HATORAH LECTURE

Letterman's Top 10 or the Ten Commandments — Which is more familiar? **Rabbi Mitch Mandel** lectures on Exploring the Two Tablets That Changed the World, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

And What Else Is New

PROF. NEWMAN LECTURES

Prof. David Newman, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, lectures, co-sponsored by Canada Israel Committee and Holy Blossom Temple, 8 p.m. at the temple:

Monday, Feb. 3, The Polarization of Israeli Society.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, Post-Hebron: Where is the Peace Process Going?

NA'AMAT HAMILTON

Na'amat Hamilton fundraising event, *Denial of the Fittest* with New York actor **Judith Sloan**, Saturday, Feb. 1, 8 p.m., Westdale High School, 700 Main St. W. and Jewish Women: Unity in Our Diversity, a one-day educational conference for women with keynote speaker **Norma Baumel Joseph,** workshops, closing panel, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Adas Israel Synagogue, 127 Cline Ave. S.

Funds raised go to Na'amat Canada Counselling Centre in Tel Aviv. Conference $40, performance $15. **Wendy Schneider** 905-628-0058

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association adult education series, Comparative Religions, lecturer **Peter Gilbert**, Sunday, Feb. 2, 10 a.m., SJA Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8/adult. 364-7002.

Family "Pajama" Oneg Shabbat, pot-luck snacks, Friday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m., North York Central Library. Non-members $8/adult, $5/child.

JASS LECTURE SERIES

JASS (Jewish Artists Scholarship Society) lecture series on the arts, language and health at Earl Bales Community Centre, 7:30-10 p.m.: Wednesdays, Feb, 5, 12, 19, 26, How to Enjoy Being a Performer, actor **Murray Kash**; Thursdays, Feb 6, 13, 20, 27, Exploring Yiddish Yiddish activist **Richard Bassett**; Thursdays Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, Jews in Film, film historian **Sheldon Glass.** $50 per course. 638-2222.

FAMILY ONEG SHABBAT

Congregation Shir Libeynu, a progressive, egalitarian congregation, is holding a Family Oneg Shabbat service, Friday, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m.. at Bloor JCC, followed by pot-luck dinner. Please bring a vegetarian contribution. 537-3435.

ISRAEL DAY FESTIVAL

Volunteers are needed to assist in planning the Canadian Zionist Federation annual free Israel Day festival, Sunday, June 8, at Mel Lastman Square, celebrating the centennial of the first World Zionist Congress convened by **Theodor Herzl** in Basel Switzerland in 1897. **Barbara Peters** 633-3988.

CULINARY EVENING

A casual culinary evening, Italian style,with entertainment, Saturday, Feb. 8. $20 (tax receipt). All funds raised go to purchase a sports wheelchair for Disabled Vetrans in Israel (Beit Halochem Canada) 512-8005.

A TIME TOGETHER

A Time Together slumber party for moms and their 11 to 14-year-old daughters, presented by Jewish Women International of Canada Feb.15-16 at Holiday Inn, Woodbine Ave. and Hwy 401, Markham. Activities include an address by **Susan Jackson**, arts and crafts, a workshop to encourage Shalom Bayit between moms and daughters, singing, laughter, lots of fun. 630 9313.

KOLEL SPRING CLASSES

Registration is now on for spring classes at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Courses include Exploring Sprituality, Basic Judaism, Exodus, Talmud, advanced Torah study and more, and begin the week of Feb. 10. 905-709-1900.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups — Single Again: Building a New Life begins Feb. 4; Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work begins Feb. 19; The Self-Confident Woman begins Feb. 25. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Beth Tikvah Synagogue adult programming:

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first World Zionist Congress, session 3, Sunday, Feb. 2, 9:45 a.m., **Aaron Nussbaum,** co-sponsored with Mercaz-Canada.

Continuing Jewish education classes Mondays, 8 p.m., Feb. 3-April 7, taught by faculty members of United Synagogue Day School.

Major confrontations in Jewish history between opposing approaches to the Jewish religious tradition, beliefs and practices, Mondays, Feb. 3 and 10, 8 p.m., **Rabbi Irwin Witty**.

Simchah Dancing: Dancing to a Modern Beat, Tuesdays Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 8 p.m., **Sophie Azen.**

SUNDAY SERIES

Temple Sinai Sunday Breakfast Series, 10 a.m. 487-4161

Feb. 2, **Rabbi Michael Dolgin** and **Rabbi Daniel Komito Gottlieb** pancake breakfast, A "Debatele" — What is the Real Golden Medinah-the U.S. or Canada? Sponsored by Temple Sinai Brotherhood.

Feb. 9, **Susan Jackson**, director of Continuity and assistant director of Community Planning and Allocations for the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, speaks on Jewish Women in the '90s.

FREE COMPUTER COURSES

Human Resources Development Canada is sponsoring a Microcomputer Business Applications Program at Success Business College for people receiving or eligible to receive Employment Insurance within the last three years. **Donna** 487-6493.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUPS

Bayview Support Network offers peer-led support groups for both cancer patients and their caregivers every second and fourth Monday each month, 7-8:30 p.m., Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, 2075 Bayview Ave. 480-6898.

For Seniors

Senior Chaverim meet Monday, Feb. 3, 1:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec boardroom for the movie *The Frisco Kid*, starring **Gene Wilder**.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Thornhill Square, Monday, Feb. 3; free blood pressure clinic, Tuesday, Feb. 4; Valentine dance with **Michael Khinkis** Sunday, Feb. 9, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Membership due, $12. Phone regardng upcoming trips to Ottawa, Kitchener, Atlantic City and Israel 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 6 program is the Israeli movie *Brother and Friend*. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip March 5-26, all inclusive, comprehensive medical insurance package, limo service from Toronto back and forth to airport, tips to guides and drivers, 11 days touring. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre Low Vision Support Group, Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1:30-3 p.m. Topic: Guided Imagery as Relaxation and Stress Management.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Feb. 5 program is a movie. **Anna.**

The movie, *The Glen Miller Story*, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2:30 p.m.

Afternoon of song, **Bill Stuart**, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor JCC Seniors Club, Introduction to Yoga, Thursday, Jan. 30, 2 p.m. Oral Care for Seniors, geriatric dental team of Department of Public Health, Thursday, Feb. 6, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

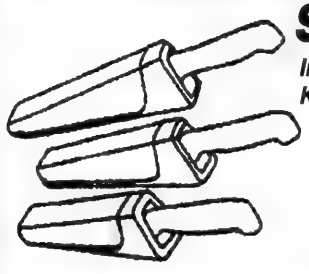
at the JCC/BJC

February luncheon, entertainment by **Lenka Lichtenberg**. Tuesday, Feb. 11, 12:30 p.m., BJC-Senior Adult Services. Tickets at information desk. 636-1880.

This coming Passover, perform a mitzvah. Community Integration Program, a joint program of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the Bathurst Jewish Centre, needs Canadian families to host recently arrived families from the former Soviet Union for either the first seder, Monday, April 21 or the second seder, Tuesday, April 22. Call the Seder Hotline 636-1880, ext. 261.

Wiltshire 3 piece Self Sharpening Staysharp Knife Set

Includes: 3" Paring Knife, 5" Utility Knife and 8" Carving Knife



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295 g
KELLOGG'S Nutri•Grain Cereal Bars 1.99

Assorted Varieties
9.1 – 85 g
JELL-O Jelly Powder 33¢

Assorted Varieties,
6 oz
STREIT'S Soup Mix 89¢

375 g
STREIT'S Egg Noodles 1.19

Plain, Buckwheat or Sesame
150 g
LA BISCOTTE Rice Cakes 89¢

Assorted Varieties,
70 g
TRADITION Cup A Noodle Soup 89¢

175 g
HADAR Tea Biscuits 65¢

Assorted Varieties,
400 g
BETTY CROCKER Snackin' Cake 99¢

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Canada No.1
P.E.I. Potatoes 99¢ 10 lb Bag

Product of U.S.A.
Fancy Grade
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FROM OUR DELICIOUS DELI

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PERL'S Wieners or Beef Knacker 3.99

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LIBBY'S Frozen Vegetables 1.79

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דיוויד-Shine

זהו סיפורו האותנטי של דיויד הלפגוט, ילד מחונן להורים פליטי שואה שהיגרו לאוסטרליה. האב החזיק את המשפחה ביד קצרה ובראש דאגותיו הייתה הצלחתו של דיויד בגניה בפסנתר . אולם כשהצליח הילד בגניה וניצח בתחרויות נוער באוסטרליה, ניסה האב למנוע ממנו מלגסוע לאנגליה לממש מלגה בקולג' המלכותי. הילד נסע למרות הכל אך התמוטטות נפשית וגופנית הביאה אותו חזרה לאוסטרליה לאשפוז במוסד ל- 20 שנה, תוך שמונעים ממנו נגינה מחשש שיחמיר מצבו. בדרך מקרה מזהה פסנתרנית חובבת את הגאון חצעיר במוסד ועוזרת לו להשתקם. אהבה של אישה בוגרת מחזירה אותו לאולם הקונצרטים. זהו סרט סנטימנטאלי שירגש אתכם עד דמעות. מבקר הסרטים של ה"גלוב אנד מייל" מצא אותו סנטימנטאלי מידי, אבל אתם תמצאו אותו מושלם! כי אתם ואני אוהבים סרטים עם רגש, לא כמו המבקר הדג מלוח האנגלי של ה"גלוב" שרגש מביך אותו כנראה. הסרט החזיר אותי לשאלה הכואבת: כמה נזק יכולים הורים לעשות לילד בשם מה שהם קוראים (ומאמינים) אהבה. יש בסרט קטעי נגינה בפסנתר שמוסרטים בצורה חסרת תקדים שתשאיר אתכם פעורי פה. כל המחמאות לבמאי סקוט היקס! סרט עשר בסולם קורן.

ריקוד של חתונות :

ידידי ד"ר אלן גולדבלום סיפר לי את הסיפור הזה במסדרון בית החולים: סבתא פותרת תשבץ ב"ידיעות אחרונות" ומבקשת עזרה מנכדה שלה: "מה זה ריקוד מסורתי שרוקדים הרבה בחתונות יהודיות?" הנכדה חושבת וחושבת ובסוף אומרת בשמחה: "אני יודעת סבתא, אני יודעת... מְקָרְנָה!"

תנועה אותנטית ואמת צרופה :

בת שבע מדווחת על להקה יפאנית שאסור להחמיץ ועל הרהורים בעקבות ההופעה:

הגוף -גופנו הינו איזכור לעצם חיינו על פני-האדמה. אך על-מנת שישרת אותנו נאמנה עלינו להיות קשובים לו תוך שמירת הזרימה שבין הגוף לנפש. זוכרת רגע של אינטואיציה, הארה, הבנה, או הכוונה פנימית שמובילה אותך בדרך הנכונה? שכולו היכולת להיות קשוב לסימנים אלה מתאפשר באימון יומיומי. יש הקשובים לכך באמצעות תפילה, שפה, צליל, אותיות וקצב. יש המתרגלים את גופם במשפטים תנועתיים המתבהרים תוך גלוי הקשר שבין גוף-מח-רגש.

לאחרונה ביקרה בעיר להקת התנועה היפאנית Sankal Juku עם הכוריאוגרף Amagatsu, ממובילי זרם המחול ה- Butoh . להקה זו מחברת את הצופה לאותה אמת צרופה המתגלה בהווה תוך כדי חיפוש מתמיד. בתהליך הדרגתי ואיטי חושפים הרקדנים משקל, חלל וזמן ועלמים. גבולות מיטשטשים ומתבהרים בו זמנית כשיחסים בין אדם לעצמו, לטבע ולזולתו מתגלים. עם סיום המופע מגלה הצופה את המעבר החד של חזרה למציאות בה זמן, חלל ומשקל ניתנים לשליטה ובירור כשהאדם אכן מודע למה שקורה לו. הייתה זו חגיגה לקהל שסירב לעזוב והמשיך לשבת המום, חוגג את התקווה של אדם חושב ומרגיש, שהשכיל לרתום את גופו בשירות האמת המחברת גוף ונפש.

על פֶּשֶׁר השירים :

נחום ממונטריאול (Nahum Ravel) טוען שהפירוש שלי לשיר של דליה רביקוביץ "שני איים מניו זילנד" מוטעה ושהיא לא מתכוונת לעזוב את ישראל. לדעת רוב אוהבי השירה אין דבר כזה לפרש נכון או לא נכון שיר. ימי בית הספר התיכון, שבו המורה היה אומר לנו "לְמה התכוון המשורר" חלפו. כל אחד מביא לשירים את עצמו ומוצא בהם את מה שהוא מוצא. זה לא תשבץ בחרוזים וגם לא משוואה ריבועית עם פיתרון נכון. בהחלט, רביקוביץ אומרת גם שתעזוב וגם שלא תעזוב. ומי מאיתנו לא רוצה פעמיים בשבוע לעזוב משהוא מישהוא איפהשהוא? וכמה מאיתנו באמת עוזבים? אבל שישאר בינינו.

Prague-born singer realizes dream in Canada

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Singer Lenka Lichtenberg came to Canada because she spoke English with an accent.

"I was studying music in Denmark. They told me I would never make it there because I spoke Danish with an accent; so I decided to head for Canada where I knew half the people have an accent," she says.

But further adventures awaited the Prague-born entertainer when she settled in Vancouver in 1982. She began to tire of her work as a piano player and singer in Vancouver bars and in lounges aboard Princess cruise ships plying the Caribbean. And then a visit to Israel in 1987 changed the course of her life irrevocably.

She decided she had strayed too far from her Jewish roots: "When I was growing up in Prague, we weren't allowed to say we were Jewish out in the open. You can imagine how this affected my mother who spent nearly three years in the Terezin camp, and only survived because as a girl of 13 she worked out in the fields and could get enough to eat."

After her Israel experience, however, Lichtenberg decided to switch to songs of the Jewish people in Yiddish, Hebrew and English. She hopes to record her own song *Child of Survivors* on an album in the spring.

She has already appeared at several concerts in Toronto, but took a break to attend a three-year course at York University leading to a degree in ethnomusicology. Lichtenberg was a familiar sight on the York campus, where she took her first daughter Hannah, then 3 years old, to class with her. Now she and her husband, Rubin Cohen, an Israeli-born chartered accountant, have two other children as well, Rachel, 4, and Benjamin, 2.

A mezzo-soprano, Lichtenberg speaks four languages, Czech, English, French and Danish, and understands a little Yiddish and Italian.

"My very next project is to learn Yiddish well enough to speak it," she says.

Her parents still live in Prague, where her mother, Jana Renee Friesova, directs a Jewish studies program at Charles University.

"The young Jewish people in Prague look upon her almost as a Messiah, she is bringing so much news about Jews to them," Lichtenberg says.

Lenka Lichtenberg

"BY GEORGE, I THINK SHE'S GOT IT"

Ryan Kraft, left, as Colonel Hugh Pickering and Joshua Freeman as Professor Henry Higgins listen intently while Rebecca Hager as Eliza Doolittle sings in the Grade 8 production of *My Fair Lady* at Associated Hebrew Schools. The curtain goes up Saturday night, Feb. 8, with two more performances Feb. 9 and a later one at Bloorview Children's Hospital. [Randy E. Spiegel photo]

JNF

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TU B'SHVAT TELEBLITZ
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1997

This year's celebration of Tu B'Shvat (The New Year of Trees) is very special as we celebrate the Centennial of the Zionist Movement — founded in Basle, Switzerland in 1897 by Theodor Herzl, thus initiating the move to Jewish Statehood and the role of the JNF in helping to build a strong, secure, beautiful and peaceful Israel.

Many volunteers, including the members of various Youth Movements in Toronto, will gather to conduct the telephone Teleblitz in a major effort to have as many trees as possible planted in Israel on this very special occasion. When you receive your telephone call, please be generous. Thank you in advance. If time does not permit and our volunteers do not call you this Sunday, or if you won't be home, please call us at the JNF office (416) 638-7200 to make your donation and to arrange for us to plant your trees in Israel.

HELP BUILD ISRAEL!
JNF — IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT TREES, IT'S ABOUT ROOTS!

Greater Toronto Area

Seniors programs flourish in downtown Toronto

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Seniors living in the downtown core can take advantage of a host of programs at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (BJCC) says the centre's seniors co-ordinator.

Judy Weinryb, who has developed programs for seniors at the BJCC says, "In today's ever changing multi-cultural society, there still exists a core of elderly Jews — some are isolated, frail men and women —who need social connections as well as services. The frail and healthier older adults are looking for stimulation and the chance to keep growing intellectually and culturally."

Weinryb said that Toronto Board of Education programs are offered, including exercise, bridge, knitting, pottery and current events.

"We invite members of the community to our weekly BJCC Seniors Club to enjoy many exciting programs. We celebrate holidays together and we address issues of concern and interest to seniors in general — lectures, musical programs films, parties and trips.

Fanny Brass (left) and Margaret Cohen-Tuteur of the Bloor JCC Seniors Club are seen attending a program.

"The BJCC would like to draw the socially isolated seniors to our programs and we have made outreach one of our goals," says Weinryb. The building has a ramp, is wheel chair accessible and there is an elevator.

She notes that in recent years, political and economic changes have had a tremendous impact on services for seniors.

"Part of our mandate as a senior's program is to provide the opportunity for our members to connect, not just on a social plane but to help them become knowledgeable and advocate for themselves and one another."

She adds that the social programs are important, particularly in stressful and confusing times. The program creates opportunities to build a sense of community among its members.

"And how nice it is to be there for the individual who would just like to talk, share a story or a special memory."

To get on the free mailing list, call Weinryb on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 416-924-6211.

Forum for boomers

TORONTO — Today's baby boomers are becoming the primary caregivers for different generations of relatives: children, grandchildren, parents and sometimes even grandparents.

Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim is holding a forum on what has come to be known as the sandwich generation. The event, called The Sandwich Generation: How Do you Slice It? will be held March 26 at 8 p.m. at the George Weston Recital Hall of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in North York.

Some of the topics to be covered will be balancing the dual roles of child care and elder care, the financial and emotional burdens.

For ticket prices and information, call Renee Wortzman, 416-443-0875.

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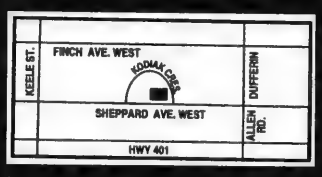

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Bronson's: Your bridal registry specialists

Bronson's China and Gifts has a well-earned reputation for service. Satisfied customers not only come back: they bring new customers, and recommend their favourite china and gift store to friends and family. For gifts they treasure years after the wedding, thousands of these customers have turned to Bronson's Bridal Registry.

Bronson's spacious Thornhill store opened in 1979. For better service to midtown customers and brides, a Lawrence Plaza location was added in 1996.

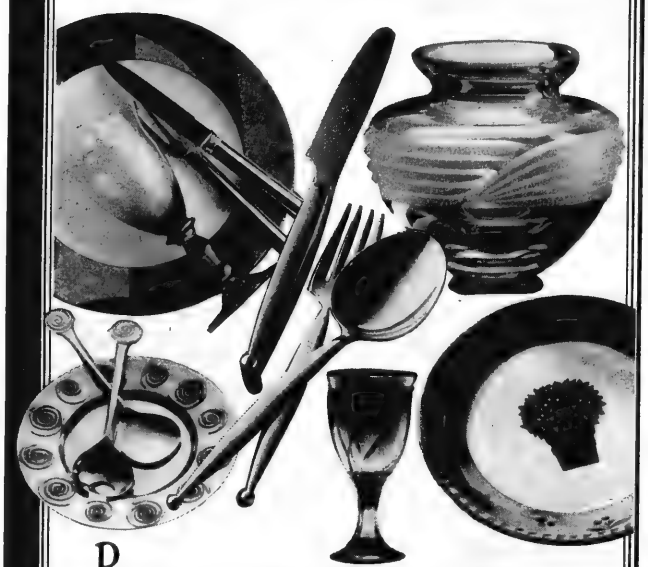
Offering a huge selection of quality china, dinnerware, flatware, stemware, kitchen items and giftware to match every budget and taste, Bronson's Bridal Registry is one of Canada's best. Contemporary and traditional patterns from around the world include name brands such as Rosenthal, Mikasa, Noritake, Wedgwood, Fitz & Floyd, Villeroy and Boch, and Royal Doulton, as well as unique hand-painted ceramic designs.

The atmosphere at Bronson's is relaxed; you and your guests are welcome to take your time choosing. Friendly, knowledgeable consultants will help you pick patterns and co-ordinate tabletops, so that your tableware enhances your new lifestyle.

Besides the best prices in gifts and china, Bronson's offers special services including gift wrapping, same-day delivery and telephone orders. Stock is constantly updated; and the inventory and Bridal Registry are computerized, so that service is prompt and your list stays up to date.

Bronson's Thornhill store, at **2 Steeles Ave. West**, is open Monday—Saturday 9:30—6, Thursday till 9, and Sunday 12 noon—5; phone **(905) 881-9930**. The Lawrence Plaza location is open Monday—Thursday 10—9, Friday and Saturday 10—6, and Sunday 12 noon—5; phone **(416) 256-9930**. For cross-Canada orders, call toll-free: **1-800-387-2766**.

The Bridal Registry at Bronson's



Bronson's free Bridal Registry makes it easy for friends and family to select a gift. Our helpful courteous bridal consultants will be pleased to guide you through our incredible selection of the latest china, flatware, stemware, and giftware. And all in a very relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

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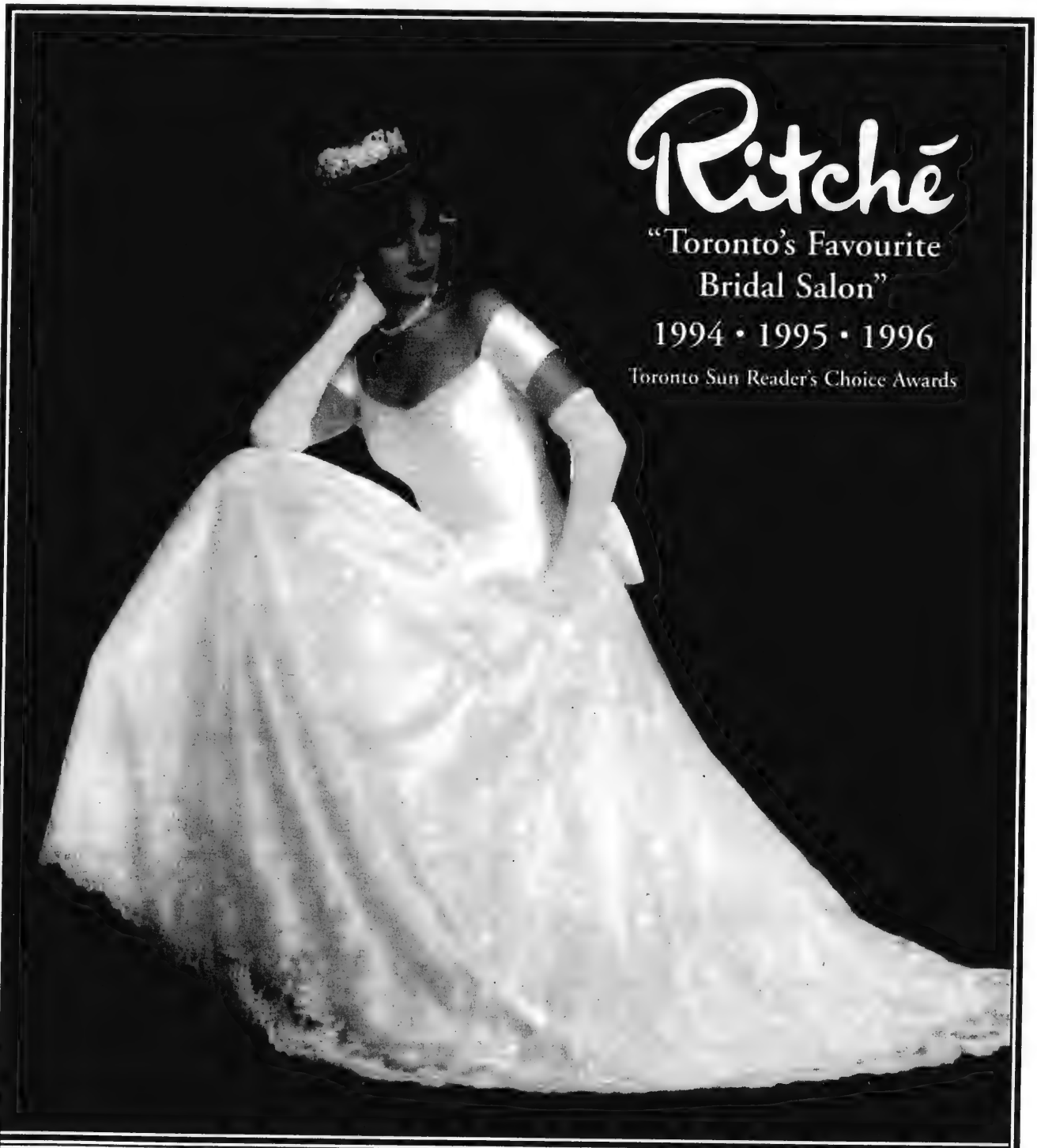

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National Bridal Show bigger and better than ever in '97

Brides and grooms-to-be can discover the magic of the **National Bridal Show**, Canada's first and foremost wedding planning showcase. The luxurious and spacious Automotive Building is host to over 300 exhibitors who will help couples plan their wedding every step of the way.

Couples can visit experts from all areas of the wedding industry and see new products and services, gather information and ideas, compare prices and services, and save time and leg-work! Visitors will enjoy the many large feature areas offering couples a chance to sample, touch and view a wide variety of choices available for every wedding budget.

Exhibitors from the greater Toronto area include: bridal salons, formal rentals, gown preservation, accessories, bonbonnières, cakes, consultants, decor, disc jockeys, financial planning, florists, gifts, housewares, china, beauty services, invitations, jewellers, limousines, live entertainment, photographers, publications, reception facilities, rentals and catering, travel, videographers, and more.

Daily fashion shows feature Toronto's top designers and retailers, including The Bay Bridal Boutique, Studio A, Marquessa, Something Blue, Maria Couturier Bridals, Ellis Bridal Boutique, Big, Bold & Beautiful, Atelier Inès Gordi, Wedding House, Amandalina's, Myriad Limited, Freeman Formalwear, Tuxedo Royale, Syd Silver, and Andrew's Formal Rentals.

Visitors to the show can enter the National Bridal Show Grand Prize Draw for a chance to win a romantic seven night, all inclusive honeymoon to the Renaissance Jamaica Grande Resort, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, courtesy of The Last Minute Club and Sunquest.

The National Bridal Show runs February 7—9 at the Automotive Building, Exhibition Place. Show hours are: Friday 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Admission is $8.00. For further information call (905) 881-5708 or visit their website at www.oak.net/shobiz.

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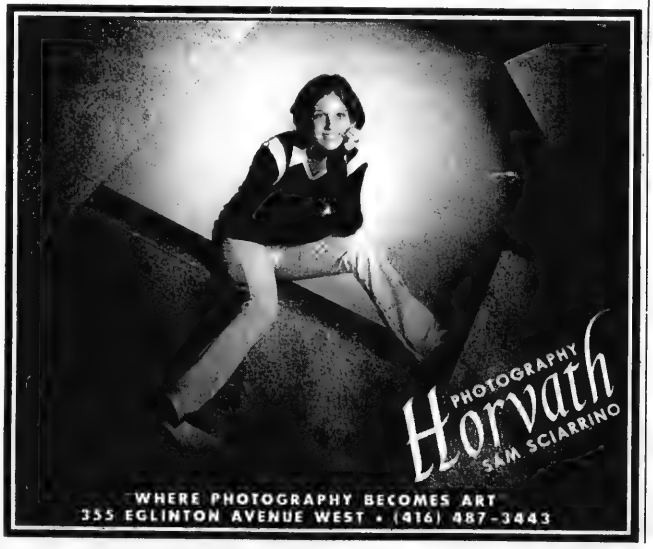

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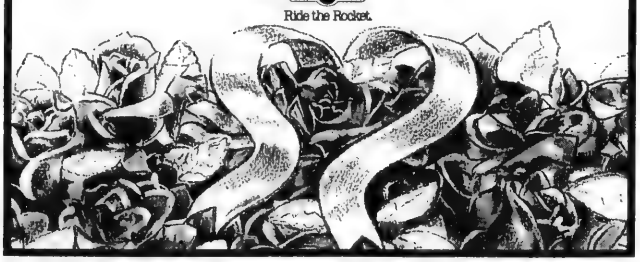

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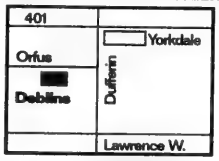

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The Creative Approach to Bridal Registry

These days, most engaged couples register for gifts. It's a direct way to communicate your preferences. You may not have thought of this, however you can also register for original works of art!

A Show of Hands is a contemporary craft gallery offering truly exceptional one of a kind pieces from hand blown glass, to ceramics, magnificent Judaica to jewellery. They specialize in alternative registries and corporate gifts. *What is an alternative registry?* Gallery director Sara Levine-Petroff explains, "It's a wish list. It either augments a conventional registry, or is chosen in lieu of it. People register for many different reasons; engagements, housewarmings, birthdays, anniversaries, or bar and bat mitzvahs. Today, many couples are getting married after establishing their careers. They may already have the household basics such as cookware and dishes, and are looking for special pieces to accent their homes. Original, signed works that reflect their lifestyle."

When asked about the trend of today's choices in craft works, Sara notes, "It's a marriage between form and function. People are looking for functional craft pieces that can be used when entertaining. Many of the contemporary Judaic artworks such as menorahs and sedar plates are left on display all year round in our clients homes."

A Show of Hands has a truly inspired range of attendants' gifts, and can accommodate personalized commissioned works. Information on the artist is included with every signed piece. When registering, you are extended a **10% discount** on all attendants' gifts.

After 13 years, **A Show of Hands Contemporary Craft Gallery** has become known as *the* choice destination for unique, inspirational gifts. If you have never been to the gallery, be sure to stop in before you consider registering anywhere.

Location: **1947 Avenue Road**, at Felbrigg, 5 blocks south of Wilson. Gallery hours are 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

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With 4 ballrooms, Premiere can accommodate from 50—1,500 guests. There is an intimate room for gatherings of 50—80; others are ideal for 150, 200 or 300. What's more, you can combine these rooms in various sizes and shapes, custom-tailoring the setting for your event. There are also bridal salons with private washrooms.

Premiere Ballroom is elegant, with a touch of grandeur: 25' ceilings, crystal chandeliers, and marbled fountains with cascading waterfalls. To compliment your theme, we supply silk florals and planters. Our computerized lighting, preset to change according to time, serves both as a signal to your guests, and a means of changing the atmosphere.

Enjoyable for their own appearance, Premiere's ballrooms are excellent settings for photography. Two have wide windows with outdoor views, so that the natural beauty of a sunset may enhance the joy of your celebration.

With over 20 years experience, Premiere sets top standards for food quality and presentation. Our accredited chef and staff have a flair for continental and international delicacies, and will customize menus to match every taste and occcasion. Kosher catering can be arranged.

Dinners are served French-style, with 2 waiters for every 3 tables. Full-length tablecloths are standard at every dinner, and white-glove service is provided on request. Premiere's professional catering consultants keep in touch with you on an ongoing basis; and the owners are present at every function to ensure that everything goes as planned.

Premiere Ballroom is conveniently located at **9019 Leslie St.**, north of Hwy. #7, with easy access from Hwys. #404 and #407. There is ample parking, with 250 spots on Premiere property and 500 in adjacent lots.

Our best recommendations are the many referrals from happy clients, which are available on request. To arrange an appointment and tour, call our consultants Tony Panacci or Cindy Matlow: (905) 709-1759.

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Since Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre opened its Kosher kitchen 5 years ago, it has doubled its business each year — bringing you the ultimate in delicious food, with service and ambience to match.

Award-winning Chef Gregory is an experienced international chef, with a talent for inventing exquisite dishes with unique tastes. Among Chef Gregory's recent creations are: Fusile Primavera, a flavourful 3-colour pasta with a julienne of fresh vegetables in a tomato sauce seasoned with garlic and fresh basil; and Chicken Saté, skewers of barbequed chunks of succulent boneless chicken marinated in a sauce made with fresh garlic, ginger, coriander and lime. Let the expertise of Gregory and staff tantalize your palate; the above are but a few choices. Paradise also offers unsurpassed Israeli, Russian, Moroccan, and Middle Eastern specialties as well as Italian and Chinese theme buffets.

Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre is a family business with a 32-year tradition of personal service. All servers are dressed in tuxedos and white gloves, are 20 years of age or over and are professionally trained to the highest standards. Food is both delicious and abundant and seconds are offered on every course. All packages are at the best competitive prices.

To continue this trend, Paradise is celebrating its first five years with a 5th Anniversary "Added Value Package" for upcoming weddings, bar & bat mitzvahs. This offer is available for a limited time only.

Paradise features five rooms, each with a different atmosphere, to seat as few as 20 or as many as 1500. Canada's award-winning designers "2 By 4" have created the decor, featuring unique wall painting techniques, and items such as hand-carved sandblasted backlit 1/2" glass as backdrop for one head table. Each lobby has imported Italian granite; there are lovely interior fountains and custom-made brass tube chandeliers. All in all, it's the ideal setting for your special function, whether personal or corporate.

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- 40% off Disc Jockey package

You, the client, always come first. "Don't take our word for it," urges Vice-President Joseph Pandolfo. "Let us prove it, by offering you a complimentary Kosher dinner before you even book with us. Let the final judge be the client, not the salesperson."

"We thank all our existing clients for their support over the past 5 years, and look forward to their continued patronage" says Joseph — and invites you to let Paradise be the host of your next celebration. Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre is Glatt Kosher, under the strict supervision of the Vaad Hakashruth.

Paradise, located at 7601 Jane St. in Concord, is conveniently close to Hwys. #400 and #7. Call Meir Osipov, Yolanda, Laurie, Gerry or Cathy at (416) 661-6612.

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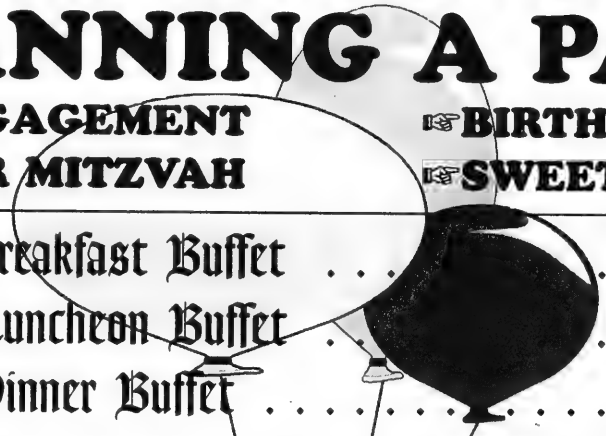
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Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto hosts wedding parties of 40 to 180 people, starting at $80.00 per guest, plus gratuity and taxes.

When you book your function at this marvelously mid-sized downtown hotel, which offers self parking after 6 p.m. for all guests of the bridal party, you'll find something special in store for both bride and groom.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a one-hour cocktail reception featuring complimentary piano player, open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This is followed by an elegant four-course dinner with imported wine, and sparkling wine afterwards for toasts. There is a four-hour host bar after dinner, and coffee and tea service at midnight.

Also, the bride and groom receive one free room on the wedding night for every $1,000 spent, to a maximum of five nights. For example, if there are 70 guests at $80 each, totalling $5,600, there would be five complimentary rooms for the bride and groom to offer family and friends. (These figures do not include taxes and gratuity.)

Rates start at $179 for a single or double room, with special rates during the slow season. When they arrive on their wedding night, the bride and groom receive a complimentary suite and chilled champagne. Before setting out next morning on their honeymoon, they are served a continental breakfast (sliced fruit, Danish pastry, croissants and coffee).

If you wish, Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will be pleased to organize every aspect of your wedding within the domain of the hotel, from flowers to entertainment. The catering manager will attend to every detail to ensure all goes smoothly. This level of service is in keeping with Hotel Inter-Continental's profile: it's a "boutique hotel" for individual business travellers, families, intimates and small groups (and possibly a celebrity or two in search of privacy and quiet).

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto is located at 220 Bloor Street West, just west of Avenue Road, across from the Royal Conservatory of Music. For more information, ask for the catering manager at **(416) 960-5200**.

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For over 10 years, the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel has been the location of choice for hundreds of happy couples who want a luxurious alternative to a synagogue wedding.

"Many brides and grooms decide they want a traditional kosher wedding, but in a location other than a synagogue," says Carin Robertson, Director of Catering Sales for the Sheraton Centre Hotel. "The Sheraton Centre is an elegant, unique choice."

"Combine our dedicated kosher kitchen with our award-winning level of personal service, add your choice of recently-renovated function rooms and top off with our ideal location in the heart of downtown Toronto, and you've got a recipe for success. We've been hosting kosher events ... from weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, cocktail parties, through to conventions, and gala evenings,... since 1985, every day of the week" (excluding the Sabbath).

The Sheraton Centre Toronto has a completely separate kosher kitchen, complete with its own china and flatware, strictly supervised by the Kashruth Council of Ontario. "The Kashruth Council's Mashgiach has the keys to our kosher kitchen, and is present during all preparations and for each and every affair," says Robertson. "So, it's not necessary to make the regular kitchen kosher each time."

The experienced and talented chefs offer creative and flexible menus to suit any taste. Both the kitchen and the serving staffs are accustomed to dealing with kosher affairs, and can easily and professionally handle any concern their clients may have.

Executive Chef Heinz Wagner has been with the hotel since the inception of the kosher cooking services. A past president of the Escoffier Club, an association of Toronto executive chefs, Wagner has been instrumental in creating exciting kosher cuisine in the city.

It should not be thought that the Sheraton is only for a grand wedding. Facilities and services are available to serve affairs of 200 people, to those of 2,000 people.

"We have facilities," comments Carin Robertson, "to fully service a kosher wedding, including being able to offer separate rooms for the signing of the contract, the ceremony, and the reception."

Indeed, and for those couples who request an outdoor Chupah, the Sheraton Centre Hotel has the perfect place: 2.5 acres of outdoor gardens, complete with waterfalls, right in the midst of the hotel. It is also a spectacular setting for portraits and family photographs!

"No matter whether your plans call for something extremely formal, or more relaxed, our team of Catering experts will ensure your wedding day is picture-perfect," states Robertson.

Out-of-town guests will enjoy the Sheraton Centre's convenient location, connected to City Hall parking, steps from exciting shopping, theatre and sightseeing. Kosher meals are also available through room service.

Personalized service, talented, experienced staff, your choice of facilities. An award-winning hotel with a dedicated kosher kitchen, located in the heart of downtown. No wonder the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel has been the alternative of choice to synagogue weddings for over 10 years.

For more information, contact Carin Robertson directly at (416) 947-4896.

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— Stan & Sue Freedman

"As a wedding co-ordinator who has worked with Stuart on numerous occasions, I highly recommend his services. He is professional, efficient and most important, he is fun to work with. That is why I chose him as my photographer when I got married."

— Nina Linder & Douglas Hoffer

"A photographer can make or break your wedding day. Stuart made ours. Capturing the sheer joy we all felt, on film forever. The problem we encountered was actually deciding which of the photographs we liked the best. Every shot was a winner."

— Sara Levine Petroff & Steven Petroff

"We have used Stuart Moscoe on many occasions for weddings and family portraits. He was always easy to deal with, and the quality of his work is excellent. We would not hesitate to recommend him when quality work is required."

— Elaine & Jerry Cooper

"Stuart Moscoe was easy to work with and very comforting on our hectic wedding day. The work he produced was highly creative, and the quality was excellent. We were thrilled, and we have referred him to many of our friends."

— Jason & Stacey Cloth

"We get raves for the pictures Stuart did for our son's wedding. Everybody loves them, and they ask who the photographer is."

— Jerry & Karen Papernick

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You see it first not in the clothing, but in the cloth. Once inside the door of Stavros Theodoropoulos' shop, bolts of fine English and Italian fabric beckon from rosewood shelves that shimmer with a muted gloss. "This," you decide, "is a special place. If they care how uncut fabric looks, they must care even more about the finished suit."

STAVROS
MASTER TAILOR & SHIRTMAKER

Upstairs, you find Stavros himself. Here are his office and fitting room — and the workroom where several employees, silent but for the click of needle on thimble, sit absorbed in their work. "Each tailor has a specialty, like pockets or lapels," Stavros explains; "but each can make a whole suit too. The hardest jobs, though, like basting an armhole, I do myself."

Nothing leaves the shop without passing Stavros' personal inspection

Stavros started apprenticing in his native Greece at age 14, and was making suits by 21. He moved to Canada in 1959 and started a partnership; but in 1966, homesick, he returned to Athens and opened a shop. He did well, becoming tailor to the Greek Royal Family, until the 1967 coup; and in 1969 he returned to Toronto, to make or break it.

Twenty-seven years later, with a distinguished clientele from across the globe, it's fair to say he has "made it." Each year, he still receives a card from King Constantine. Celebrities such as Red Buttons, Mr. T, Jerry Lewis and Crocodile Dundee wear his suits; his regular customers include the Bay Street crowd, and men and women who fly in from San Francisco and numerous other American cities for his exquisitely tailored garments.

"After 20 years," Stavros asserts confidently, "the suit I make you will look as good as the day you first wear it. And if something wrecks it — say, a bad cleaning job — I can restore it to look like new."

Stavros' shop makes 600 suits a year; each takes four fittings and 32 hours. Except for a few ancient sewing machines, everything is done by hand; and nothing leaves the shop without passing his personal inspection.

The only thing that saddens Stavros, as he looks back, is the thought of having no successor. The old-fashioned master tailor is a dying breed; his own tailors are ageing; and there is little interest in the apprentice programs that would keep the craft alive. This man, who has elevated fine tailoring to an art form, brings new meaning to the phrase "it's lonely at the top."

Even with quality material and design, mass production can merely mimic, but not duplicate, the work of an artist. You were not made by computers; how can a computer make a suit that matches your uniqueness?

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The dying art of master tailoring flourishes in Stavros' shop

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-The Park Plaza Hotel — Elegant Ambience for your Wedding

Elegantly nestled in midtown, a stone's throw from Queen's Park and adjacent to fashionable Bloor St. and Yorkville shopping, the Park Plaza Hotel boasts a 60-year tradition of successful functions. Engagement and rehearsal parties, weddings, anniversaries, bar or bat mitzvahs and a myriad of other social occasions have been enjoyed within its hallowed halls. A visit gives considerable insight into how the tradition grew.

Permanent Kosher kitchen

Sumptuous but low-key, its rich but subtle colors highlighted by gleaming brass fittings, the Park Plaza's European-style ambience suggests a blend of joy and decorum that one would associate with a wedding. The service, attentive yet unobtrusive, manifests a corresponding adherence to high standards and attention to detail. This year, to bring this living tradition into the next century, the Hotel is enjoying an extensive facelift.

In 1987, the Park Plaza opened its permanent Kosher kitchen. Since then, the Hotel has made a specialty of fine Kosher cuisine and catering, for events ranging in size from an intimate 30 to a gala 300.

Catering manager Don MacDiarmid, Catering Sales Manager Carole Dekoker, and Executive Chef Joan Monfaredi are a hands-on team who take direct responsibility for every facet of every Kosher event, from reserving the ballroom to adding the final touch to a special entrée. At the Park Plaza, you are in the capable, careful hands of experts who consult you at every stage, while relieving you of much of the pressure so that you can enjoy your special occasion.

The Park Plaza Hotel will host your wedding ceremony, as well as reception, dinner and dance. For an event with 30 to 60 guests, Mr. MacDiarmid especially recommends the spacious yet intimate **Roof Salon,** one of Toronto's most romantic downtown settings with a sweeping panoramic view of the city.

The Park Plaza Hotel offers you inclusive wedding packages covering everything from flowers to chuppah to dinner. Also, there are special room rates for your out-of-town guests.

The Park Plaza Hotel is located at the northwest corner of Bloor and Avenue Road, close to parking and the subway. For further information, call Don MacDiarmid at (416) 924-5471, extension 1572. The manifold benefits of a Park Plaza function are yours to enjoy.

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Beth Emeth and Zuchter Berk Caterers: "A perfect wedding package"

Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue have been one of the most sought after kosher caterers in Toronto for 40 years,. They are well known for creating quality foods with special attention given to detail and presentation, along with a dedication to providing the superior service required to make your wedding impressive, memorable, and hassle-free.

The facilities at Beth Emeth lend themselves to a ceremony, cocktail hour, and dinner or luncheon reception, that flow naturally as your special day progresses. Beth Emeth Synagogue is completely accessible from the oversized Wilmington St. parking lot, or Elder St. entrance, into the chandeliered beautiful foyer where your guests are met with complimentary coat checking, linen dressed table with seating cards, and a warm and comfortable sanctuary or chapel setting in which to share your very special wedding ceremony.

A carpeted and mirrored bride's room is provided for only you, equipped with sofa and seating as well as your own private washroom and closet.

The elegant Fischtein Hall, located on the main level, just behind the sanctuary, can accommodate wedding parties of 150 to 450 people, including a large dance floor and raised stage for musicians. Upstairs (accessible by elevator or grand stairway) is a very pretty room, the Arback Hall, accommodating up to 150 people with full kitchen facilities.

Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers (Lorraine and David Berk), along with banquet manager Tim Nolin, have taken it upon themselves to personalize your event, creating your party and accommodating your budget.

Catering at Beth Emeth includes all linens, table set-up, and refreshments for the wedding party during your photography session.

For a more formal wedding, Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers are able to arrange for rentals of specialty linens and beautiful chair covers to enhance the ambiance of your wedding day.

Wedding package prices have been re-evaluated and are now presented with an all-inclusive price so that the price you see is all that you pay — no extras.

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue is also a perfect setting for engagement parties, bridal showers, and offruffs.

Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers also cater in your home for Friday night dinners, cocktail receptions, and brunches to accommodate your "out-of-towners".

To book a function at Beth Emeth please call the Synagogue office, 100 Elder St., (416) 633-3838.

Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers can be reached at their office, 1600 Steeles Ave. W., Ste. 227, (905) 738-6880.

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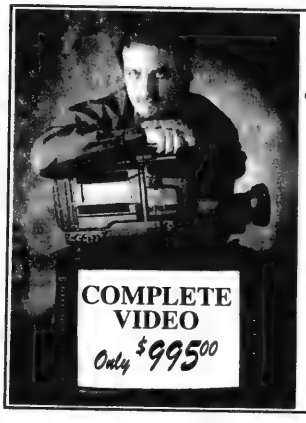
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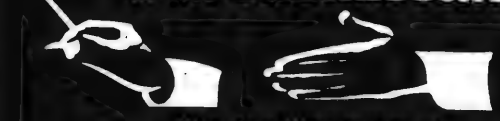

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When the day for your wedding comes, you want to be relaxed enough to enjoy time with your guests; but in order to relax, you have to be sure all the details of the entertainment are taken care of. That's why you should talk to Ed McMurtry at Mr. Disc Jockey.

A pioneer in total-entertainment packages, with 17 years experience, McMurtry has made Mr. Disc Jockey into the elite of his profession, for those who want the best. "I welcome clients with high expectations," he says confidently.

At weddings, McMurtry observes, the bride and groom rely on the maitre d' and event co-ordinator to run things smoothly — or, if there is no event co-ordinator, the disc jockey. Music pervades a wedding: ambient sound for the reception, relaxing dinner-and-conversation background, and of course dance music; and a good disc jockey integrates what he plays with what's going on at the time.

Mr. Disc Jockey is built on planning and team spirit. In regular workshops, McMurtry and his team carefully rehearse everything from the wording of an introduction to how to operate new equipment. They back each other up, and work well with live singers, musicians and other professionals, so that elements as diverse as decor and music will harmonize.

Mr. Disc Jockey pays close attention to your wishes, relieving you of the pressure to look after every detail. McMurtry and his team see to everything from lighting to logistics — whether it's signalling you that it's time to go in to dinner, or helping a guest find misplaced car keys.

McMurtry, who has worked at many weddings and bar mitzvahs, has noticed how the words we use mirror the differences between them. A wedding is always called a wedding, emphasizing the ceremony. A bar mitzvah, however, is often called a simcha: special, uniquely Jewish, but with the emphasis on celebration.

At a bar mitzvah, rambunctiousness and special effects are appropriate. After all, the "star", the bar mitzvah boy, is 13 years old; and the DJ is often his "co-star", aiding and abetting him, making sure the entertainment matches the age of the chief participant, and at the same time keeping the high jinks within limits.

Joyous as a wedding is, it has a solemnity in keeping with a lifetime commitment made by two adults. Elegance and etiquette matter more, much as they do at a gala theatrical event; decor and decorum go hand in hand. McMurtry and his team wear tuxedos, not sequined vests; and his performance as a disc jockey is dignified and low-key.

McMurtry knows how to create ambient sound which has volume without loudness; you can feel the music on the dance floor, and converse at your table. Mr. Disc Jockey has a repertoire of thousands of selections, to meet every possible request from old standards to the latest club tunes.

Mr. Disc Jockey is also adept at making the smooth segue from live performers to CD's and back; in answering requests, for example, the disc jockey might play CD's with the latest hits, while the band plays the standards. Music also calls on McMurtry's talents as a diplomat, when someone requests a song the bride or groom has designated a no-no. "Usually," says McMurtry, "the hosts are accommodating: they want their guests to have a good time."

Of course, this is the ultimate test of any celebration, and of Mr. Disc Jockey. "At a wedding," says McMurtry, "the measure of success is simple: do your guests stay as late as they can, till 1 a.m. or later?" Satisfied clients will tell you that Mr. Disc Jockey lives up to this standard; but don't take anyone's word for it. Find out for yourself: call Ed McMurtry at Mr. Disc Jockey: (905) 737-8670.

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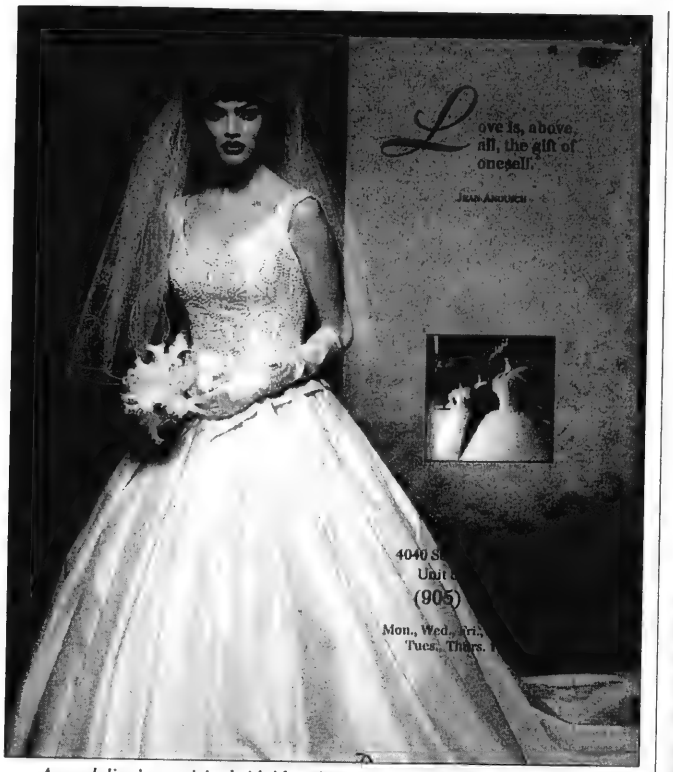

Amandalina's exquisite bridal brochure vividly illustrates the quality of their gowns as well as their ethos

Your first impression on entering **Amandalina's** magnificent bridal salon is twofold: spaciousness and color. The showroom is wide, the ceiling high; on the main level, soft overhead lighting shows to full advantage the warm reds, blues and greens of women's cocktail dresses and suits.

A curved staircase rises to the mezzanine, where a wide array of bridal gowns unfolds before your eyes, in every style from austere to opulent. This welcoming space is white with touches of cream; the lamps are bright but gentle; and deep skylights let in diffuse light from above. There are leather sofas and lounge chairs to relax on; the dressing rooms are comfortably large.

Amandalina's is about love. In a world where many people think it's chic to be cynical, partners Sam Pollari and his wife Rachelle are romantics, and proud of it. Each page of their bridal brochure features a romantic gown, accompanied by an aphorism in praise of some aspect of true love.

Sam and Rachelle offer quality bridal gowns at moderate prices, as well as evening gowns and women's apparel for special occasions. They carry a wide selection for the mother of the bride, and count many mother-and-daughter duos among their customers.

Bridal gowns range from $600 to $6,000; a wedding gown for a moderate budget, says Sam, runs about $1,500. Amandalina's carries many popular North American designer lines, and serves both the professional woman and the traditional homemaker.

Since opening in 1995, Amandalina's blend of romanticism and a good sense of customer taste has proven to be a winning formula. (It helps, of course, that Sam has 16 years' business experience, and that Rachelle is an experienced designer.)

In this era of rapid change, there are still some trends you can trust. Bridal fashions, for bridesmaids' wear as well as bridal gowns, tend to stay in vogue for a year or longer.

The "greening" of special occasion wear

This year, says Sam, one popular color for special-occasion wear has been *greenwood*, a shade with the lustre of Kelly green and the depth of the color of fresh pine needles. He also sees a long-term trend in favor of black evening wear. While colors aren't "out", they're not as much "in" as they were, either.

"Black has longevity," he explains, "you can wear it anywhere." Even to a wedding? Yes; if this is the colour that brings out the best in a woman — and she knows it — there should be absolutely no impediment to her wearing it.

Also, Sam observes, brides are becoming more sophisticated and demanding. We are all more visually sophisticated than ten or even five years ago, and less ruled by convention.

Another factor which influences demand is that brides are more mature. Many women today spend several years in a career before they marry; and in these years, they learn independence of mind, certainty about what they want, and greater sophistication.

Amandalina's staff are not merely salespeople, but bridal consultants. Joyful as it is, a wedding is also a time of stress; and the staff see it as their responsibility to relieve that stress for you. From your first visit until the day you take your gown home, Amandalina's offers you not just the gown as product, but the service that goes along with it.

Amandalina's gives you the personal attention that goes with shopping by appointment, but without the pressure; when coming on an evening or Saturday, appointments are recommended. Feel free to touch the fabrics, too: "part of feeling comfortable with fine silks and satins," says Sam, "is to run them through your fingers; and you shouldn't need to wait until your wedding day to do it."

Alterations are done on the premises. You should order three to eight months in advance, depending on the gown's origin; a European design, for example, will take longer to order in.

Once your gown has arrived, there are two fittings, the pinning and the final fitting; so allow four to six weeks for alterations, depending on the season. The bride, says Sam, usually wants to take the gown home one to two weeks before the wedding.

Amandalina's is at 4040 Steeles Ave. West, just west of Weston Road, in the "Bridal Plaza". Look for the "4040" sign on the north side. Feel free to drop in, or make an appointment, whichever you prefer. Sam suggests, however, that if you're coming on an evening or Saturday, you call first: 905-856-8680.

The latest styles, wonderful service, a relaxed environment, and sharp prices: at Amandalina's it's entirely practical to be incurably romantic.

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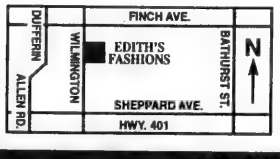

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From coast to coast

Is *The X-Files'* David Duchovny Jewish?

The truth is out there...

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — I kept hearing rumors that David Duchovny (alias Fox Mulder), the leading actor on the hit television series *The X-Files*, was Jewish. Were these rumors fabricated to confuse the public or were they true? I wasn't quite sure, so I made up my mind to investigate.

Guest Voices

I decided to infiltrate the set of *The X-Files* as an "X-tra." I had the perfect cover. I had heard from reliable sources that *The X-Files* was shooting an episode in a Vancouver park where the extras had to don chassidic garb. What could be easier than playing that kind of part? After all, I am a Jew.

On the way to the shoot, I met a production assistant who informed me that David was half Jewish. But I wasn't sure which half. Well, at least it was a start.

I was transformed into a chassidic Jew, with *payot*, a long black coat and a bushy black beard which in all honesty made me look more like a Hutterite than a chassidic Jew. Oh well, I hoped, maybe no one would notice. I would have to make the best of it.

I made my way back to the holding tent where all my fellow extras were assembled. With dozens of us cloaked in traditional chassidic dress, the tent was beginning to resemble a yeshivah in a *shtetl*. It felt like we should have been discussing Talmud instead of talking about mundane secular matters like when lunch was going to be served.

I spoke with some of my fellow "Chassidim" before we went out to the set and asked them a lot of questions about the previous week's shooting, which I had not been a part of. Some of the scenes were set in a makeshift synagogue and apparently, Duchovny and Gillian Anderson, his co-star (Special Agent Dana Scully on the program), were both there.

"Did you get a good glimpse of Duchovny?" I asked hopefully.

When they replied in the affirmative, I followed up with, "So, nu, did he look Jewish?" Unfortunately, I couldn't get a definitive answer.

At least I didn't have to investigate whether Anderson was Jewish. With a name like that, the chances were pretty slim. But then again, I was recently informed by a reliable source (a rabbi, no less) that pop singer Olivia Newton John is Jewish. But the odds were a lot better that Duchovny was Jewish. And so my investigation continued.

We were called out to the set and Duchovny was nowhere to be found. Instead, David Groh, an actor who performed with Valerie Harper on the '70s hit television series *Rhoda*, was there. "Is he Jewish?" I wondered. But I let the thought pass. I had bigger fish to fry.

The shooting for the scene was about to begin. Queen Elizabeth Park in Vancouver was transformed into a Jewish cemetery for the day. It was quite a sight to see: dozens of makeshift Chassidim huddled around a makeshift grave in a makeshift Jewish cemetery in the middle of a Vancouver park. There were fake tombstones bearing unlikely names like David Smith and Lily Tippet. The only thing real in the entire park were the birds and the trees (at least I think they were real).

So, all of us fake Chassidim gathered around the grave of a fake corpse (at least I hope it was a fake corpse) ready to say the mourner's Kaddish with a rabbi (who was not a fake).

I took my place at the graveside and had a pretty good spot to monitor the proceedings, until the director decided to replace me with another extra. Do you think he suspected something? I wonder if he knew anything about my investigation. Who could have tipped him off? I was beginning to feel paranoid. How appropriate!

Dating Winona Ryder

As the day wore on, I continually heard rumors that Duchovny was Jewish. A woman who had acted as a religious and cultural advisor on the set (she was a teacher at a local synagogue) had a good close-up look at Duchovny at an earlier shooting, and got the impression after speaking to him that he was Jewish. And one of the hairdressers on the set (who also happened to be Jewish) claimed that not only was Duchovny Jewish, but that he was dating Winona Ryder, a nice Jewish girl and a very talented actress.

Since Duchovny was not going to make an appearance on the set, I was going to have to let it go at that. If a hairdresser claims Duchovny is Jewish, why should I doubt it? I mean, since taxi and limo drivers know more about the inner workings of government than anyone else, why shouldn't a hairdresser on the set of *The X-Files* know all the comings and going on the show? It seemed quite logical to me. So, I decided to take his word for it.

Anyway, my beard was beginning to itch. It's not easy being a chassidic Jew, even for a day. I had my *payot* and beard removed and resumed my life as an ordinary, non-chassidic Jew. And I brought my investigation to a close with a firm suspicion that Duchovny is Jewish, but with no conclusive evidence (like bar mitzvah pictures for example or witnesses from his *brit*) to confirm my suspicion.

It's almost like believing that extraterrestrials exist but not having any firm evidence. Well, not quite. Anyway, I'll just have to do some more investigating. But I'm sure that if I keep looking, I'll find that the "truth is out there."

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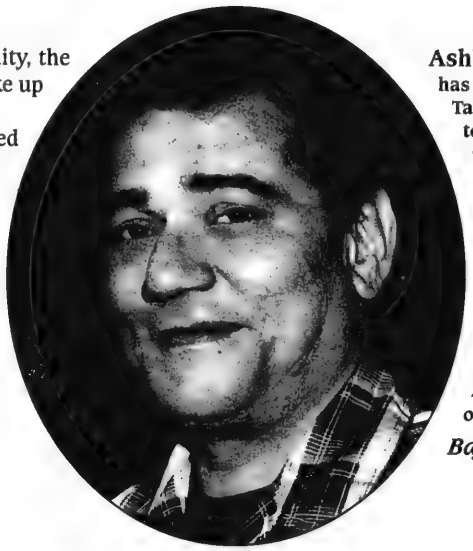

Ashley Fitzgerald
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Jewish student leaders meet in Waterloo

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

WATERLOO, Ont. — About 45 Jewish student leaders from 10 Ontario university campuses convened here over a recent weekend to address common issues and renew their enthusiasm at the annual Council of University Presidents (CUP) conference coordinated by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

Shabbat was spent at Kitchener's Beth Jacob Congregation and Sunday at Wilfrid Laurier University. In addition to Laurier, participating campuses were McMaster University, Queen's University, Ryerson Polytechnic University, Trent University, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, University of Western Ontario and University of Windsor.

Guest speakers included Eli Rubinstein of United Israel Appeal as well as *shlichim* Yehuda Marle of Hashomer Hatzair and Shula Ofir of Habonim Dror.

Fourth-year student Heath Applebaum, president and founder three years ago of the Jewish Students Association at Laurier, co-ran a session about Jewish religious pluralism on campus.

"Pluralism is a big issue," said Applebaum. "You have a varied student population." Finding programs that suit both observant and non-observant students is a challenge, he added.

"The important things that came out of the conference were effective programming on campus and how it's important to bring in kids from all [Jewish] denominations," said Jennifer Turack, conference coordinator and director of community services and youth activities at CJC, Ontario region.

"How to recruit more students, get them more involved and get them to take leadership roles is a problem for smaller campuses. I definitely got a sense that they'd be taking things back, and they know they can turn to each other for different ideas."

A number of inter-campus events were discussed and participants extended invitations to other campuses for upcoming events such as a Shabbaton in Guelph and a semi-formal in Hamilton.

To facilitate further interaction, a province-wide test-run Internet meeting was scheduled for Jan. 27. The hook-up is part of a recent Council of Jewish Federations initiative known as the RISE program. The acronym stands for regional interstudent engagement and is also expected to establish program banks for the use of campus leadership.

"I thought the conference was a great opportunity to be with other student leaders," said Jocelyn Heisel, president of the small but active Hillel at Queen's. "It's always sort of empowering to be with other students who have similar interests and are striving toward the same things."

Carly Steinman, president of the Jewish Students Association at McMaster, returned from the conference with "a more heightened awareness of the kind of leader I am, what I do well and what I should watch out for."

Participants compared notes on programming at their respective campuses, said Heisel. Particularly useful were analyses of programs that worked on one campus but not on another, she noted.

"We all came back energized. This week I've been spending more time on JSU than on my homework," said Elana Lavine, vice-president of Western's Jewish Students' Union. Lavine was one of four representatives of the London, Ont. campus.

"We need conferences like this to motivate us, to learn from each other's mistakes and to learn there are other people like us out there. I think most of us have a real passionate feel for Judaism. [We] have to inject that kind of passion into others to make sure they continue this effort," said Applebaum.

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From coast to coast

Alleged war criminal dies

ABy MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Just a few hours after a federal immigration adjudicator opened an inquiry into the proposed deportation of alleged Nazi war criminal Antanas Kenstavicius on Jan. 22, Kenstavicius died of cancer.

Justice Department officials here who were to prosecute the case had been advised earlier that Kenstavicius did not have long to live, and defence lawyers had asked for deferral of the case.

The adjudicator noted that a medical report had shown some time ago that the accused had only a few weeks, but said that as long as Kenstavicius was still alive, the inquiry would proceed and he adjourned it until mid-February to gain time to study documents submitted by government lawyers.

Morris Soronow, counsel at the hearing for Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, told *The CJN* that Kenstavicius' death "proves how little time we have left to deal with the several other Nazi suspects who live in Canada."

According to Justice Department lawyers, Kenstavicius was a deputy police chief and then police chief of the Svencionys and Trakai districts of Lithuania from 1941 to 1944.

In September 1941, he supervised the roundup, transportation, confinement and execution of 7,000 to 8,000 Jews, acting on orders from the Germans.

Kenstavicius fled Lithuania for Germany in 1944. In order to immigrate to Canada, Justice department lawyers said, the accused used an "improperly obtained visa…He fraudulently obtained International Refugee Organization status as a displaced person and refugee."

When interviewed by a Canadian immigration team, he lied about his age and his past, they said, "which foreclosed further inquiries by Canadian authorities into his true activities during World War II, particularly his employment history and activities as a Nazi collaborator and member of the German army."

First Israel Week planned

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Vancouver's first-ever Israel Week will be held from Feb. 5 to 16 under the auspices of the Canadian Zionist Council (CZF), at the Jewish Community Centre (JCC).

A highlight of the week will be the three performances of the musical *Joshua the Moon*, directed by Joan Freeman Cohen and featuring Beth Tikvah Hebrew High School students.

An open forum on the topic Beyond Continuity: How Can We Renew Our Days? will be conducted by professors Sergio Della Pergola and Yair Zakovitch of the Hebrew University and Richard Menkis of the University of British Columbia.

Family Storytime in Hebrew and English is scheduled. There will be a travelling exhibit from Zionist archives, courtesy of the Western Canada Israel consul general's office.

There will be klezmer music, dance performances by the Shalom Dancers and a fencing demonstration by the Jewish Community Centre's fencing club and representatives to the Maccabiah Games.

Israeli goods will be offered for sale and there will be samples of Israeli food and wine.

Among the sponsoring groups are the Israel Program Centre, the federation, Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, Canadian Jewish Congress, Jewish National Fund, the JCC, the Israeli consulate general and the *Western Jewish Bulletin.*

JNF to honor NCJW members

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Manitoba and Saskatchewan region of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) will honor two prominent members of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) at its 1997 Negev Dinner on June 17.

Both Marsha Cowan and Sharon Wolchock say they are overwhelmed by the unexpected honor.

Wolchock is national president of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada and has been involved with the NCJW for over 30 years. She has also chaired the Women's Division of the Combined Jewish Appeal and has served as an executive member of JNF, among other community positions.

Cowan has held a number of leadership positions in the local NCJW, including chairing the campaign for and serving as president of the NCJW-inspired Gwen Secter Creative Living Centre for Jewish seniors.

She has also devoted her time to Jewish Child and Family Service, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and the Combined Jewish Appeal, where she is currently incoming vice-chair of the Women's Division.

Cowan was founder and past chair of the Women's Endowment Fund of the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and is currently the foundation's president.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

From coast to coast

Kamloops area launches group to fight racism

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

KAMLOOPS, B.C. — Assisted by a $13,000 grant from the provincial government, a group has been set up here to combat racism in the Kamloops area.

Public education in the homes and the community will be key tools in the fight, it was decided by a steering committee that will organize an umbrella organization taking in other groups which are fighting racism.

Kamloops Immigrant Services executive director Trudy Dirk told Canadian Jewish Congress that she is "delighted with the response from the public and I'm pleased there are so many people interested in sharing our vision of wanting to do something."

She said the difference between the new group and the city's race relations committee is that the latter deals only with city-related institutions.

At the meeting was MP Nelson Riis, who said he's recently noticed an escalation in racist remarks made to him in every day conversations. "One of the most uncomfortable phrases coming at me lately," he said, is " 'I'm not a racist but...' and after the but, come the racist comments," He blamed tough economic times for the increase in racism and said that is when people start looking for a scapegoat.

Riis said the activities of the neo-Nazis "encouraged me to get in touch with Trudy and say we've got to do something," adding there are several groups in the city that try to deal with racism in some way but they aren't related. "We need an umbrella that will bring these groups together."

Arthur Manuel, a leader of the Shuswap National Tribal Council said racism isn't directed only against immigrants or newcomers to Canada. "It's a very complicated problem that's rooted in Canada's origins," he said.

Some of the measures to be taken to combat racism include: creating institutional change in large Canadian businesses which do not represent the community makeup in their staff; liasing with all governments, using March 21, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination as a kickoff event and reaching outside the city boundaries to smaller communities where racism appears.

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From coast to coast

McGill, University of Jordan launch joint project

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Over the past 16 months, McGill University social work professor Jim Torczyner made 11 trips to Jordan in his quest to somehow make the peace treaty between that country and Israel pay tangible dividends to ordinary citizens.

He found a sympathetic ear in Mohammad Maqusi, then academic vice-president of the University of Jordan (U of J), who like himself believes there can be no lasting peace if the most disadvantaged do not see it as improving their lot.

The result was the recent signing of a declaration of cooperation between McGill and the U of J to establish the first school of social work in Jordan, with the financial help of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the expertise of the Montreal Consortium for Human Rights Advocacy Training (MCHRAT), which Torczyner directs.

Since 1992, MCHRAT has helped open three university-affiliated social welfare advocacy "storefront" offices in Israel, modelled on Montreal's Project Genesis, which Torczyner initiated 20 years ago.

Torczyner describes the U of J project as "paralleling" those in Israel in that their ultimate aim is promoting social justice which Torczyner —and Maqusi —feel goes hand-in-hand with peace. Poverty breeds extremism in their view.

Originally, Torczyner had envisioned opening a Project Genesis in Amman, but it was decided to first have a professional social work program in place that could develop an approach to rights advocacy in keeping with Jordan's cultural values.

Jordan is undergoing social change and gradual democratization, and that is bringing with it challenges that the West has experienced, Maqusi said. These include unemployment and women seeking to move out of traditional roles. At present, 53 percent of university students are women and they are pursuing careers.

Currently, any social work in Jordan is carried out by mainly female volunteers and to a certain extent by the Ministry of Social Development. (King Hussein's sister, Princess Basma, whom Torczyner met, and Queen Noor have endorsed this cooperative project.)

In time, Jordanian and Israeli academics may find a way to work together on solving the region's social problems, both think.

"It will take time...We don't want to begin anything that will end in failure, because it is difficult to start all over," Maqusi said.

"After 50 years of war, trust has to be built," added Torczyner, "and that takes place among individuals, like ourselves." He will sit on the U of J's social work program committee.

CIDA's $121,000 grant will enable two Jordanian academics to study at McGill next fall. Torczyner hopes he can raise enough funds to also sponsor two Israeli students. Under the MCHRAT umbrella, the four may continue to dialogue.

"Social development and peacebuilding must go hand in hand because one cannot be achieved without the other...," Torczyner said at the signing.

Among those attending were Mount Royal MP Sheila Finestone, who expressed Canada's support for the project, and representatives of the governments of Israel, Egypt and Bahrain.

A ROARING GOOD TIME

Raptor mascot brings greetings to Elana Shugar's bat mitzvah from the team. Not only did he demonstrate his basketball skills, but he also did a mean hora. Shugar's bat mitzvah took place recently at Beth David Synagogue.

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UJA FEDERATION

Jews' exodus from Egypt shocked the world

By RABBI RONALD WEISS

What does one do when confronted by what appears to be a miracle? How ought one to respond?

At the beginning of this week's parshah, we hear of one man's reaction to the Divine intervention that enabled the Jewish people to go forth from Egypt. According to our tradition, this was not news that occurred in a vacuum. Our sages indicate that the entire world was aware of G-d's involvement on behalf of Israel. This was the first and only time in the history of the world that a nation of slaves was removed from the midst of another nation — against the will of their "masters."

The sages teach us that this news literally shook the world because nations were stunned to see G-d's hand actively interceding on behalf of a subservient people. Yet, despite being truly awed at the exodus of the Jews, none of the peoples of the world reacted meaningfully to this unprecedented event. Only from Yitro was there a spiritual and physical response. Why?

Rashi, the foremost commentary on the Torah, offers a most unusual explanation for why Yitro came out into the desert to meet the newly liberated nation. He singles out the two miracles of *keriat Yam Suf* (the splitting of the sea) and *milchemet Amalek* (the defeat of Amalek in battle) as the reason Yitro came out to join the camp of Israel. However, the Torah itself testifies that Yitro was induced to come because of all of the great news he had heard: "All that G-d had done for Moshe and for Yisrael, His people, that the L-rd had brought forth Yisrael from Egypt" (Exodus 18:1). Thus, why did Rashi emphasize *keriat Yam Suf* and *milchemet Amalek*?

Clearly, Rashi felt that these miracles were unique and, therefore, had a powerful impact upon the mind and heart of Yitro, which compelled him to join the nation in the desert. However, perhaps we can suggest another perspective from which to understand Rashi's explanation.

The two miracles of *keriat Yam Suf* and *milchemet Amalek* have a common theme. Both of these experiences evoked a strong feeling of *achdut Yisrael* (unity in Israel). Among the miracles that occurred at *keriat Yam Suf* we are told that the sea split into 12 parts to enable each tribe to go his own way. Rav Ovadiah Bertenura, in his commentary to Pirkei Avot (5:4), states that the walls that separated the tribes were transparent like glass, so that each tribe could see what was happening to the others. The Jews were committed to seeing each other through the dangers they faced at the sea.

[Cont'd. on page 29]

Slepak family's struggle for freedom

***The Gates of November: Chronicles of the Slepak Family* by Chaim Potok (Random House of Canada).**

In June 1978, Vladimir (Volodya) and Masha Slepak painted these words on a large sheet, "Let us go to our son in Israel," and displayed it defiantly from the balcony of their Moscow apartment. It was a warm, sunny day. "The streets were crowded with Muscovites on their way to work. It did not take long for a large crowd to gather. KGB agents in the neighboring apartment tried to tear down the banner with a long pole, but Volodya seized the pole and broke it. The crowd began to number in the thousands, and traffic came to a halt."

Before long, however, KGB agents smashed the apartment door to pieces, tore away the banner and took the courageous pair into custody. Voldoya was sentenced to five years of exile in Siberia.

The Slepaks were among the most famous of the "Refuseniks," Jewish activists who were denied exit visas to emigrate to Israel. Ingeniously, unremittingly, the Refuseniks struggled against a vicious system of oppression in which Jews as Jews were afforded few rights. It took Volodya and Masha 17 years, a span of time filled with privation, bureaucratic harassment, shattered hope and much heartbreak before they were finally granted visas to Israel in 1987.

The Soviet Union is now but rubble in history's trash heap and the Slepak family in Israel and the United States can live in freedom — as can other Jews who left the tyranny of a moribund regime.

But the foregoing is only part of Chaim Potok's story. The remainder concerns Volodya's father, Solomon Slepak, one of the fervent Bolsheviks who built the Soviet Union. He left early 20th-century America and made his way to the Soviet Union, where he became a high-ranking functionary who somehow weathered the purges and bloodshed of the Stalin era. A military figure, he commanded 10,000 soldiers against the Cossack bands who opposed the creation of the Soviet Union. Until his death, he continued to defend and uphold the Communist party, disdained the political activities of his son and strenuously opposed him in every way possible.

The author, who has successfully depicted the rift between father and son in such novels as *The Chosen* and *My Name is Asher Lev*, now does the same in this story of bitter generational conflict and the ideological issues that separated a passionate son from his bewildered father.

Ironically, Solomon at his son's birth had named him after Lenin. Volodya went along with his father's views until 1952, when Jewish doctors were arrested on trumped-up charges of attempting to poison Stalin and other high officials. This alleged plot that would have led inevitably to widespread anti-Semitism and Jewish suffering was prevented only by Stalin's death.

Potok has skilfully dramatized this tragic and fascinating story. Along the way, he introduces much information about Russia and Jews before and during the Soviet era that is always interesting, if not always pertinent. He makes good use of taped reminiscences of Volodya and Masha; regrettably, the material about Solomon's life is more sketchy (the KGB refused to release his files) and most of it comes from secondary sources.

In an epilogue to the book, Potok — in a pessimistic vein — wonders about the future of freedom in the United States. "Are we approaching the finale now to the bright possibilities once inherent in this land? Is that old America forever gone? Were we seduced as schoolchildren into a vision of a land green and golden from sea to shining sea, a land as illusory for many Americans as the Motherland of Solomon Slepack was for Volodya and Masha?...Things are happening to us today that we don't seem able to explain. Can we enter the uncertain future without the corrosive cynicism, the clutching greed, the divisive self-interests — the beasts that destroyed the world of Solomon Slepak and rendered it uninhabitable to his family?"

One hopes that the successful and inspiring struggle of the Slepaks for freedom provide an affirmative answer to the author's troubling questions.

Unprovoked attack by Amalek

[Cont'd. from page 28]

The unprovoked attack by Amalek in the desert elicited the same response of *achdut Yisrael* by the Jewish people. We are told "Remember what Amalek did to you on the way out of Egypt. When they met you on the way and you were tired and exhausted, they cut off those lagging behind and they did not fear G-d." (Deut. 25:17-18). Rashi comments on these words that Amalek waged war against those Jews who were weak spiritually due to the sins they had committed and against those who had been expelled from the clouds of G-d's glory which afforded Divine protection.

Why did Moshe order Joshua "Choose for us men and go out and fight with Amalek" (Exodus 17:9), which Rashi understands as making war against him? One can imagine that there were people in the desert who said "Let them get what they deserve. After all, if they had not sinned, they would not have put themselves outside of the clouds of Divine protection."

Nevertheless, Moshe and Joshua felt differently and the Almighty agreed with them, as we read: "I [the L-rd] will totally eliminate all remembrance of Amalek from under heaven" (Exodus 17:14). G-d approved of the devotion of these two great leaders who were willing to share the fate of those, who because of weakness, found themselves outside the camp of the faithful, in the hope of bringing them back within the fold.

All Jews are precious to us, even those whose spiritual connection is weak. This, I believe, is what drew Yitro out to the desert and what we need just as much today — *achdut Yisrael*.

Rabbi Weiss is the director of Chaplaincy Services at Jewish Family and Child Service in Toronto.

The answer is blowing on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

This past Shabbat, we read from the Torah about the dramatic Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. Upon their deliverance into Sinai, their first act was to proclaim their thanks to G-d — through song **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/exodus/penta/ch15.htm]**. From that biblical Song of the Sea to today's contemporary music, the Jewish people have always had a loving relationship with song. Today, we'll look at those links on the Jewish Highway.

There are many places where you can read up on your favourite singers and musicians and listen to some of their music, too. Take a look at the Jewish Music Home Page **[http://www.jewishmusic.com/]** with links to the home pages of David Broza, Debbie Friedman, Chava Alberstein and the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. Over at the Shema Yisrael Torah Network-Jewish Jukebox **[http://www.shemayisrael.com/music/]**, you'll find links to Avrohom Fried, Paul Zim and the Marvelous Midos Machine. And don't miss the Jewish Music Network **[http://www.jewish-music.com/]**. The Network has information about new releases and concerts and best of all, a generous sampling of audio files in the RealAudio format **[http://www.realaudio.com/products/player/download.html]**.

For more selections of Sephardi and Chabad music, go to **[http://www.613.org/music/niggun.html]**. And for a very good overview about the special importance music plays in chassidic life, see Velvel Pasternak's essay at **[http://www.jewishmusic.com/]** and click on the Articles button.

Sure, listening to music is nice but if you prefer to raise your own voice in song, take a look at Jewish music Service/Song Archive **[http://www.netspace.org/~dmacks/shira/]**. This is a large archive of Hebrew lyrics translated and transliterated into English characters. The song selection is quite varied; you'll find everything from *Adon Olam* to *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav* to mourner's Kaddish. The files are in ".rtf" format which can be read by most word processors. Instructions for using the Archive are very clear and can be found at **[http://www.netspace.org/~dmacks/shira/usage.html]**.

Singers of Jewish music will also want to take a look at Ne'ima Online, a network of university-based Jewish a cappella groups **[http://www.neima.org/index.html]**. And I was fascinated to come across the Web page for Nigun: The Society for the Promotion and Exploration of Jewish Music — based in Germany **[http://stil.uni-duisburg.de/Nigun/English/]**.

If you want to meet other lovers of Jewish music, check out both the Usenet newsgroup **[alt.music.jewish]** and the Jewish-Music mailing list. To subscribe to the list, send an e-mail to: **[listsproc@shamash.org]** with the one-line message: subscribe jewish-music YourFirstName YourLastName. Leave the subject line blank. You can find a large archive of past correspondence at **[gopher://www.shamash.org:70/hh/lists/jewish-music]**.

In this column, I have not dwelt on singers and musicians who happen to be Jewish. However, I do recommend taking a look at the Website Bob Dylan: Tangled Up in Jews **[http://www.well.com/user/yudel/Dylan.html]**, a page "devoted to studying and collecting trivia relating to the Jewish religious/cultural odyssey of Shabtai Zisel ben Avraham, a.k.a Bob Dylan." Not only has Larry Yudelson charted Dylan's Jewish journey of discovery, he's also included Hebrew lyrics for *Blowin' in the Wind*. **[http://www.well.com/user/yudel/Dylheb3.html]**

No survey of Jewish music would be complete without looking at Klezmer music. Ari Davidow has done a magnificent job with Klez Picks site **[http://www.well.com/user/ari/klez/]**. You'll find everything from articles on the hottest Klezmer bands, a Klezmer Top Ten list and a huge list **[http://www.well.com/user/ari/klez/klezcontacts.html]** of Klezmer bands on the Web. Everything from the Klezmatics, Di Ganeyvim and What the Chelm to the groups Kreplach, Tzimmes and Lox & Vodka.

Which reminds me...I must do a column on Jewish cooking on the Internet. But next time — Israeli music.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Manitoban, Israeli work on space medicine research

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Kevin Forkheim's first visit to Israel over the December break has further solidified his working relationship with Israeli colleague, Eran Schenker.

"I learned a little more about Israeli space research, too," says the 25-year-old University of Manitoba medical student. "To my knowledge, ours is the first joint collaboration between Israelis and Canadians in space medicine research."

Forkheim and Schenker met last summer at the International Space University in Vienna. The Manitoba student received a scholarship to attend from the Canadian Space Agency and was also sponsored by the Medical Research Council, the Israel Space Agency and the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. There were about 10 students from 35 countries enrolled at the university.

In Vienna, Forkheim and Schenker collaborated on an experiment to test human bone deterioration in a weightless environment as well as a second experiment to measure the development of mice embryos in space. Their experiments were chosen for the November American space shuttle mission by Instrumentation Technology Associates of Pennsylvania, a computer hardware research company that puts together the experiments for the astronauts.

"Russian scientists say that a body on an extended mission in space can lose up to 19 percent of bone mass," Forkheim explains. "We hoped to learn why osteoblasts don't function as they do on earth. The astronauts were able to culture bone cells in the shuttle. We will be using electron microscopes and light microscopy to see if we can spot any particular changes that will point to why the osteoblasts are not functioning as they should. The information that is gleaned may help point to explanations as to how osteoporosis occurs on earth."

The mouse embryos didn't fare well. Rather than developing, the cells degenerated. Among the factors that may have been responsible for the outcome, Forkheim suggests microgravity, cosmic radiation or vibrations from the shuttle.

"It appears that mammals at present are only capable of developing in an earth-like environment," he concludes.

In Israel, Forkheim divided his time primarily between the University of Tel Aviv Medical Centre and Hadassah Hospital.

He is looking forward to more joint research projects between the University of Manitoba and the two Israeli institutions. He notes that the International Space Station, on which construction will start in November, will provide opportunities for space medicine and other researchers around the world to work together.

Exercise coach says disability no barrier to a healthier life

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Beverley Burdeyney is living proof that her "fitness with a difference" philosophy can overcome disabilities and lead to a healthier life.

It is hard to believe that Burdeney, a grandmother in her mid-50s who is also a personal exercise coach, has spina bifida. Youthful and energetic, she presents a regal appearance. She says the realization that she could overcome her disability gave her the motivation to leave a successful position in the corporate world 12 years ago to help others.

"This has given me an awareness of people's special needs and the importance of not merely exercising but tailoring exercise programs to the special needs and limitations of each of my clients," says Burdeyney. "And as a world traveller, I developed an exercise program requiring no heavy equipment — and it needs only a limited space."

The crux of the problem for most people, she explains, is body alignment. "Structure governs function. If you are out of alignment, and this has led to a permanent imbalance, incorrect activities and exercises may lead to even greater problems."

Her exercise programs do not include any aerobics, Burdeyney says, because she feels that aerobics puts too much stress on the joints and increases the risk of injury.

Many of her clients have come to her through recommendations from medical doctors, chiropractors or therapists and she says she is proud of her success with people who have been injured or suffer post-operation limitations and stroke victims. But most of her clients come for strengthening and correction of minor conditions.

Her method is based on the "pelvic tilt," which she says enables you to bring your body together as a single unit. It develops good posture and it will improve your health and body functioning.

She stresses the importance of an in-depth assessment. It is crucial, she says, because individuals require some body adjustment and an awareness of their weaknesses before they can work up to a successful program based on building up their own dynamic central stability girdle in the pelvis, abdomen and lower back areas.

"This is the foundation of the body and if it is strong and solid, the other body parts automatically will be stacked correctly and perform accordingly."

She says most people deteriorate in the lumbar (lower back) region. The consequences may include flabby buttocks, dowager's hump, double chins, over-stretched and weakened stomach muscles, complications with internal organs or congested chest.

Following the initial assessment by Burdeyney, who comes to your home or office, clients can choose to continue an exercise program on their own with periodic assessments of their progress, or to continue their 45-minute individualized workouts with Burdeyney in private sessions.

She says many individuals get into an exercise class, golf, play tennis or engage in some other activity and develop an injury.

"They have not prepared their bodies to take the stress. A qualified trainer and chiropractor should be available at clubs," she feels.

By loosening, strengthening and stretching all of your principal areas, you will reshape your body, revitalize your life, change your body symmetry and improve breathing and other functions.

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PM denies allegation of secret deal on appointee

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Allegations of government misconduct have led to denials from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and a call from at least one government minister for Israel Television to be shut down if the charges prove false.

As word of the alleged misconduct filled the Israeli media, the country's highest prosecutor ordered a police investigation into alleged corruption surrounding the short-lived appointment of Jerusalem lawyer Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

"The supreme national interest required that we uncover the true circumstances of the appointment," Edna Arbel, state attorney and acting attorney general, said after consultations with senior police officials.

Word of the police investigation came amid reports that Elyakim Rubinstein, a Jerusalem District Court judge, who is widely respected in legal and political circles, had agreed to become Israel's next attorney general.

The allegations surrounding Bar-On's appointment surfaced last week, when Israel Television reported that the Shas Party, which has two ministers in the government and 10 seats in the Knesset, had promised to back the Hebron agreement when it came before the cabinet and parliament earlier this month in exchange for Bar-On's appointment.

According to the report, Bar-On in turn agreed to a plea bargain for Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri, who is on trial for bribery, fraud and breach of public trust.

Netanyahu flatly denied the charges, calling for a police investigation into the allegations.

Two days after the cabinet approved his appointment as attorney general earlier this month, Bar-On turned down the position.

Bar-On, a Likud activist, had come under intense criticism from government and legal circles, which charged that he had gotten the appointment because of his political loyalties and close association with Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi.

Bar-On had been picked to replace Michael Ben-Yair, who announced his resignation in December.

Police investigators met with officials from Israel Television, who said they would not compromise their journalistic ethics to reveal the sources of their report.

When launching the probe, Arbel instructed police investigators to obtain the evidence on which Israel Television based its report, by court order if necessary.

The alleged deal drew sharp reactions from government ministers at last week's cabinet meeting.

"If the claims are not true, then the television must be closed down," Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav was quoted as saying.

Asked what should be done if the allegations were proven true, Katsav told reporters, "In that case, the government does not have the right to exist."

Deri denied in a Channel 2 Television interview any truth to the claims, adding that he has been hounded by the media for the past seven years.

Rubinstein nominated as attorney general

By EVELYN GORDON AND LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jerusalem District Court Judge Elyakim Rubinstein will be the next attorney-general, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi has announced.

The appointment must be approved by the cabinet, which is to meet for that purpose this week. Rubinstein is expected to win easy approval.

Hanegbi said Supreme Court Justice, Aharon Barak, has also given the appointment his blessing.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu congratulated Rubinstein and said, "The appointment will add a great deal of honor and integrity to the Israeli legal system."

Rubinstein was rumored to be the government's first choice for the attorney-generalship even before the appointment of Roni Bar-On, but he was reportedly not interested in the job. After the Bar-On fiasco, however, Hanegbi approached him again, and Rubinstein agreed to take the job.

Hanegbi said he thought Rubinstein's appointment would "strengthen the rule of law in Israel and make an important contribution to the legal system."

The proposed appointment of Rubinstein was greeted warmly in political circles. Knesset Law Committee Chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) said "We are talking about the right man, who was elected to the right position at the right time to bring about the desired calm in the country's judiciary."

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid praised the appointment, saying "He is a man of experience and integrity and is as deserving of this esteemed position."

Rubinstein, 50, was involved in the Camp David negotiations with Egypt, and in 1981 became the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser. He later did a stint as political counsellor at Israel's Embassy in Washington, and was eventually appointed cabinet secretary in 1986.

Rubinstein served as cabinet secretary for seven and a half years, under both Likud prime minister Yitzhak Shamir and Labor prime ministers Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin. In 1991, Shamir appointed him to head the Madrid peace talks with the Palestinians and Jordanians, and Rabin kept him on as head of talks with the Jordanians after the Oslo Accords were signed.

Rubinstein finally resigned as cabinet secretary in April 1994, reportedly because he was upset at having been left in the dark over the Oslo Accords. He then served as the Defence Ministry's legal adviser until his appointment to the Jerusalem District Court in June 1995.

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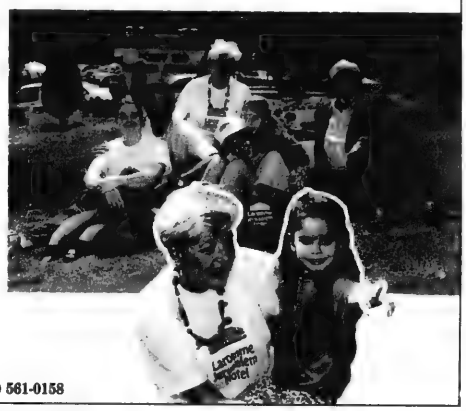

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WJC seeks heirs of victims for unclaimed accounts

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — The World Jewish Congress (WJC) is looking for the heirs of 53 Polish Holocaust victims whose Swiss bank accounts were declared ownerless and turned over to the Polish government after World War II.

Switzerland last week released a detailed list of the account holders, many of whom died in Nazi death camps.

The move is significant because it marks the first time that the Swiss government has handed over the names of Swiss bank accounts belonging to Jews from the Holocaust era.

The release of the list followed an official Swiss report issued last month showing that Switzerland used dormant Jewish accounts to pay Poland 464,000 Swiss francs in 1975. The money – worth between $4 million and $5 million (US) today – was transferred under a pact that settled Swiss claims for property seized by Poland's post-war Communist regime.

"These assets were illegally and immorally seized by the Swiss government, and then illegally and immorally transferred to the Communist Polish regime," said Kalman Sultanik, vice-president of the WJC.

Switzerland never supplied the account holders' names at the time, and Poland simply deposited the money into its treasury without searching for heirs.

The list, released this week by the WJC, cites heirs for many of the account holders, as well as contact addresses in such cities as Paris, New York and Haifa.

Switzerland began reviewing its pact with Poland – as well as a similar deal with Hungary – after U.S. Senate banking committee chair Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY) accused Bern of using unclaimed Jewish accounts to pay off Swiss citizens whose assets were seized by the Communists after the war.

Thomas Borer, head of a Swiss task force on the country's wartime financial role, said Switzerland also intends to ask Hungary to provide a similar list of Jewish account holders. Bern agreed to pay Hungary 325,000 francs in 1975 under a similar arrangement, which is worth between $3 million and $4 million today.

After Switzerland's decision to release the once-secret list of names, Sultanik hailed it as "a very positive step" and commended the Polish government, which, he said, "pressed the Swiss government very hard on this issue."

Those seeking more information about the Swiss bank accounts belonging to Polish Holocaust victims can write to the World Jewish Congress, Attn: Polish Account Claim, 501 Madison Ave., New York, NY, 10022.

Swiss announce compensation fund

WASHINGTON — After months of resistance, Switzerland has agreed to set up a fund to begin compensating Holocaust victims and their heirs whose assets disappeared into the Swiss banking system during the World War II era.

Special Ambassador Thomas Borer, head of a Swiss task force on the country's wartime financial role, announced the decision last Thursday, after discussions with Swiss banking officials, the central bank, insurance companies and other businesses.

"We certainly hope that this will be understood as a sign of our goodwill," Borer told reporters in Zurich. "All the major banks support this idea, as well as other companies."

The decision comes as Switzerland continues to reel in the face of allegations that it hoarded the wealth of Holocaust victims while helping to finance the Nazi war effort.

Borer said the government and Swiss banks have yet to arrive at a fixed amount for the fund. "It would be premature to bring numbers into play," he said.

However, one of Switzerland's top bankers, Credit Suisse chair, Rainer Gut, called for a Holocaust memorial fund in excess of $100 million.

The World Jewish Congress (WJC) welcomed the Swiss decision, which comes six weeks after WJC President Edgar Bronfman publicly called on Switzerland to make a "good faith financial gesture" to Holocaust survivors and the world Jewish community.

"The principle is one we have long endorsed," said Elan Steinberg, WJC's executive director. "We expect and hope in the next few days to begin the process of cooperating and working out the precise details."

U.S. Senate banking committee chair Alfonse D'Amato called the Swiss plan a "step in the right direction."

"It is troubling that it took so long," D'Amato said. "It is a relief that it happened at all."

– D.K.

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The Week in Israel

Jan. 20

• An F-15 fighter jet crashed during training, plummeting nose first into kibbutz Revivim in the Negev. The pilot and navigator ejected safely and landed in the kibbutz's ostrich farm where they were rescued by angry kibbutznikim.

Jan. 21

• Appearing before the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee, chief-of-staff of the IDF, Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak said that tensions had eased in the territories since the signing of the Hebron accord.

• Dan Shomron, resigned his position as head of the steering committee for the implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords. He had earlier stated he would serve only until a Hebron agreement had been reached.

• Lt.-Col. Zion Bachar, who died along with three others in a helicopter training accident in September, was finally laid to rest. His remains were retrieved from the sea into which the helicopter had crashed.

Jan. 22

• Syria rejected a call by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to resume peace talks. Netanyahu said he expected new U.S. efforts to restart negotiations with Syria.

• Netanyahu was reported to be considering releasing Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of Hamas, serving a life sentence since 1989.

Jan. 23

• Speaking in Cairo, Yasser Arafat said that a Palestinian state will arise "at the appropriate time" after Israel completes its withdrawal from the territories. "The creation of a Palestinian state will result from a Palestinian, Arab and international decision, and not from a decision by Israel," he said.

Jan. 24

• The value of the American dollar relative to the shekel reached its highest level in recent times. The official exchange rate was 3.303 shekels to the dollar. The previous high, 3.301shekels to the dollar, was registered on May 30, 1996, the day after the general elections.

(With files from JTA)

PM adapts to reality

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Benjamin Netanyahu has begun to march to a different drummer, and if he hews to the new path he has embarked upon, Israeli politics may never be the same again.

By agreeing to redeploy from Hebron and to commit himself to three unspecified withdrawals from the West Bank over the next 18 months, Netanyahu has personally embraced the Oslo peace process and moved toward the centre of the political map, thereby distancing himself from the Revisionist Zionist philosophy which formed him and breaking ranks with Likud party faithful.

In one bold stroke, Netanyahu has, in effect, accepted the land-for-peace formula (at least on the Palestinian front), recognized the inevitability of partition in the historic land mass known as Palestine and jettisoned the ideology of Greater Israel.

In a startling transformation, he has begun to reinvent himself as a pragmatist in a party awash with blinkered diehard ideologues like Benny Begin and Ariel Sharon. Netanyahu claims that he has not abandoned Likud ideals, but in the same breath he acknowledges that Israel faces a "different reality."

It is quite an admission from a man who mercilessly attacked the Oslo accords before last May's general election, who wrote that the West Bank is a "protective wall" which cannot be given up and who blithely assumed that Israel could force its will upon the Palestinians and the Arab world.

The nationalist camp, which includes the National Religious Party and Tsomet, had high hopes for Netanyahu, the son of a radical Revisionist whose views were to the right of Menachem Begin. He would slow down, if not reverse, the Oslo process, initiated by the Labor party. He would build new settlements in Judea and Samaria, the construction of which would reinforce Israel's claims to these lands and block the emergence of a Palestinian state.

But what the zealots failed to realize was that Netanyahu, his personal views notwithstanding, was elected on a platform of "peace with security." Far from rejecting a peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Israeli electorate gave him a mandate to proceed cautiously. They did not hand him a *carte blanche* to wreck the peace process and bring Israel into a needless armed confrontation with the Arabs. And for all his egregious blunders, Netanyahu has taken the mandate seriously, professing his commitment to the peace process.

At this point, no one can be certain where Netanyahu is taking the country. What proportion of the West Bank will he relinquish to the Palestinians? Will he agree to further withdrawals from the Gaza Strip? Will he tolerate the existence of a demilitarized Palestinian state with limited powers? Will he make a deal with Syria over the Golan Heights and free Israel from the bloody burden of occupying southern Lebanon?

These are questions that can only be answered in the fullness of time. But to the far right, the verdict is already in: Netanyahu has betrayed the cause. Purists such as Yitzhak Shamir, the former prime minister, and Hanan Porat, a leader of the National Religious Party, have openly called for his resignation.

In particular, they have accused Netanyahu of producing an agreement in Hebron that is substantially no better than the one negotiated by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres. In general, they have accused Netanyahu of leading Israel toward disaster. Right-wing extremists, meanwhile, have phoned in death threats, once again reminding Israelis of the Yigal Amirs, the Baruch Goldsteins and the Noam Friedmans in their midst.

Clearly, Netanyahu has a rough road ahead of him. The challenges are daunting, the risks are great. "I don't envy Netanyahu," Yair Lapid wrote in *Ma'ariv* recently. "The left doesn't forgive him for what he was. The right doesn't forgive him for what he will become."

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Canada's voting record in UN

[Cont'd. from page 1]

On Nov. 14, the General Assembly, acting on a recommendation of the Third Committee, which deals with economic, social and cultural matters, adopted a resolution on the right of the Palestinians to self-determination. Canada joined 158 nations in voting "yes." Israel and the United States cast "no" ballots. Nine countries abstained.

On Nov. 27, Canada abstained on a resolution supported by 104 members and opposed by Israel and the United States, endorsing the work of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

On the same day, two similar resolutions were passed by the General Assembly. On these, Canada abstained and voted "yes."

On Nov. 29, the General Assembly declared that "all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel...to alter Jerusalem's character and status... were null and void." The measure was adopted by a 148-1 margin, with 13 abstentions.

On Dec. 2, the General Assembly called on Israel to withdraw from the Golan Heights, to the June 4, 1967 border. The resolution, opposed by Israel and the United States, was supported by 84 states. Canada was among 71 countries which abstained.

Canada and Israel threw their weight behind a Dec. 2 resolution expressing full support for the Middle Eastern peace process. Syria, Lebanon and Iran cast negative ballots.

A Dec. 4 resolution describing Israel's settlements as illegal and calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories, was backed by Canada as well as 151 states.

On Dec. 10, the General Assembly called for the creation of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East and urged all countries there to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards. Canada, along with 154 others, voted "yes." There were eight abstentions. Israel and the United States voted "no."

Also on Dec. 10, the General Assembly invited Israel to sign the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Canada abstained. Israel voted "no."

On Dec. 16, the General Assembly voiced concern at "the exploitation" by Israel of the natural resources of the territories. Canada, among 112 others, supported the resolution.

Canada backed three resolutions on Dec. 13 dealing with the Palestinians. The resolutions recognized the efforts of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinan refugees, drew attention to the plight of such persons and recommended the distribution of grants and scholarships to Palestinian students. Israel cast two "nos" and one abstention.

Also on Dec. 13, Canada voted "yes" for resolutions regarding the operations of UNRWA, Palestinian refugees' property, the need for a Palestinian university in Jerusalem and Israeli human practices and settlements in the territories.

Israel's 1981 decision to impose its laws and administration on the Golan, captured in the Six Day War, was declared null and void in a Dec. 13 resolution supported by Canada and 152 other countries.

A resolution dealing exclusively with Lebanon was passed in April, during Israel's massive bombardment of Lebanon (Operation Grapes of Wrath).

Calling on Israel to cease firing and to withdraw its forces from all Lebanese territory, the resolution was opposed by Israel and the United States.

Canada abstained.

Israel demands PA amend charter

[Cont'd. from page 1]

the first promise Arafat made to then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, in the famous exchange of letters in September 1993. Two years later, in the September 1995 Interim Agreement, a deadline was finally attached to this promise: The covenant was to be amended no later than two months after the inauguration of the Palestinian Council, or May 7, 1996.

On April 24, 1996, the Palestine National Council (PNC) approved a resolution to "amend the National Charter by cancelling the articles that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel on September 9 and 10, 1993," the GPO noted. It also authorized establishment of a legal subcommittee to "redraft the National Charter."

However, the GPO said, the resolution to amend the charter has no validity under internationally recognized legal principles, because it did not specify which articles of the covenant were amended. Amendments to a legal document are only legally valid if they are properly approved by an authorized body which knows exactly what the changes in question are, the GPO said.

In this case, it was clear that nobody knew what the changes in question were, since even the PNC members could not agree afterwards on what was or was not changed, the GPO noted.

Finally, the GPO said, the PLO reaffirmed its commitment to "complete the process of revising the Palestinian National Charter" in the note for the record accompanying the Hebron agreement.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Exhibit explores Jewish presence in Brescia

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Iron and Star, an exhibit exploring the Jewish presence in Brescia, Italy, during the Renaissance, attracted substantial representation from the Italian and Jewish communities when it opened on a bitterly cold night at the Instituto Italiano di Cultura.

Curated by Humanities Prof. Franco Bontempi of Italy, the exhibit is sponsored in Toronto by the Institute and co-sponsored by the Circolo San Alessandro, Bescia. It opened here under the auspices of the Consul General of Italy, Leonardo Sampoli.

Presented in cities throughout Italy and at a major museum in Jerusalem, it was first seen on this continent at the Yeshiva University Museum in New York before coming to Toronto.

Instituto director Dr. Francesca Valente, describes the comprehensive exhibit as a "bridge between the Italian and Jewish communities." It focuses on the strong Jewish community in the northern Italian town of Brescia, which dates back to the early Roman Empire about 100 BCE and reached its peak during the Renaissance.

Brought to the Alpine region by Julius Caesar, mainly as slaves who later gained their freedom, the Jewish people adapted to the economic realities of the land which, though not suited to agriculture, produced rich iron deposits, the backbone of the Italian economy and in demand across the Middle East. Therefore, the exhibit title, Iron for the mineral and Star for the Star of David, reflecting Jewish identity.

In addition to mining (they developed the first smelter in the country) and trading, the Jewish population built paper mills and became active in the clothing trade. Less popular was money lending which led to criticism of Jewish influence.

The community flourished with a synagogue, a talmudic school considered the best in Italy and a workshop of scribes.

Purim and Chanukah were celebrated, there were weddings and a Jewish cemetery was put in place. Attitudes toward the Jewish presence varied. Intellectuals translated Jewish works including an edition of a Talmudic treatise and also compiled a grammar and dictionary. Brescia astrological thought had close relations with Jewish traditions.

However, in neighboring Trento, the age old accusation of ritual murder surfaced and precipitated a trial. The scare tactic spilled over into Brescia.

The ruling powers during the Renaissance were alternately Venice and Milan. Jews were banished from Brescia in 1572 as a result of a revolutionary atmosphere at the time and the powerful Venetian stance during the Battle of Lepanto. But in 1588 the community was re-established.

The extremely well annotated exhibit details through records, frescoes, artifacts, engravings and text, the economic, social and religious aspects of a remarkable community which was viable for 2,000 years.

The Jewish community in Brescia ceased to exist in 1918 says Prof. Bontempi but Jews continue to live there.

The exhibition runs weekdays through to Feb. 20, 2-5 p.m. at the Institute, 496 Huron St., Toronto, (one block north of Bloor St.).

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New Matthau film a delightful comedy

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Walter Matthau

Mainstream Hollywood films do not ordinarily begin with a scene in Yiddish. But in *I'm Not Rappaport*, this is precisely what happens.

In a flashback, set in New York City in the early part of this century, a Jewish union leader named Feigenbaum (Ron Rifkin) tries to rouse a group of disaffected workers. They remain impassive until a fiery young militant named Clara Lemlich (Elina Lowensohn) rises from her chair and, in pungent Yiddish, calls for an immediate strike. As she speaks, a mesmerized boy lost in the crowd looks on with astonishment and admiration.

At this point, five minutes into the movie, *I'm Not Rappaport* fast-forwards to the present. The boy, Nat Moyer (Walter Matthau), is a grizzled old Jewish radical, a mischievous Walter Mittyesque figure with a penchant for constantly reinventing himself and insinuating himself into the lives of strangers.

Nat, played wonderfully by Matthau, spends much of his day on a bench in Manhattan's Central Park, pestering his reluctant companion, a black superintendent named Midge (Ossie Davis) who's his polar opposite.

From his perch in the leafy park, Nat philosophizes, performs good deeds and spins fanciful stories. "Sometimes the truth doesn't fit," he acknowledges. " I take in here, I let out there, till it fits."

Assuming the personalities of fictional characters, Nat by turns transforms himself into a crusading consumer advocate, a Cuban spy, a canny lawyer, a detective, a gangster and a movie mogul-cum-rabbi.

But in his greatest role as a loveable imposter, he pretends to be the father of an illegitimate daughter who, he claims, is a sergeant in the Israeli army. He fabricates this outlandish tale to appease his real daughter (Amy Irving), who's intent on controlling her father's runaway impulses.

I'm Not Rappaport, based on an acclaimed Broadway play, is at first slightly amusing. But as it picks up steam, and as Matthau grows into his persona, it becomes downright hilarious.

Now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres, *I'm Not Rappaport* is a delightful comedy with an endearing Jewish flavor.

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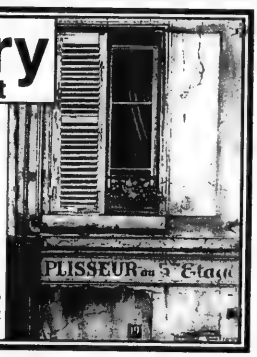

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You may mail, deliver or e-mail your works to *The CJN*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. Our e-mail address is [102574.1304@compuserve.com]. We must receive your submissions no later than March 6, 1997. If you want us to return your works, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot publish all submissions. We reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed appropriate. ***The editor.***

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The Bard Is Barred

The European Monetary Institute has decided not to put Shakespeare's face on Euro banknotes, largely because of the bard's perpetually controversial depiction of Shylock, the Jewish moneylender in *The Merchant of Venice*, according to a report in the *London Jewish Chronicle*.

Several proposed designs for the single pan-European currency were released recently, showing bridges, gates and windows, together with maps of Europe. The designs are expected to be finalized in 1998 and the currency to enter circulation in 2000.

The decision not to use Shakespeare's image on the banknotes is "ludicrous," said British-Jewish playwright Bernard Kops. "If any writer deserves to be on a banknote, it is Shakespeare," he said. "He was most enlightened and gave a very sympathetic portrait of the Jew."

Music Notes

• Music Toronto presents acclaimed duo pianists **Anagnoson & Kinton** in recital Feb. 4 at Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre. The concert, featuring the music of **Mozart**, **Gallant**, **Strauss**, **Dvorak** and **Rachmaninov**, is part of a piano series sponsored by **Joey & Toby Tanenbaum**. Tickets $39, $35, 416-214-1660.

• Pianist **Jon Simon** plays a kaleidoscope of Jewish themes, including *Zoom Gali Boogie*, at the first concert in this season's Musical Heritage series at Holy Blossom Temple, Feb. 2, 3 p.m. Simon's music "is a marvellous combination of jazz harmonies, with his own trademark improvisations." Ticket info, 416-789-3291, ext. 503.

Theatre Notes

• *RSVP Broadway*, a new musical comedy by **Barbara** and **Tony D'Amato**, makes its world premiere March 5 at the Winter Garden Theatre, Toronto, with previews from Feb. 22. The production highlights the glamor, passion and art-deco elegance of New York in the 1930s, and pays homage to **Fred Astaire** and **Ginger Rogers**, **Ruby Keeler** and **Dick Powell**, **Rodgers** and **Hart**, and others. With **Dirk Lumbard** and **Jean Louisa Kelly**. Tickets $26.50 to $49.50. 416-872-5555.

• *Through The Eyes Of A Friend: The Story of Anne Frank* features a "friend" of Anne reading passages from her diary while archival film footage is screened. Geared especially for young people, the Buffalo production focuses on the experiences of young people during the Holocaust.

Jewish Community Centre of Greater Buffalo, 2640 North Forest Rd.,Feb. 2, 7 p.m. 716-689-8844. Also at Rockwell Hall Auditorium, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, Feb. 3, 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. 716-878-3005. All tickets $8.

JASS Courses For March

Besides the three February courses listed in this space last week, the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society is offering three courses in March. All courses are at the Earl Bales Community Centre, North York, run 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for four sessions, and cost $50 each. 416-638-2222.

• A Positive Approach To A Healthier You, by instructor **Linda Hoffman**. Techniques for pleasurable eating and weight loss. Mar. 5, 12, 19 and 26.

• Chicken Soup For Mind, Body And Soul. **Susan Stern** shows you how to lead a happier, less stressful, more productive and balanced life. Mar. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

• Sing And Learn With Lenka. Ethno-musicologist and singer **Lenka Lichtenberg** provides an exciting journey through the historical background of Yiddish songs. March 6, 13, 20 and 27.

Remembering One Of The People

Born and raised as a chassidic Jew in the district of Kiev, the writer **Asher Ginsburg** — better known by his pen-name **Achad Ha'am** — died at age 70 in Tel Aviv, Palestine, on Jan. 2, 1927, 70 years ago this month.

Achad Ha'am brilliantly expounded his brand of spiritual Zionism, which emphasized a cultural above a political affiliation with the Jewish nation, in many essays that endeared him to the nation. At his death, crowds of mourners gathered outside his residence and institutions and schools were closed across Eretz Israel.

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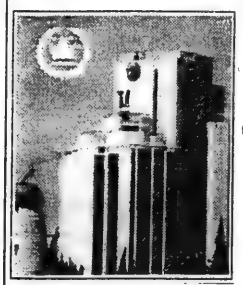

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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

EXPLORING THE YUCATAN

If the Yucatan peninsula may be said to jut into the Caribbean Ocean like a sore thumb, the glittering resort town of Cancun may be subjectively likened to a hangnail on that thumb.

A quarter-century ago, Cancun was little more than swamp and jungle. A byproduct of the jumbo jet, Cancun is the embodiment of glitz, as unrepresentative of the surrounding scrub rain forest as Las Vegas is of the desert.

By car from the airport, one may easily ride for 45 minutes, seeing only hotels, restaurants (including the ubiquitous Planet Hollywood) and shopping malls.

Monumental luxury hotels built by Hilton, Hyatt Regency, Marriott, Westin and other top-end chains grace the city's so-called Hotel Zone.

The shops, filled with sombreros, jewelry, blankets, native crafts and other consumer goods, seem pricey. Cancun's famous beaches are its most popular attraction by day, but after dark atmospheric restaurants, swank nightclubs and sparkling discos take over. They, too, seem pricey.

After a few days, Cancun's artificiality may become as irritating as an irksome hangnail. That's when it's time to rent a jeep, hop on a bus or take a short charter flight to some of the peninsula's lesser-known but far more genuine attractions.

Highway 307 is an unerringly straight and level two-lane biway hacked out of the bush. This road is the artery of the Tulum Corridor, a freshly developed tourist area of sparkling beaches, coastal villages, tourist attractions, resorts and Mayan ruins.

Some 90 minutes away by car is the coastal temple of Tulum, the only edifice the Mayans built by the sea. A priestly enclave set high on a promontory, Tulum was the focal point of a thriving walled city-state in the jungle that thrived until the coming of the Spanish.

As at other temples in the region — Uxmal, Palenque, Chichen-Itza, Coba — the Mayans practised human sacrifice here. Each day the high priest would extract the heart from a living virgin in a matter of seconds, then hold up the still-palpitating organ triumphantly as if to appease the sun. The practice appalled even the cold-blooded conquistadors.

Xcaret (pronounced Ish-car'-et) is a $17-million amusement park situated midway between Cancun and Tulum. Although Disneyesque in conception and scope, Xcaret caters to the ecological ethos of the 1990s. One may float lazily down an underground river or swim with gentle and intelligent bottlenose dolphins.

Xcaret's wild bird aviary and saltwater aquarium provide insight into the region's wildlife and its 26 models of Mayan ceremonial sites illuminate the vanished civilization that still defines the region's soul. Xcaret bills itself as "nature's sacred paradise," and its adult admission fee of about $30 Canadian shows that paradise doesn't come cheap.

Coba, once a major Mayan city with extensive trade connections, is situated inland. Its two towering temple ruins and various pre-Hispanic elevated roads date from its heyday about 1,200 years ago. Largely overgrown with jungle, Coba is more accessible to wild boars and monkeys than to people. It's a good spot to view local birds and butterflies.

For snorkellers, the Tulum Corridor offers Xel-Ha ("Shell-Hah") National Park, a natural area of lagoons and caves along the rocky shore. A Cancun in miniature, the coastal town of Playa del Carmen offers shops, restaurants, deluxe hotels and an 18-hole golf course.

Even the Yucatan's most spectacular ruins in Chichen-Itza are accessible from Cancun. Chichen-Itza is 2½ hours away by road but only a short charter flight away and thus a popular destination for day-trippers.

For more information, call Mexico Tourism, 800-446-3942.

* * *

March Of The Living: Five Toronto-area synagogues — Beth David, Beth Emeth, Beth Tikvah, Pride of Israel, Shaar Shalom — are hosting a March of The Living to Poland, Prague and Israel as a "celebration of Jewish survival and triumph." The itinerary includes Warsaw, Treblinka, Lodz, Lublin, Krakow, Prague and extensive touring in Israel, and runs May 1 to 18. Cost is $3,995 per person, double occupancy (single supplement, $1,495).

Contact rabbis Phillip Scheim, Barry Schneider, Wayne Allen, Aaron Flanzraich or Martin Berman at the above-named synagogues, or Ami Lohr at Amiron Budget Travel, 416-630-5024 or 800-644-1965.

Canadian firm buys part of Phoenica Glass

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Canadian-based Consumer Packaging Inc. (CPI), a leading producer of glass containers, has signed a partnership agreement to purchase 25.1 percent of Phoenicia Glass Works, a fully owned subsidiary of Koor Industries, for $5.8 million, the company informed the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The agreement marks CPI's first investment in the Middle East. The firm intends to expand activities into other countries in the region in its strategy to become a multinational corporation.

CPI is the market share leader and only glass container producer in Canada. The company, in partnership with Owens-Brockway Glass Container, recently signed an agreement to buy Anchor, one of the largest producers of glass bottles and jars in the United States. Completion of the transaction will turn CPI into the third largest glass firm in the world with an annual sales turnover of about $1.6 billion.

The pact was signed in Canada last Wednesday.

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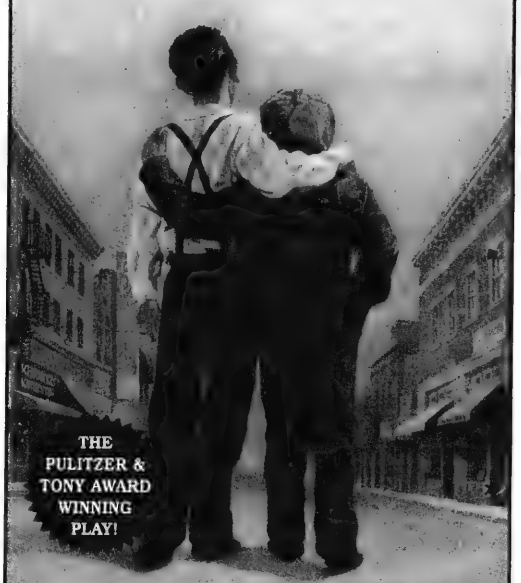

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Anti-Semitic insults mar hockey tournament

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An international hockey game between Israel and Yugoslavia turned ugly when repeated anti-Semitic insults led to an end-of-game brawl at a recent IIHF under-20 junior tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Epithets of "dirty Jew" and "we're going to finish what Hitler started" prompted the angry Israeli reaction, said Oded Orgil, who accompanied the team to Sofia for an IIHF Pool D tournament. Twice in the middle of the game, the Israeli captain, Ran Oz, approached the referee to complain about the comments but he was shooed away both times. The referee did not speak English and the linesmen, who did, refused to intervene, Orgil said.

Later in the game Oz decided to take matters into his own hands and cross-checked the Yugoslav player. He was thrown out of the game and when the Israeli assistant captains "tried to talk to the referee, he refused to listen. At that point, the boys on the bench got very upset," Orgil said.

With 10 minutes to go in the game and Israel trailing 6-4, Yugoslav players made more anti-Semitic comments (coupled with aggravating stickwork), leading to pushing and shoving on the ice. Then, with the Israelis down two men, the Yugoslavs put the game out of reach. They went on to win 9-4.

When the final buzzer sounded and the benches emptied, five or more fights broke out, with the remaining players "dancing" around the ice, Orgil said. Afterwards in the dressing room, head coach Sergei Martin upbraided the youngsters for fighting, but some Israeli players shouted back that he had not lost relatives in the Holocaust.

Surprisingly, no sanctions were imposed on Israel by the tournament directorate. At a directorate meeting, composed of representatives of the competing countries, Israel complained about the outrageous anti-Semitic remarks, the referee's unwillingness to deal with them and the fact the ref could not and would not communicate with the Israeli team, even in English, Orgil said.

Orgil, a member of Israel's national senior team, said for many of the boys it was their first taste of blatant anti-Semitism. Composed of players from Israel and of Canadians who have or whose parents have Israeli passports, they were not used to experiencing such Jew-hatred.

While some may consider them wrong for taking matters into their own hands, "for them it was a matter of self-respect. Sometimes you've got to take a stand for principle. You may lose the battle, but in the long run, you win the war. I think the boys from Yugoslavia may think twice about starting up anti-Semitism with Jews," Orgil said.

The game against Yugoslavia was Israel's second of the tournament. Also participating in the IIHF-sponsored event were teams from Estonia and South Africa, which together with Israel and Yugoslavia, comprised one of two divisions in Pool D. Teams from Lithuania, Spain, Bulgaria and Mexico, which made its first appearance an IIHF event, rounded out the division.

Orgil accompanied 11 players from Toronto and one from Saskatchewan (a Russian-born Israeli who plays junior B hockey there) to bolster the Israeli lineup. Some of the players were also on last year's under-18 team that won for Israel its first-ever medal in Pool D international hockey, a bronze. The year before, in the same tournament, they finished fifth out of seven teams.

Ron Soreanu, 16, is a veteran of last year's bronze medal team. A defenceman with Goulding Park Rangers, a AA minor midget team, Soreanu was on the ice when the fights broke out. In fact, he paired off with a Yugoslav player who earlier in the game had hacked at the Israeli goalie. He said the team got angry when Oz described the anti-Semitic remarks to them on the bench and coupled with the cheap-shot stickwork they endured during the game, that prompted the outbreak of fisticuffs.

"A lot of the Yugoslavs" made insulting remarks and "we wanted to do what's right for our team," he said.

Ron Berman, Soreanu's teammate with Goulding Park, said one Yugoslav player called him a "dirty Jew" during a faceoff near the end of the game. When the teams hit the ice after the final buzzer, he too was involved in a fight —with that same Yugoslav player. "I got him back," the 16-year-old right winger said, "but I'm still pretty angry we lost the game."

As in previous years, Israel opened the tournament slowly — and without a single practice together. The Estonians, many of whom are major junior calibre according to Berman, clobbered them 11-3. The team, feeling opening game jitters and playing on the big ice for the first time, fell behind 5-0 in the first 10 minutes.

The juniors were also hampered by a problem that has plagued Israeli hockey teams for years — disagreement over what style to play when the team is made up of skaters who've been trained in Canadian hockey as well as those who learned the Russian style. Martin and his assistant Boris Mendel, both Soviet *olim*, wanted the boys to play a skating, no-hitting game while most of the players, including those born in Israel, wanted to play a more physical, Canadian style, Orgil said.

"It's a totally different style and it's hard to switch over," said Berman, who had six goals in the tournament.

The Canadian-trained players got to play more their own way in game 3 against South Africa, which was coached by a Canadian. Israel won 7-2 and the score was indicative of the play. Goalie Avi Gleeck had a strong game and Israel was better in all facets of the game, Orgil said.

Game 4 was against the host Bulgarians, a cross-over match to determine fifth and sixth places. Israel won 7-3 as their performance continued to improve. The Israelis were physically stronger, played a better game all-round and got strong netminding from Sergei Ostrovski, a Russian-born player who lives in Israel. "It was a good, workmanlike effort," Orgil said.

For Soreanu, the victory was especially sweet, since the Bulgarians had been standing by the boards and cheering on the Yugoslavs during their altercation with Israel. "We all connected, I guess," he said of the final effort that evened the Israelis' record at 2-2.

Berman and Soreanu raved about the experience of representing Israel at an international tournament.

"I played last year in the under-18 tournament and I didn't think this year would be a big deal," Berman said. "But once you step on the ice, you get a feeling of pride... You get this extra momentum boost and even when you're tired you work hard." When your team scores a goal, the bench erupts in wild cheers, he added.

Centre Alon Eizenman was named Israel's most valuable player of the tournament. Other players who joined the team from Canada included: Gleeck, Soreanu, Berman, Jason Goldberg, Simon Levine, Brad Bloch, Mark Joseph, Jason Shiff, Yaron Orgil and Eli Oosterhuis. Canadian Jeff Budd, who works at the Canada Centre rink in Metulla, served as the team's manager.

For a first-person account, please see page 43.

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368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
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372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
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380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
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392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

$1,595,000 LOWER VILLAGE
7 Bdrms., exquis[SOLD]nd. Janie Lerner*/Allen Tobe** 226-1987

FOREST HILL BEAUTY – 183' LOT!
Elegant 5 bdrm. home, mn. flr fam. rm. & lib. Elaine Lewis* 488-2875

RAVINE LOT – FOREST HILL!
Huge pr. rms., 6 bdrm., 2 mstr ens. & hdw firs. Elaine Lewis* 488-2875

$579,000 LAWRENCE PARK CONDO
3 bdrm.-sensational. Janie Lerner*/Allen Tobe** 226-1987

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON JUST $509,000!
Magnificent cust[SOLD]m home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN $399,000
Custom built, 3 bdrm., 2-stry, fin. bsmt. Y. W. Viner* 226-1987

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Adorable renova[SOLD]ungalow. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

$169,000 BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Det. 3 bdrm., wo[SOLD]t. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

DESIRED STREET BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Build to your choice 5500 sq. ft. J. Ziezold* 226-1987

1ST AD! OLD COLONY HUT LOT
Unusual home 10 years new. Inspect with J. Ziezold* 226-1987

JUST $699,000 BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Elegant & spacious 4 bdrm home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS 160'x127' LOT
3 bdrm bung., fam. rm., possible severance. J. Lerner* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

OLDE THORNHILL - HERITAGE AREA
5 br. ideal res. or home office. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

BATHURST/STEELES
3 bdrm. semi-large lot, brand new carpeting, dbl. car gar. B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

CLARK & ATKINSON- 3 BR - HURRY $204,900
Huge kit., appls. & more Ask Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

$237,000 DOWNTOWN CONDO
2 bdrm., sol. laundry [SOLD]. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

$349,000 CLAREMONT 50 ACRES!!
Barn & res. potential. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

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HOMELIFE/CIMERMAN REAL ESTATE LTD.
announces the addition of

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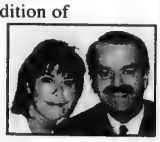

to their professional sales staff.

Karen and Joe offer their clients extensive experience in the residential real estate market in North Toronto and Suburbs. Their knowledge and integrity assure you of the competent and professional service you expect. Let Karen, Joe and the Homelife Network of Companies, including The Toronto Dominion Bank, Allied Van Lines and others, show what they can do for you.

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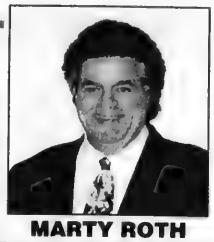

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BATHURST PALM DR. $214,900
Ideal starter, 3 bdrm, 2 bths, liv & din comb, open fireplace, gar, 50'x120' lot, don't miss.

BATHURST STEELES
4 bdrm bung, 3 bths, up-dated kit, fin bsmnt, steps to all.

BATHURST FINCH
5 bdrm, 4 bths, L-shaped liv & din, fam. rm, fin. bsmnt, dble drive, gar.

BATHURST SHEPPARD
2+ bdrms, liv & din comb, lge lot, A-1 buy & location.

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
3 bdrm bung, L-shape liv & din, fin. bsmnt, move-in cond.

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- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, sun rm, balcony, locker, 2 pkg, approx. 1400 s.f. $238,000.
- Bathurst/Steeles - 3 br, 2 wr, corner, hardwood, super luxury, top to bottom $218,000.
- 2800 s.f., 5 br, $308,000.
- 3400 s.f., custom, $649,000.

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Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,440 SF. Come & view.

BATHURST/FINCH
$299,000. Great investment property. 60'x140' lot, 3 bedroom bungalow, finished basement, 2 car garage. Zoned commercial.

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19 Chiltern Hill Rd. is just a short walk to synagogues, day schools and great shopping. This bright 4 bdrm., 4 bth., center hall features eat-in kitchen, finished basement, main floor powder room, hardwood floors, new roof, new furnace, professionally re-painted and wonderful landscaping. $429,000.
Call
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BATHURST LAWRENCE
NEW PRICE - Stormont Ave., excellent location, 5 bdrm., central air cond., hardwood, fam. size new kit., fin. bsmnt. w/sep. entrance.
MIRA NAHMAN 905-881-5551
TRANSWORLD 100% INC.

AT BATHURST-STEELES - EXCL.
4-BED - SPLIT - BIGGEST LOT IN THE AREA.
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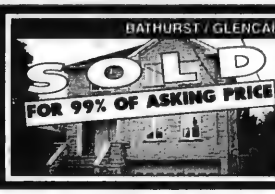

Custom built executive home — loaded with upgrades, shows very well! 4 SOLD 4 baths, Eichorn, asking $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

WE HAVE MORE ANXIOUS BUYERS WHO WANT TO LOCATE IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING YOUR PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL US!

MIAMI BEACH — GRAND OPENING!
$116,900 U.S. PUTS A FABULOUS ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD AND THE SEA AT YOUR FEET

Luxury 1 + 2 bdrms. available at pre-construction prices, starting at $116,900 U.S. Fabulous central location. For more information call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE
51 foot frontage, rare opportunity! Mostly land value, presently rented. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS
Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD — PRESTIGE!

Prestigious executive home! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge family room, library. Hot location — A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Custom built executive home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge family room with fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded with upgrades, only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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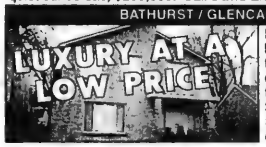
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, only $369,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — REDUCED!
Detached 3 bdrm., 3 baths, hrdwd. floors, Jacuzzi, close to park, quiet cul-de-sac, $209,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Fabulous executive 4 bedroom, 4 baths, family room, library, dream kitchen, shows to perfection! Only $539,000. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES CONDO

Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $199,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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FINE HOMES

ST. GEORGE/BLOOR – $139,000.
Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath suite in reno'd. historical mansion. Updated, eat-in kitchen. Balcony. Parking. Great value-carries like rent. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

PRIME ALLENBY – JUST LISTED.
$359,000. Reno'd kitchen & baths. Breakfast rm. 3 bdrms, 2 baths. Fireplace. Fin. lower level with full bath. *Eva Rames/**Margaret Heiman.

• • •

ALLENBY SCHOOL – $575,000.
Superb family home with main flr. family rm. + den/office. Finished lower level. Great for entertaining, *Elaine Pike.

• • •

UPPER VILLAGE — $419,000.
Super 4 bdrm. home Spacious principle rms. W/O from kitchen to deck. South facing lot backing onto "belt line". Private dr. & gar. *Linda Rose.

• • •

GLEN RUSH — $419,000.
Exceptional family home on large lot. Generous principle rms. Breakfast/sun rm. off kitchen. Great location. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

RUSSELL HILL – $645,000.
Magnificent townhome on the "Hill". Grand principle rms., 3 bdrms. Master w/ens. Den. Main flr. powder rm. Lush & tranquil setting. *Faith Goldman.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE — $839,000.
Updated 4 bdrm. home on oversized grounds. Library. Kitchen w/breakfast rm. + w/o. Central air conditioning. Double garage. *Herman Wood.

• • •

BEDFORD PARK – $399,000.
Main floor family rm. + SOLD Private l/vl. nanny's suite. 2 fireplaces, 3 skylights, w/o to deck & garden. Parking. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

BATHURST/EGLINTON – $409,000.
Cedarvale 4 bdrm. Large SOLD le rooms. Kitchen + brkfst. rm. Finished lower level. Private drive & garage. CAC. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

FOREST HILL – $479,500.
Classic centre hall. 4 b SOLD us main flr. den & powder rm Master w/ens. Reno'd eat-in kitchen. Fireplace. **Don Wagman.

• • •

GLENGROVE WEST — $549,000.
Custom built. 5 BRs + SOLD library + family rm. Eat-in kitchen. CAC. Double garage. Fin. l/vl. *Betty Cohen

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NORTH

NEW LISTING – BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
$1,268,000 - Super value in area - 6 year new 6000'. Totally upgraded, 4 car gar., pool. Arlette Carmona*

MELROSE AVENUE NEW – $449,000
Avenue Rd./Lawrence SOLD 4 baths, kit./fam. rm., fin. bsmt., Nanny's rm., 40'x107'. Arlette Carmona*

CENTRAL

PRICED TO SELL! YORK MILLS
Fab. renovated 4+1 bdrm., dble gar., library & fam. rm., hrdwd flrs., magnificent Master suite. Frances Novack*

1ST AD! – 3500' FREEHOLD TOWNHOUSE
$550,000 Walmer Rd. Casa Loma - Fabulous space, 3 huge bdrms., fin. bsmt., decks, dble gar. A.Carmona*

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
39 Kilbarry Rd!$549K! UCC area! Listed & Sold for 97% of price! Yours can be next! Call Sandon!

1ST ADS! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Bowring Walk! $499K! Lux. 3460' mn. fam., lib. & laundry!
Elm Ridge Dr! $439K! Updated 4+1 bdrm. 3 bth., Nanny ste.

THE BEACHES!! SUPERB LIFESTYLE
New Home! "Homes and Gardens" 4 bdrm, unbelievable space & ambiance - "On a Park" $498K. M. Noar*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

Thornhill, 4 bd., 2 storey, $329K G. Baron Rltr.,. 665-3044.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

PROMENADE TOWERS
Luxury 2 bdrm. + sol + balc, ground fl. Ideal for Shomer Shabbat. Priced to sell!
JASON ATKINS
905 889-8008
SUTTON GROUP
Towne Centre Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

100 Antibes, upscale, lux. 3 bdrm. + sol, 2 baths, 6 appls, cable, eat-in kit., 2 car pkg., $1450., refs. req. 663-6198.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Neptune,elegant,3 bdrm. 2 bath, reno'd, close to TTC, $1200./mo., reliable. 783-6796.

Bath./Steeles, lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 5 appls., early occup., $1,300., 2 yr. lease. 665-3491.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

20's prof. female seeks same to share semi-furn. apt. at Yonge & Eglinton. 488-9252.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Egl. area, bach. avail., + pkg., ground flr.,$569.69. Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm, Call 485-1193.

Century 21

GLEN PARK & BATHURST
WALK TO SUBWAY, SCHOOLS & SYNAGOGUE
Brand new superior quality home, approx. 4,000 sq. ft. of luxurious living space, 5 + 1 bdrms, magnificent kitchen, 5 baths, finished bsmt. w/sep. entrance & R/I additional kitchen & laundry. Please call Connie Adam, Century 21, New Concept Ltd. (416) 449-7600.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST
Bathurst & Steeles
RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS
REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS
Call for appointment
445-8811
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BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Duff./Steeles, bach. bsmnt. apt.,sep.entr,$490/mo 665-8586

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Thornhill, lge. room in a house, share kit./bath. 905-660-5160.

95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

LARGE LUXURY 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOMES FOR RENT
Don Mills & Steeles
• Central Gas Heating & Air Conditioning
• Walkout to Private Patios
• Private Driveway & Garage
• Ensuite Bathrooms
• Walk to Schools, Synagogue, Shopping & Major Bus Routes
March 15th occupancy from $1272.00 per month
FOR APPOINTMENT TO VIEW
CALL 905-881-1493
WYCLIFFE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIMITED

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles, 4 + 1 townhouse,2 bths.,4 appls, carp., fin. bsmnt., $1,425./mo., 97 Plumtree Way, immed. 398-0137.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

No. Miami Beach, Aventura, lux. 2 bdr., 2 bath condo., corner suite, furn., secur., 2 pools, tennis,etc., indr. pkg. $69,900. US/Best Offer.Private.445-3317

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Coconut Creek, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, lge. terrace, lake view, newly furn., avail. Feb. 15. $1,500./mo. U.S., min. 2 mos. 635-9419.

Deluxe Fla., Carribean & summer homes & islands. 445-6200

Hollywood, oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 baths, avail. Mar. & April, $2,000./mo. U.S. + util. 905-770-0358.

Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 163rd & Collins, opposite beach, tennis, secur., nr. Rascal House, $65. U.S. daily, from Mar. 1 - min. 1 mo. Mark, 631-9994.

St. Petersburg Beach, luxurious 2 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath townhome, close to beach. Avail. March, $1350./mo. U.S. Refs. 416-315-8305.

Delray Villas, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, close to shul. Season. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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196 VACATION PROP.- SWAP/EXCHANGE

Ontario cottage - Jerusalem ext. Exchange - August, 1997. Wanted: spac. cottage on sandy shallow beach - Lake Simcoe between Churchill & Big Bay Pt., in exchange for: Jerusalem 3 bdrm., 3 bath, ground flr. apt. with garden, in east Talpiot; car avail. Call 787-9407.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Principal-Administrator, for well established Schecter Jewish Day School, west coast of Florida, competitive salary & benefits, send resume to: 5720 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33707 or call (813) 344-1111 or fax: (813) 344-1117.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

PRINCIPAL Wanted, for Judaic and secular studies for a vibrant, community day school, grades N-8. Kadimah school, founded in 1959, is located in Amherst, New York, a suburb of Buffalo, and is posed for expansion under the direction of an able leader. Salary is negotiable. Please send resumé and University placement file with references. A short video presentation is welcome. Apply to: Kadimah Search Committee, c/o David Brown, 58 Cherrywood Dr., Williamsville, New York, 14221, e-mail address is XPNH76A @PRODIGY.COM. In addition, Kadimah is looking for a full-time Jewish studies teacher. Must be fluent in Hebrew. Apply to above address.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Paving Company, specializing in industrial & commercial, seeks sales person. Call Tony or John at 741-5865.

247 DAY CARE

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher plus assistant, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
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***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

Cleaner avail. for vac. apts., houses, bldgs., refs. 782-7592.

Cleaning lady avail. every 2nd Tues., Fri., & every Sat. Call Elizabeth, 249-2920.

Cleaning lady avail. with refs., 782-7592 (early evg.).

Domestic Help & Nurses avail. 24 hrs. 656-6695.

Exper. cleaning lady avail. on Sat. & Sun. Call Hildrena (416) 693-1545, refs., reas. rates.

Exper. lady seeks domestic help position, Mon.-Fri., refs. 626-7050.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will keep your home clean & tidy on a regular basis at reas. rates. Call Angie 780-9874.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

PERFECTIONIST will clean one day a week, reliable. Carla 747-5384.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For info. contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1230** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**.398-7068.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Looking for William or Edward Green, Major ST, T.O. Post WWII. Write: S. Ranger, 1012-1339 Meadowlands Dr., Nepean, Ont. K2E 7B4.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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Roses are red, violets are blue, who knows, maybe it's fate that I meet you! Okay, it's corny, but I'm probably the only person who wrote poetry. Hey....this is eye-catching stuff! I'm an attr. JF, 35, sep., no kids, with a great sense of humour. I enjoy sports, and I'd like to meet a prof. SJM, 35-39 who likes sports and the usual boy-girl stuff for a potential long-term relationship. Yup....you read it right....long-term. So if that's not you, don't write. If it is you, than take pen to paper and write your little heart away. (Send a recent photo if possible). I'll reply to all letters I receive & also send a photo. CJN Box 6877.

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Mr. & Mrs. Harry & Sabina Pisarek and their family and Mr. & Mrs. Sam & Ella Rozencwajg and their family wish to announce the passing of their beloved sister, **Shoshana Grinszpan,** in Israel, January 12, 1997. You will be sadly missed by the entire family, but not forgotten. Our memories of you will forever be in our hearts.

KENDAL, Anita - on January 11, 1997, late of 175 Hilda Ave., #104.
BOROVOY, Sid - on January 12, 1997, late of 26 Dewlane Dr.
DERMER, Sydney - on January 12, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
KATZ, Lee (Leo) - on January 12, 1997, late of 60 Montclair Ave., #204.
WOLFISH, David - on January 12, 1997, late of 478 Roselawn Ave.
EISENBERG, Jack - on January 14, 1997, late of 351 Christie St.
HOFFMAN, Mollie - on January 14, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KAMINKER, Molly - on January 14, 1997, late of 76 Julia St.
KORBIN, Estelle - on January 14, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #105.
PANCER, Chanala - on January 14, 1997, late of 655 Briarwood Ave.
GLICK, Ida - on January 15, 1997, late of 272 St. Clair Ave. W.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

CLIMANS, Roslyn - on January 13, 1997, late of 101 Peckham Ave.
HEISEL, Lillian - on January 13, 1997,
SMITH, Charles - on January 13, 1997, late of 41 Cavotti Cres.
GRYFE, Reuben - on January 14, 1997, late of 6000 Bathurst St.
LEIBOVITCH, MAX - on January 15, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
MORMORSTEIN, Armin - on January 15, 1997.
WEISBERG, Sam - on January 16, 1997.
ZARETSKY, Rita - on January 16, 1997, late of 61 Artreeva Dr.
BERNATT, Rose - on January 19, 1997.
KREMNITZER, Henry - on January 19, 1997.
SNIDER, Rose - on January 19, 1997.

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About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

Since my Dad was admitted to the hospital for minor surgery, there has been a dramatic change in his behavior. He was somewhat forgetful before, but now has periods where he is a different person. He has become very aggressive and now they are treating him with medication that makes him act like a zombie. He was diagnosed as an Alzheimer's victim. I can't accept the change in him. He was always the strong one in the family.

RS

Dear RS,

I am really sorry that you have to face the difficult realities that come with that diagnosis. There are many opportunities to learn more about Alzheimer's disease. It will not change your father's condition but it will help you and your family learn to deal with some of the problems.

Please contact an association or agency that provides education and support groups. If this is not available, visit a health professional who has experience in this field.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

The Canadian Jewish news

PURIM ART CONTEST

KIDS!

Remember to send us your drawings.
Deadline is Monday, March 3 at 5 p.m.

The Inside Back

'Nice to see Star of David flying proudly...'

By ALON EIZENMAN
Special to The CJN

Along with 18 others from Canada and Israel, I recently had the opportunity to represent Israel in the World Junior Hockey Championships, Pool D, in Bulgaria. The following is my account of what happened from the time we left Toronto until we returned 10 days later.

Alon Eizenman

Dec. 27: Today is departure day. We come to the airport excited, nervous and a little proud. This is the first time that Israel is sending a team to the under-20 World Championships, so we're heading into uncharted territory. Expectations are high for this team after the bronze medal performance put on by the under-18 team in Bulgaria last year. Those of us who have been to Bulgaria before know what the food is like, so we pack enough food to feed a medium-sized Caribbean country for a month. Simon Levine leads the team in that department. He's bringing about 40 pounds of food, as well as a portable heater.

We say good-bye to parents and siblings and board the plane. There are 14 of us coming from Canada — 11 players from Toronto, one transplanted Russian playing in Saskatchewan, our chaperone, Oded Orgil, and our trainer. The rest of the team coming from Israel will join us in Bulgaria on Sunday. So far, we all seem to get along. It promises to be a good trip.
Dec. 28: By the time we reach Frankfurt, the tedium of flying has eroded much of our excitement and optimism, and has left us feeling like we just want to get to Bulgaria so we can collapse into real beds.

Our exhaustion, coupled with the fact that it costs about $5 (US) for a can of pop, makes our three hour layover in Frankfurt pretty rough.

We land in Bulgaria safely. Unfortunately, eight of our bags do not make the trip with us. They will arrive later on, but not before giving us our first modest scare of the trip.

Our hotel, the Hotel Rodina, is nice — much nicer than we expected — but there's a catch. The hallways are heated and our rooms freezing cold.
Dec. 29: Now is the winter of our discontent. We awake to find that our rooms are still as cold as they were last night. On the plus side, we don't need refrigerators for all of the food we've brought.

The breakfast that they serve us is decidedly sub-par. Fortunately, some of us have brought breakfast cereals with us. We take the cereal down to the dining room and ask for milk. The waiter gladly obliges, bringing us pitchers of warm milk. We figure that we weren't specific enough, so we try again, this time explaining to him, in broken English and sign language, that we want cold milk. The waiter disappears and returns triumphantly with what we assume are pitchers of cold milk. They are actually the same jugs of warm milk with ice cubes in them!

Today is our practice day. We are supposed to practise in the morning and then meet the Israeli part of the team and practise with them in the afternoon, but things don't often go according to plan here. There is a strike at the airport in Tel Aviv and the nine Israelis (seven players, two coaches) will not arrive until later tonight. This means that we will not practise as a team at all, and the first time that we'll be on the ice together is in our first game. To make matters worse, our first game is against Estonia, the top-ranked team in the tournament.

I fear the worst for tomorrow. You can't expect a team to go out and play cold against anybody, let alone the big, bad Estonians.
Dec. 30: Today is the opening day of the tournament. Our first game, against Estonia, is at 10 a.m. It turns out that I have good reason to be worried. The score is 7-0 for the other guys before we know what has happened. Ron Berman gets our first goal of the tournament near the end of the first period, breaking their shutout, and saving a little face.

The rest of the game is more even as we adjust to their speed and passing, as well as to each other. However, for obvious reasons, we can't play an organized game, so we never threaten to make a comeback. This game can be classified as a learning experience.

After the game we go to eat at a very mediocre pizza joint across the street from the arena. We leave the waitress a 4,000-lev tip, or about $8 (US). For this to have any significance, you need to know that it is not customary to tip in Bulgaria; and the waitress makes about 10,000 lev a month. The woman is so overcome that she starts to cry.

The opening ceremonies take place today. They're a lot less exciting than the name "ceremony" suggests. Three guys from each team skate around the rink holding their country's flag, the tournament director makes a speech and the Bulgarian national anthem is played. Hardly enough to give me goosebumps, but it's still nice to see the Star of David flying proudly at the World Junior Hockey Championships.

We spend the rest of the day searching for food and heat. I hope tomorrow will be better.
Dec. 31: Today we have a chance to put yesterday's embarrassment behind us. Our opponent is Yugoslavia, a more talented but physically weaker team than we are.

We get off to a good start, scoring early in the first period. They tie the game before the first intermission. The second period is also pretty even, but a rash of stupid penalties allows them to score a few power play goals. The score at the end of the second is 5-3 in their favor.

They have been playing a dirty game up until this point, occasionally trying to perform unlicensed surgery on us using hockey sticks, but in the third period, they cross the line. They make anti-Semitic comments and insulting gestures at us, and apparently forget that hockey, although violent, is still a game, and games are inherently childlike and good. We try to ignore the Yugoslavs and just play hockey, but when your opponent says that he's going to kill you like Hitler, it's sort of difficult to focus on the game. We appeal to the referee, but he pays no attention until the 10-minute mark of the third, when our captain, Ran Oz, is ejected for trying to dismember a Yugoslav who said things that shouldn't be said.

The rest of the game is basically a slug-fest, where we no longer care if we win or lose; we just want to get as many punches and cheapshots in as we can before the final buzzer. Consequently, they score three more goals while we sit in the penalty box. The final score is 9-4.

However, the game is not quite over. As all of the players get off of their benches to line up for their national anthem, a brawl breaks out.

Although we lose the game, we make up for it in the fight, politely teaching our opponents a lesson in manners. Nothing can diminish the pride we have in our actions, our team and each other. I feel that we lost the game but won something more important.
Jan. 1: Happy New Year! Today is the relaxing day. We don't do much of anything except for hanging out and chillin', which are really the same thing. We have some real characters on this team, like Eli Oosterhuis, a phys-ed. student at U of T and one of the funniest kids I have ever met. Mark Joseph and Jason Goldberg, who both go to Western, are great guys and team leaders. Joseph is our toughest player, but Jason Shiff is up there as well. Ron Soreanu, one of the young guys on the team, gets more attention from the guys for his good looking sister than for his solid defensive play. Avi Gleeck, our goalie, is a clown from York University and Yaron Orgil is our grizzled veteran.

The guys from Israel are cool, but David Elbaz and Guy Peled, a transplanted Quebecer and a Californian respectively, are absolutely hilarious. Ran Oz and Nadav Even are our twin towers on defence.
Jan. 2: We finally win. We beat South Africa on the strength of Avi Gleek's goaltending and some offensive production from our usually dormant forwards. It feels so good to win, no matter who the opponent is.

Today is a low-key day because we are still recovering from New Year's and because we play Bulgaria tomorrow for fifth place.

We hung out a little with the Mexican and South African teams. They may not be great hockey players, but they're good guys and they speak English. So communication is possible.
Jan. 3: The only way to describe today's game is to call it a "whuppin." Our 7-3 win was our best team effort to date. We passed well, played good defence and generally outplayed our opponents on the final day of the tournament. Unfortunately, we have no more games left. The same results could have been achieved if we had practised together before the tournament, but we didn't have that luxury. Maybe Israel will learn for next time.

We stay to watch the gold medal game between Estonia and Lithuania. Estonia wins by six goals to take the gold. Yugoslavia beats Spain for the bronze. We are a better team than Spain, but our placement in the more difficult bracket means that we have to settle for fifth. We hoped to do a little better, but fifth place is not bad for our first time in this tournament.

The medals and MVP awards are handed out. For my five goals and five assists in four games I win the MVP award for Israel. The prize is an impressive wristwatch with the words "IIHF 1997 World Junior Championship Best Player Award" engraved on the back. It's something that I can show my grandkids one day to prove that I could once play hockey.

Some of the guys decide to go out at night to celebrate, but most of us, myself included, crash at about midnight.
Jan. 4: Today is departure day. Only the Canadians are leaving today. It takes a long time to say good-bye to our Israeli friends. We wish we could stay together, just not in Bulgaria. The next time we see them, Ran, David and Nadav will be wearing IDF uniforms. It's sad, but they say that all things must come to an end, so we content ourselves with taking a lot of pictures of each other. We (the Canadians) finally tear ourselves away and bus to the airport.

I'd call the airport a hole in the ground, but I don't want to give holes a bad reputation. It is an entirely vulgar and disgusting place with bare fluorescent lights and a layer of cigarette smoke that just sits in the air, covering everything with its smelly, cancer-producing film.

We fly to Frankfurt and check into our hotel there, which after the infamous Rodina seems like the Ritz-Carlton. It has heat and everything! We eat an overpriced meal at a nearby restaurant, return to our wonderful hotel, and crash into warm, comfortable beds for the first time in 10 days. We realize that what we've been missing are the small comforts afforded to us by Western civilization, like warm rooms or people who smile.
Jan. 5: We wake up feeling well rested for the first time all week. The beds are soft, the showers are hot, and best of all, there is a real, edible breakfast. There are eggs, cereals, breads, cheeses, butters, fruits, yogurts, coffee, juices and even cold milk.

We go to the airport and board the plane to begin our journey home. It was a good trip, but it never felt so good to come home to Canada.

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Recipe of the week

SALMON BRUNCH SQUARES W/FRESH ZUCCHINI SAUCE

3 eggs
2 cups milk
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1/2 cup sliced black olives
1/4 cup sliced green onion
2 tblsp. parsley
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
3 cups hot cooked rice
16 oz. can red salmon, drained, broken in chunks, boned
paprika

FRESH ZUCCHINI SAUCE
4 tblsp. butter or margarine
1 cup coarsely chopped zucchini
1/4 cup sliced green onion
1/4 cup chopped pimento
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp pepper
1 3/4 cup milk

Preheat oven to 325°F. In a large bowl, beat eggs slightly. Stir in milk, cheese, olives, green onion, parsley and Worcestershire sauce. Mix well. Fold in rice and salmon. Pour into 12"x7" baking dish. Sprinkle with paprika. Bake 45 minutes or until a knife inserted in centre, comes out clean. Let set 10 minutes before serving. Cut casserole into squares and serve with sauce. Makes 10 servings.

Zucchini sauce: In medium saucepan, melt butter or margarine. Add zucchini, green onion and pimento. Cook over medium-high heat until zucchini is barely tender, stirring occasionally. Blend in flour, salt and pepper; mix well. Add milk. Stir constantly over medium-high heat until mixture thickens and bubbles.

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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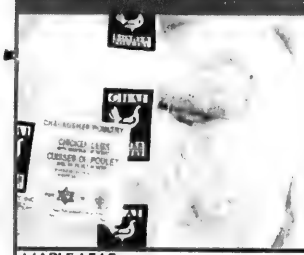

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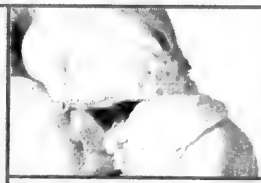

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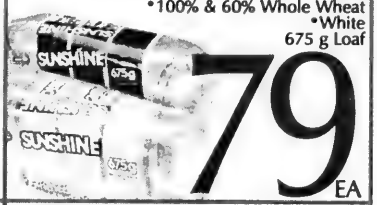

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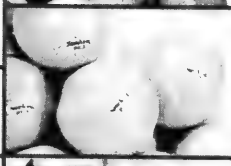

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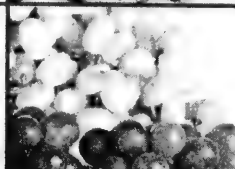

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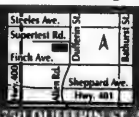

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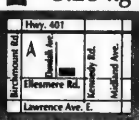

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

CJC to investigate anti-Semitic articles in Arab newspapers. *Page 3*

Konrads Kalejs' lawyer attacks historian's evidence as unreliable. *Page 7*

Tu b'Shvat celebration held at Promenade Mall, Thornhill. *Page 23*

Coast to Coast

Kashrut changes cause controversy and debate in Calgary. *Page 25*

Arts

Reichmann dynasty: New 800-page biography chronicles the rise and fall of $10 billion empire. *Page 39*

Travel

Eilat Adventure: Snorkel with bottlenose dolphins or merely sample the underwater scenery of the Red Sea. *Page 46*

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Shabbat: Mishpatim
Candlelighting: 5:17
Shevat 30, 5757
Havdalah: 6:22

War crimes case to proceed

Accused linked to atrocities

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The attempt to revoke the citizenship of alleged Nazi war criminal Peteris Vitols will go ahead, despite a request from the man's lawyer that the Justice minister withdraw the case.

John Sims, assistant deputy attorney general, said the request for a review by the man's lawyer is "a serious one" and he plans to discuss the matter with Justice Minister Allan Rock.

The lawyer, Donald Powell, is Vitols' son-in-law. Powell told *The CJN* the case against his father-in-law is flimsy and confused. He pointed to the legal documentation filed by government lawyers in December 1996 that he said backtracked from allegations made a year before.

The earlier notice to revoke Vitols' citizenship claimed he collaborated with Nazi forces and "participated in atrocities against the civilian population." The second notice, dated Dec. 18, 1996, claims Vitols was associated "with organizations engaged in atrocities against the civilian population."

"Their case was confused because they relied on KGB documents," Powell said.

The 1996 allegations state that Vitols misrepresented his wartime activities by concealing from "Canadian immigration and citizenship officials your collaboration with the occupying German authorities as a member of the Madona District Police in German occupied Latvia during the Second World War, your membership and service in the 281st Shutzmannshaft Battalion (Schuma 281) during that time, your membership and service in the Waffen SS during

Continued on page 27

BURYING WHOM HEZBOLLAH HAS KILLED

Soldiers lay to rest their 19-year-old colleague, Rotem Sharvit, who was killed last week in south Lebanon by a roadside bomb planted by Hezbollah. Along with Sharvit, 21-year-old Yonatan Tsirkel and 19-year-old Niv Sadan also died in the explosion. 31 IDF soldiers have been killed in south Lebanon since January of last year. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Conversion bill not yet settled: Bibi

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel will continue to recognize conversions by Conservative and Reform rabbis performed outside of Israel, but the government has not yet decided on the question of such conversions in Israel.

This was the message of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a satellite TV broadcast to 55 Jewish communities in North America, including one in Toronto and one in Vancouver sponsored by their respective federations.

Netanyahu's speech was arranged by the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations in the United States, at which the prime minister will speak next month.

In reply to several questions about conversions, including one from Vancouver, Netanyahu said the status quo on conversions will not be changed, but that the courts "have thrown back to the Knesset" the question of such conversions taking place in Israel and this may not be decided for some time.

Netanyahu said he suspected that few people in North America are aware that it is the Reform movement that has asked the courts to rule for the first time on whether conversions carried out in Israel by C

are legal.

This question is now being considered by his government and Netanyahu promised to listen to the concerns of the North American Jewish community, but he pointed out there would be no early decision on this "vexing problem."

Netanyahu said he knew the contentious subject would come up when he was forming a coalition government. "I said on this point

Continued on page 27

INSIDE

The Jewish community of the Czech Republic is facing extinction.
Please see page 9.

Bibi and Arafat meet in Davos — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

Rabbi Lau to Visit

WHISTLER, B.C. — Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Meir Lau and his wife will spend the last five days of Pesach at a Passover celebration in Whistler, a mountain resort 75 miles north of Vancouver.

The chief rabbi will be scholar in residence and will conduct classes, lectures and drashot during his visit.

One of the Vancouver guest speakers is David Radler, president of Hollinger International, which owns the *Jerusalem Post*.

ISRAEL

Reform Rabbis See PM

JERUSALEM – Fifty American Reform rabbis have voiced their "grave concerns" over Israel's pending conversion law in a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

During last week's meeting, the rabbis told the prime minister that the so-called "Rabbinical Court Conversion Bill" will delegitimize millions of non-Orthodox Jews in both Israel and the Diaspora.

If the bill passes in its current form, the Rabbinical Court will legally have sole jurisdiction over conversions performed in Israel.

Palestinian Talks

JERUSALEM – Netanyahu has appointed Foreign Minister David Levy to head Israel's negotiating team with the Palestinians.

Envoy Leaves Jordan

JERUSALEM —Prof. Shimon Shamir, Israel's ambassador to Jordan, has announced that he is leaving the post this month.

An embassy spokesperson denied rumors circulating in the Jordanian capital of Amman that Shamir's decision had anything to do with political differences between the ambassador and the current Israeli leadership.

WORLD

Sharansky In Moscow

MOSCOW – Former Soviet Jewish dissident Natan Sharansky returned to Moscow last week, two decades after he was arrested here by the KGB for his underground Zionist and human rights activities.

"I'm glad to be back in Moscow, the city which I was forced to leave 20 years ago," Sharansky said during a meeting with Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov.

Prior to his arrest in 1977, Sharansky lived in downtown Moscow very close to the Moscow mayor's office. This time, he was received by the mayor as Israel's minister of industry and trade.

War Crimes Trial Ends

NEW YORK – A British jury has deemed that a man accused of being a former police commander in Nazi-occupied Byelorussia is unfit to appear before a court, collapsing the nation's first war crimes trial.

Szymon Serafinowicz, 86, has been accused of killing three Jews between 1941 and 1942 in Nazi-occupied Byelorussia, now Belarus.

Jewish School To Open

PRAGUE – When registration began earlier last month, nine students enrolled at the first Jewish day school to open in Prague since World War II.

The opening of the Ronald Lauder Basic School is indicative of the revival of Jewish life in Prague, a city whose vibrant Jewish community was all but annihilated during the war.

Aid to Rwanda

NEW YORK – Israel has sent a second plane of supplies to Rwanda for its refugee population.

The aid includes tons of various types of seeds, machines for producing bricks and roof shingles, and hundreds of hand tools, among other items.

Holocaust Commemorated

BONN – Dozens of commemoration ceremonies took place across Germany to mark the second national observance of Holocaust Day.

Last year, German President Roman Herzog called for the annual observance memorializing Holocaust victims to fall on Jan. 27, the date of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp 52 years ago.

This year's commemorations included a main ceremony, attended by Herzog, held here before a joint session of both houses of Parliament.

Rothschild Appointed

NEW YORK – Kurt Rothschild, a prominent Canadian industrialist, was named to the national board of directors of the American Committee for Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem.

A founder of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation more than 25 years ago, Rothschild currently serves as the foundation's executive chair and is involved in a wide range of activities on behalf of the hospital in several Canadian communities.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Feb.4, 1972

FIRST WOMAN RABBI

A brown-eyed, mini-skirted blonde will be the first woman rabbi in the U.S. Sally Priesand, a 25-year-old native of Cleveland, Ohio, will be formally ordained at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati next week.

"Rabbi Sally" has wanted to be a rabbi since she was 16 and has been studying for the past eight years. So far the only complaints have been about her long hair and her short skirts. "If that's all that bothers them then I must be doing OK," she said.

BOURASSA URGED TO ENACT HUMAN RIGHTS CODE

Representatives of the Canadian Jewish Congress's eastern region urged Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa to legislate a human rights code to replace present statutes which are "fragmentary, incomplete and lacking in clarity," during a meeting held in Quebec City last week.

The committee asked the provincial leader to set up a human rights commission to assist victims of discrimination by using conciliatory and enforcement procedures. The meeting was the second of its kind in two years and was arranged as a special dialogue between Jewish community leaders and the Quebec premier.

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UJA Federation reaches out to York Region

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish residents of York Region have a new avenue to access the organized Jewish community. UJA Federation has hired Saul Cohen, 24, as York Region outreach worker in a one-year seed project to address the needs of Canada's fastest-growing Jewish population.

Cohen's first project as outreach worker is a youth symposium scheduled for Feb. 23 at Westmount Collegiate in Thornhill.

The youth symposium, called Get YR'ed, will have a dual focus: to introduce teens to existing local services such as youth groups and to find out what services they feel are lacking. Until Cohen took on his new position last week, he was involved in the planning on a volunteer basis. The free symposium, which runs from 11:30 to 5, will include lunch and brainstorming sessions.

"We want to find out from the community what they want, as opposed to what we want to give them," said Cohen, who – at least for now – is housed with the rest of UJA Federation in the Lipa Green building, about five kilometres south of the southern boundary of York Region.

Eventually, he hopes to connect with all segments of the region's Jewish community. "The initial part of the job will be a a lot of investigative work," he said.

A recent biology graduate of the University of Guelph, where he served for a year as co-president of the Jewish Students' Organization, Cohen is a native of Johannesburg, South Africa. He was 15 years old when his family immigrated and settled in Thornhill. An alumnus of the Otzma program, on which he spent a year volunteering in Israel, he worked for UJA Federation as a summer student last year.

York region's Jewish population was 42,165 in 1991, according to Statistics Canada's most recent available census results. The area includes Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora and Newmarket, as well as Whitchurch-Stouffville, King, East Gwillimbury and Georgina, all of which had Jewish populations of at least 75 when the census was taken.

According to a demographic study released last year, York Region has the third-largest Jewish population in the country after Toronto (125,000) and Montreal (100,000). The Jewish population has grown to an estimated 50,000, said Howard English, UJA Federation director of communications. The federation, however, has traditionally included the region as part of the 165,000 to 170,000-strong population of the Metro area.

The new outreach project was initiated and is funded by the federation's action committee for Jewish continuity, said Susan Jackson, director of continuity programming.

Notwithstanding the proliferation of synagogues and day schools in York Region and the opening of a local office of federation agency Jewish Family & Child Service a few years ago, the area is "organizationally underserviced" and includes "isolated pockets" of Jews, said English. "It's our mandate to build community and to reach out."

A local newsletter is expected to be published within the next few months, he added.

Disconnectedness, rather than assimilation, is the issue in York Region, according to Jackson. "They're not sure where to plug in."

Saul Cohen

Susan Jackson

CJC to examine anti-Semitic articles in Arab newspapers

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Immediate action is being taken to counteract anti-Semitic articles that have appeared in four Toronto Arab newspapers, the Ontario region executive of Canadian Jewish Congress was told recently.

The discussion followed up on a story in *The Canadian Jewish News* Jan. 16 revealing the existence of such reports.

"We will not tolerate anti-Semitic attacks," said Ellen Cole, the region's chair of community relations, reporting that a new subcommittee has been formed to meet with publishers of the Arab newspapers in question and with Arab community leaders.

"There are 350,000 Arabs and Muslims in Ontario and we need to take action before anything serious happens," said region executive member Dr. Naim Dallal.

He said the Arab newspapers are distributed free and can be picked up in any Arab store.

Cole said the Arab newspapers are not subject to regulations of the Ontario Press Council.

She said the committee will make advertisers in the newspapers aware of its concerns and also notify government leaders. The national office of the Canadian Jewish Congress has already been informed, she said.

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Greater Toronto Area

A soaring moment of triumphant irony

There are certain moments in life that are so powerful, so poignant and so full of the soul-soaring, triumphant irony of human existence, that we must stop to notice them.

One such moment happened last week in Moscow, little noticed by the world, and even less understood.

Reporting in the *Jerusalem Post*, Abraham Rabinovich, filed the story which began thus: "Returning on Thursday to the notorious Lefortovo Prison where he had endured the most gruelling days of his life in freezing punishment cells, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky so savored the sense of victory, he was reluctant to leave."

Who among us who witnessed the event on television eleven years ago on Feb. 11, will ever forget the sight? Sharansky was crossing a West German bridge to freedom. Small, bowed slightly against the cold but postured perfectly toward his imminent destination, he wore an overcoat two or three sizes too big and a furry hat which slipped past his ears nearly to his chin. He jaunted rather than walked, deliberately zigging and zagging, a last defiant mischief aimed at his former jailers watching from the distance. His American escort, fully a foot taller, comfortable in his snugly-fitting overclothes, had difficulty keeping pace with him.

Eleven years after he stepped onto the bridge, he returned to the place of his imprisonment. This time he was a minister of Israel, the sovereign Jewish state to which he and his friends had so fervently yearned to immigrate but to which, for so long, their passage had been brutally stymied.

The day before he visited Lefortovo prison, he was received with fanfare and honors at city hall by Moscow's mayor, Yuri Luzhkov. Sharansky was in Moscow to promote industrial cooperation between Russia and Israel. Indeed he and his hosts did sign an agreement of intent during the visit.

At Lefortovo, he sought out the "punishment cell" to which prison officials had frequently consigned him.

Rabinovich reported on it. "Sharansky declined to leave [Lefortovo] until he was permitted to revisit one of the punishment cells. The prison director refused at first, saying punishment cells no longer existed.

"Finally, however, Sharansky was taken to one.

"It's even smaller than I remembered," he said.

"At his request, the prison authorities permitted him to remain in the cell for 10 minutes together with his wife, Avital.

"After the door closed on them, Avital sat on the solitary chair..."

In his autobiography, *Fear No Evil*, Sharansky described the cell and his experience in it. I reproduce an excerpt of that description to provide some sense of Sharansky's courage.

"The punishment cell was in the basement, where the darkness was broken only by a dull lamp over the door so the guard could see me through the peephole. The cement floor of my cell measured about two meters by one and a half. In the middle was a little cement stump that was almost too small to sit on. The walls were moist with large wet spots, and the damp plaster was peeling off. The moisture quickly penetrated through my clothing. At first I didn't feel the cold, but I could see that the night would be difficult.

"Of the 403 days I eventually spent in punishment cells, I had a padded jacket for no more than 15 or 20, although the temperature at night was almost always below 18 degrees. Anyone who tries to survive for a few days in a cold basement in thin clothing and with hot food on alternate days – not more than 1,500 calories – will know that even 18 degrees is no blessing."

The irony of his return to Russia, to Moscow, to Lefortovo, is too unsubtle a symbol for me to draw readers' attention to self-evident conclusions and obvious imagery. I prefer to conclude by referring, again, to Rabinovich's report.

"At an impromptu press conference atop a snowbank after emerging from the prison, Sharansky said the punishment cells had not only been a testing place but also a place where he had been able to do his clearest thinking.

"It is a place to think about good and evil, to think about real values," he said...

"Asked whether he had forgiven his captors, [Sharansky] said he had never seen his fight as a fight against individuals.

"There is no need to forgive those who lost," he said.

Many years ago, Alexander Lerner, a friend and fellow refusenik described Sharansky as "a hero of the Jewish emigration movement on such a scale as heroes in the Bible." How appropriate a description. *MBD*

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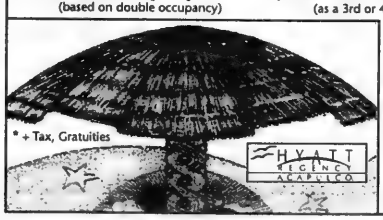

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Media focus on Canada

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's woeful record in dealing with Nazi war criminals has caught the attention of the international media.

60 Minutes, CBS' flagship newsmagazine show, aired a documentary on the topic last week reviewing Canada's history of inaction.

Earlier, *Dateline NBC* aired a similar program and a few days before that, The CBC ran a piece that focused on alleged Nazi war criminal Helmut Oberlander. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) also sent a crew to Canada to do a piece on Nazi war criminals, with Australian citizen Konrads Kalejs as its focus.

In addition, the Reuters news agency sent a reporter and photographer to Kalejs' immigration hearing.

Kalejs' story, and his decision to live in a North York condominium building in which several survivors reside, was profiled by the U.S. programs. In addition to interviewing several Jewish community spokesmen on the issue, the U.S. programs credited New York investigator Steven Rambam for exposing alleged Nazi collaborators living openly in Canada.

Greater Toronto Area

Political row in Thornhill predicted

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — The appointment of MPP Elinor Caplan as the Liberal candidate in Thornhill in the next federal election — bypassing the nomination process — would "fracture" the local Jewish community, asserts Liberal nomination hopeful Bernie Green.

Green, a three-term Vaughan city councillor who has sewn up support from major Jewish groups and synagogues in York Region, says Caplan's appointment would create "resentment" in Jewish circles.

Green told *The CJN* that he's worked hard during the nomination race to gain the Thornhill Jewish community's support, which would split should Caplan be parachuted into the riding.

"I've got nothing against Elinor. If she wants to enter the race, terrific, and the process should take its course. But if she's appointed, it would fracture the Jewish vote. It's not the wisest thing for the party to do," Green said.

It's been estimated that Thornhill riding will be 25 to 35 percent Jewish.

Green and others running for the Liberal nod in Thornhill are paying close attention to reports that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien is considering a plan to ensure that women comprise at least 25 percent of Liberal candidates in the next federal election. Caplan's name has been raised as a possibility in Thornhill, a riding that won't exist until the next federal vote.

Caplan, the MPP for Oriole, has said she's been contacted by the party and that she's seriously considering an offer in Thornhill [*CJN*, Jan. 30]. Asked last week whether that offer is an appointment or one to seek the nomination, she demurred: "I have had discussions with the federal campaign. No decision has been made, and that's all I can say right now."

Green conceded that the Liberal party is allowed to bypass nominations and appoint candidates, "but only under appropriate conditions, and these are not appropriate conditions. I'm certainly a reasonable candidate."

Green's campaign manager, Howard Shore, said Green will make his concerns known to the party, but there's little more that can be done.

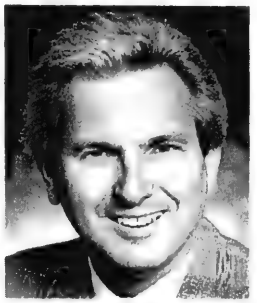
"We've made our position clear. But we're team players, and there will be no official protest.

"It wouldn't speak well of [Caplan] if she accepted an appointment," Shore said, adding that basing an appointment on gender and a riding's demographics is "insulting."

No date for the nomination meeting has been set yet.

The CJN's calls to David Smith, the Liberals' national campaign co-chair, were not returned.

Elinor Caplan



Bernie Green

Fromm hires Christie to fight dismissal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Controversial teacher Paul Fromm is contesting the recommendation of the Peel Board of Education to terminate his employment — and he's retained Victoria lawyer Doug Christie to do it.

Christie represented Fromm at a hearing last week before a committee of the Peel board of trustees, where he argued against the termination. The hearing will continue in mid-February.

Fromm's latest imbroglio resulted from a complaint to the board by B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), which argued that Fromm had violated the board's 1993 order he not associate with right-wing extremists. BBC alleged that in 1994 Fromm spoke at a memorial gathering for Revilio Oliver, a longtime proponent of anti-Semitism and that in April 1996 he spoke at a Vancouver conference organized by extremists.

Should the trustees' committee uphold the board's recommendation to terminate Fromm's employment, he is entitled, under terms of the teachers' collective bargaining agreement, to file a grievance against the decision. He is also entitled to representation by counsel from the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers Federation. "The federation has the legal obligation to represent its members in a fair manner and if it refuses to provide representation and access to arbitration, it can be sued by the member for failure to represent him," the lawyer for the federation said.

"Whether we think Fromm will win or not is not the issue. The federation has the legal obligation under the collective agreement to provide its member teachers access to the arbitration process," the lawyer said.

The Fromm case includes issues that could apply to other teachers who are not involved in conduct similar to Fromm's, such as the extent of control a school board can have over a teacher's out of school activities, he added.

The lawyer pointed out the federation was not involved in Fromm's appearance before the trustees' committee or in subsidizing Fromm's decision to retain Christie.

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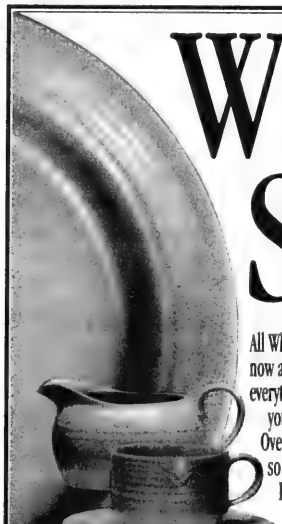

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish law students gather in Toronto

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The recent 10th annual conference of the Canadian Jewish Law Students Association (CJLSA) — Canada's only functioning national Jewish student organization — was a resounding success, with 158 participants representing campuses from Vancouver to Halifax.

The weekend conference, held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel, was co-sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada; Hillel, the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life; and Osgoode Hall Jewish Students Association. It afforded students a chance to meet with peers and hear a distinguished group of guests, most of whom stayed on for discussion after their presentations.

Speakers included Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé on Equality Issues and Minority Rights; Agi Meinhard, Bert Raphael and Marvin Kurz on Volunteerism and Activism in the Jewish Community; Lorraine Weinrib and Tsvi Kahana on Trends in Constitutionalism in Canada and Israel; Kathleen Mahoney and Alan Borovoy on Human Rights and Civil Liberties; Edward Greenspan on Current Issues in Criminal Law; and judges Michael Moldaver, John I. Laskin and Kathryn Feldman on Reflections from the Bench.

Irving Abella (father of convention co-chair and incoming CJLSA president Jacob Abella of the University of Toronto) held an "informal shmooze."

"I loved the conference," said Tamara Howarth, a third-year law student at the University of British Columbia (UBC). "I think it's important for us to keep in touch with the [rest of the Canadian] community." It's easy to see the Rockies as a barrier, she noted.

The nine-person 1997-98 CJLSA executive, acclaimed at the conference, includes three regional vice-presidents: Ted Shoub of UBC, vice-president, West; Aliza Karoly of Osgoode Hall, vice-president, Central (the area from Windsor to Ottawa); and Ariel Deckelbaum of McGill University, vice-president, East. Jacob Abella succeeds Ari Kaplan of Osgoode Hall as president.

Although the annual conference has traditionally been CJLSA's main focus, Abella would like to see the organization "take on the odd cause or two in conjunction with Jewish organizations."

For Abella, the main message of this year's conference was "wherever there's intolerance or inequality, to respect our Jewish roots and go out and make a difference. We have obligations to the community at large and, most importantly, we can't forget who we are." The theme of the conference was the biblical injunction Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof (Justice You Shall Pursue).

A common thread linking the various programs was "not just law for the sake of law, but how the law impacts on society," said Howarth.

More on Jewish life & Jewish studies on campus
Please see pages 14, 22

In the session on volunteerism, Meinhard, a business professor at Ryerson Polytechnic University, urged students to address the volunteer sector "crisis" and "reinforce our Jewish tradition" by volunteering as professionals. Naamat Canada, with which Meinhard is affiliated, runs a legal counselling service for women, for which 35 lawyers volunteer time.

Jonathan Zepp, a third-year student at the University of Ottawa, has often thought of becoming involved in community work, but never in a professional capacity. The conference opened his eyes to new possibilities. "It's something I could see myself participating in."

The conference "really put a face to the law," said first-year student Sharon Strosberg of the University of Windsor. "We spend a lot of time reading words on pages. When we got to see judges and hear them answering our questions, it was a great experience."

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Greater Toronto Area

Kalejs' counsel attack witness, 'Soviet' evidence

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Counsel for Konrads Kalejs last week launched a multi-pronged defence of their client, attacking the evidence of an expert historian and suggesting Latvian-based witnesses and documents were unreliable because they originated in the former Soviet Union.

Immigration consultant Win Thompson said historian Konrad Kwiet stretched credulity when he testified that Arajs Kommando (AK) killers lived normal lives after committing bloody atrocities.

"I find it extremely difficult to believe that people could go out, commit horrible war crimes and come back and live a normal life," he said. "I don't believe they could come home to a wife...after killing at a killing pit."

Thompson's suggestion prompted a series of questions by Immigration adjudicator Anthony Iozzo, who pointed to instances when the neighbors of common killers express surprise that the mild-mannered person they knew could have committed awful crimes.

That is different from a situation in which a group of men commit mass murder, Thompson responded.

"You're not suggesting we should be able to identify a murderer or a war criminal just by looking at him?" Iozzo asked.

Thompson persisted in his view, saying "To go out and kill, come home and eat a meal with their family...I find that very difficult to believe."

Thompson's line of argument came as the marathon case neared its end. The week before, government lawyers concluded their arguments. A further three days of tribunal time was set aside for this week to conclude all legal submissions, after which Iozzo will consider his decision.

Government authorities are seeking to deport Kalejs, an Australian citizen living in Toronto, for failing to disclose his alleged involvement in war crimes and because, they say, he is not a genuine visitor to Canada. While the government contends that Kalejs, who lives in a North York condo, does not intend to leave the country after his visit, the bulk of their case focused on his involvement in war crimes as a member of Latvia's Arajs Kommando auxiliary police unit.

Lawyers Donald MacIntosh and Bonnie Boucher presented five wartime documents that identify Kalejs as a member of the police detachment as well as videotaped testimony of former AK men who identified Kalejs as a senior lieutenant in the unit. Their first witness, however, was Kwiet, who presented an overview of events in wartime Latvia and testified to the authenticity of AK documents, based on his experience viewing similar material.

Kalejs' counsel attacked the authenticity of four of the documents while arguing a fifth document was prepared for Kalejs to attest to his membership in the unit — even though Kalejs never actually served there. Kalejs told the hearing that in 1941 he asked a friend to falsify the document so that he could submit it to the University of Riga to smooth his admission.

Kwiet had testified that such documents and the official German stamps that sealed them were tightly controlled and so it was unlikely they could be misused. But Thompson argued that Kwiet did not substantiate his claim that documents were closely guarded or that improper use of such materials could lead to drastic repercussions from the Nazis.

"We've had no evidence to back that up, no records, no proof," he said.

Turning to another of the wartime AK documents, a November 1942 certificate attesting to Kalejs' membership in the unit, Thompson said "the certificate form could be quite genuine but the content fraudulent."

Thompson also questioned a third AK document that was also submitted to the University of Riga. That certificate was signed by an AK doctor and attested to Kalejs' good health. That document bears no letterhead and is undated. "I don't believe the document is legitimate," Thompson said.

Thompson also took issue with evidence that stated Jews at the Salaspils concentration camp outside Riga suffered high mortality rates due to lack of food. "Many died but to say they got little food is bordering on speculation," he said.

Earlier, Kalejs' other counsel, Lloyd MacIlquham, launched a blanket attack on the videotape evidence presented at the hearing. (The U.S. Office of Special Investigation videotaped the testimony of former AK men in Latvia and used it in Kalejs' American proceedings, after which he moved to Canada. Those tapes were obtained by Canadian authorities and were used as evidence at Kalejs' Toronto hearing, despite objections by Kalejs' counsel.)

Little weight should be given to that evidence because counsel in Toronto were not able to cross-examine the witnesses, MacIlquham argued. Acknowledging that Kalejs' U.S. lawyer did question all the witnesses in Latvia, MacIlquham said the issues raised in the U.S. case are different than those in Canada and so the questions asked would be different.

MacIlquham's argument prompted Iozzo to say he was troubled by the lack of specific examples. "We're still dealing with very general and to some extent, very vague terms...Are you asking me to discount completely the evidence from Riga because it was a Soviet republic?"

"We ask that it be given zero weight...[because] we weren't given the opportunity to cross-examine," MacIlquham said.

Turning to the witnesses themselves, MacIlquham said several factors must be considered when evaluating their evidence: they had been questioned by Soviet authorities prior to testifying on tape; they were under the direct control of the Soviets; and they had themselves been jailed for involvement in war crimes.

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Editorials and Letters

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Dangerous stress

Since January last year, 31 Israeli soldiers have been killed in south Lebanon. Included in that list, tragically, are the three young men who lost their lives last week in a roadside explosion caused by Hezbollah. The adjective "young" is not used generically, but specifically. Yonatan Tsirkel, the commander of the group, was 21. Rotem Sharvit and Niv Sadan were 19. It is indeed true to say that Israel's defence rests primarily on the shoulders of its children.

Though the base of operations is south Lebanon, it is Iran, not the Lebanese, waging religious, fundamentalist, fanatic war against the Jewish state. Hezbollah is made up of Iranian surrogates, trained, funded, supported, inspired and directed by the mullahs and ayatollahs in Tehran. The integrity of the border between Israel and Lebanon is not the cause of their fighting; it is merely an inconvenience.

And because Lebanon is now nothing more than a Syrian satrapy, Syria watches comfortably from the sidelines as Iran visits its purposeful and violent death upon Israeli and south Lebanese soldiers.

The arrangement between the two countries is quite convenient. Iran props up Syria's economy to a significant degree, as well as Syria's historic, strategic adversariality to Iraq. Syria, on the other hand, facilitates Hezbollah's [read Iran's] campaign against Israel and is Iran's main Arab interlocutor in the mostly Arab Muslim Middle East. But since tyrants foster no loyalties other than to self, the Iranian-Syrian "arrangement" will inevitably founder on the rocks of deceit and self-interest, two of tyranny's chief hallmarks.

Earlier in the week, before the bombing took place, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that a triumvirate of ministers, Dan Meridor, David Levy and Yitzhak Mordechai, would be directly involved in any negotiations with the Syrians, if and when negotiations started. But after the killings, negotiations with Syria seemed to be a less imminent possibility. Many Israelis applauded and accepted the view of President Ezer Weizman who said: "Given the situation in Lebanon, it is impossible to hold negotiations with Syria. Something must be done to change the situation."

It should not be left up to Israel alone to "change the situation." Western countries, including Canada, who are attempting to nurture the peace process, and who never hesitate to criticize and even condemn Israel for its policies, must publicly and unambiguously express outrage against the surrogates, their supporters and their facilitators.

Not to do so is to lay bare their hypocrisy toward Israel and, far worse, to expose the peace process to dangerous stress.

Heartless policy

The Office de la langue française in Quebec now has a new assignment. The Parti Québécois (PQ) council last week voted *unanimously* (our emphasis) to have the Office review the circumstances under which health services need to be provided in the English language. It is a heartless, vindictive policy that underlies the request by the PQ, unnecessarily preying upon and sharpening the fears of the anglophone minority, especially the elderly and the frail.

Last March, Premier Lucien Bouchard assured the English-speaking community: "When you go to a hospital and you're in pain, you may need a blood test, but you certainly don't need a language test." That may now change. The language test may indeed precede the blood test.

No assurance is better than a false one.

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"From times immemorial, the world has been misinformed about us. The sentiment...with which we have been reproached so frequently and so acrimoniously was in process of disintegration when we were attacked by anti-Semitism And anti-Semitism served to strengthen it anew."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 6, 1866 Sir Mortimer B. Davis was born. Davis was the first Canadian-born Jew ever to be knighted.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Pollards reiterate their position

Re: Clarification in *CJN*, Jan. 23:

Jonathan and I would like to reiterate the statement that Jonathan made in our original press release. We are aware that prison officials Joe Meko (assistant warden) and Frank Collinsworth (unit manager) were contacted by *Ha'aretz* and by the *Toronto Star*, and in both cases, they refused to be interviewed and they did not breach public trust by disclosing information of a personal nature to any journalist.

Mrs. Esther Pollard
Toronto

No genetic basis for Jewishness

Re: *CJN*'s Jan. 9 article on genetic links in kohanim: Perhaps the most useful analogy is that of an archeological discovery, which confirms a long-standing biblical and oral religious tradition. Instead of digging into the earth, we explored the human genome, and discovered remnants of the past that were preserved in common among modern day kohanim. It is the confirmation of this ancient oral tradition which is uplifting in terms of unifying the world Jewish community. It is important to note, that we did not discover a gene per se. Rather, the finding is a Y-chromosome DNA "fingerprint" that is more common in kohanim (even of different geographic origins), compared to Israelite controls.

Our work is also entirely consistent with the halachic definition of Jewishness based upon maternity. It appears that the sages were prescient, and in their great wisdom, defined criteria for Jewishness, which preclude any possibility of establishing a "genetic" basis for "Jewishness."

It is the strongly held view of the authors that persons should be valued on their individual merits, and not on the basis of their genealogy or ancestry.

Karl Skorecki, MD, FRCP
Rambam Medical Centre

Rauca's role in Lithuanian ghetto slaughter

Re: Irving Abella's letter (*CJN*, Jan. 23). There are three incorrect statements.

Rauca was a Gestapo official in Kaunas who had been in charge of Jewish affairs. In reality, one cannot say that he was "involved." Rauca was the *administrator* of this event. Rauca *himself* ordered all the Jews in Kaunas ghetto to assemble on a square on Oct. 28, 1941. Rauca *himself* selected who should live and who should die. Altogether that day, 9,200 (not over 11,000) Jews from Kaunas ghetto were chosen to die. They were rounded up by a Lithuanian police unit and the next day murdered by the same Lithuanian police unit at the Ninth Fort. This event is still called the "Big Action."

Kaunas is *not* a "small city." It was the capital of pre-war Lithuania. There was a Jewish community of 35,000, one of the oldest in the Baltic states. The "Big Action" is the most tragic event in the history of the Holocaust in Lithuania (Kaunas). Every year all over the world, surviving Lithuanian Jews commemorate those slain on Oct. 28 and 29, 1941, and SS Master Sergeant (*Hauptsturmfuhrer*) Helmut Rauca played the most important role.

I was selected by Rauca to live. I participated in the resistance movement and was a partisan not far from Kaunas. In 1982, I immigrated to Canada and for more than 10 years I taught at York University in the departments of Social and Political Science.

Dr. Sara Ginaite
Toronto

Listen to Jewish voices on Genesis

Given that *The CJN* is a newspaper for a Jewish audience, I find it fascinating that Bernard Baskin's article (*CJN*, Jan. 23) on reading materials on Genesis focused on Bill Moyers' TV series and Karen Armstrong's book, given the glut of material on the market written by Jewish authors and rabbis. He acknowledges the range of Jewish and non-Jewish perspectives in the former. Armstrong's Catholic perspective in the latter leaves me personally feeling a large gap between her point of view and solid Jewish interpretation.

Let's acknowledge those in our own community and hear our own voices!

Susan Steinberg
Toronto

Canadians in Israel

For a book I am planning to write on Canadians in Israel, including those who arrived before Statehood, I would like to receive on loan (to be returned) memoirs, anecdotes, personal and families' sagas, experiences of early klita, successes, hardships, failures, and recollections of those who returned. Also conditions that inspired Aliyah, and conditions of life in then Palestine/Israel. Loaned photos will be returned.

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Perspectives

Czech community threatened with extinction

By YAACOV GLICKMAN

In the summer of 1995, I visited Prague and the outlying regions of the Czech Republic as part of a larger project on the "survival chances" of worldwide Jewish communities in the post-world war era. Based on archival materials and a number of interviews with key leaders of the Prague Jewish community, the visit generated preliminary observations on the topic, with further information gathering and analysis of the subject matter still to come.

The study was inspired by Bernard Wasserstein's 1996 thesis on *The Vanishing European Diaspora Since 1945*. In it, Wasserstein explains the shifting centrality of Diaspora Jewish life from Europe to America as a result of the triple force of the Holocaust, assimilation and out-migration that have brought European Jewry to the verge of extinction with almost "nothing left save a disembodied memory." He goes on to observe that by the late 1980s both the Czech Republic and Slovakia (separated since 1993) "had become for Jews not much more than a graveyard."

A significant portion of the data I examined confirmed Wasserstein's thesis. Prior to World War II, Czechoslovak Jewry is reported by Wasserstein to have numbered 357,000 persons, forming 2.4 percent of the country's total population. Following the war, only 55,000 survived, a casualty rate amounting to 93 percent of the prewar Jewish population (surpassed only by the losses suffered by the Jews of Poland). Subsequent to waves of out-migration to Israel and North America, this figure was further reduced to 7,600 persons, a minuscule 2.1 percent of the pre-war Jewish population, who were still living in that area in 1994.

Contrary to the frequently used "sheep to the slaughter" analogy (alleging to the passive way at which Jews acquiesced to their extermination by the Nazis), Czechoslovak Jews fought with the Allied Forces on all the war fronts and were most prominent in the 1944 Slovak anti-Nazi uprising where they suffered heavy casualties. This had further reduced an already decimated population into a mere shadow of its pre-war strength and vitality.

This shadow of a vibrant past has perished with hardly an appreciable change into the present historical moment. The community leaders with whom I spoke estimated the number of "registered" Jews living currently in the Czech Republic at 3,000 only, of whom 1,400 in all are said to reside in Prague.

The evidence points rather unequivocally to a profile hardly conducive to great "survival chances" of the community in question, judging by demography alone. I judge the faint hope for some revival expressed by the community leaders, in light of a recent increase of mostly elderly returnees from the West and some expectations for increased immigration from the East, as unlikely to seriously affect anytime soon the overall demographic attrition reported at the present juncture. The community leaders with whom I talked seemed to have acknowledged this gloomy forecast, their expressed hopes notwithstanding.

Demographics are only the raw materials that energize peoples' activities within the organizational framework in which they live. In addition to demographic growth, there are two prerequisites for the survival of sociocultural communities: the first is the support by the community's rank-and-file, of its cultural and value premises. The second is the provision by the community to its members of essential services such as education, resettlement of immigrants, health and welfare, and tools for religious expression.

On this basis, the Czech Jewish community barely meets the minimum standards for long-term survival, despite valiant attempts made by the leaders in charge to turn the tide in a more favorable direction.

These shortcomings are illustrated in the community's 'global-shaped' age distribution. Normal age distribution usually takes on the shape of a pyramid, allowing the young to concentrate in the wide bottom thus forming the reservoir for the future, the elderly at the narrow top, with the middle-aged category large enough at the pyramid's midpoint allowing for a young and vibrant population to renew itself.

The author and Vaclav Havel

The people with whom I spoke estimated the community's age distribution at 70 percent aged 60 and over, 20 percent aged 25 and under, and, at the goblet's narrow waist, only 10 percent middle-aged. On balance, this age profile indicates a progressively aging population causing severe shortage in peak reproduction and work maturation. Most elderly people, I was told, are government pensioners whose meagre income is partially supplemented by the community, mostly through support for accommodation and in the form of social programs and cash benefits, depending on income and family status. These forms of support must be siphoned out of limited community coffers already strained to their core essentials, at the very best.

Other factors chipping away at the community's future survival include widespread intermarriage, estimated at a staggering 90 percent, compared to a pre-World War II ratio of 48 percent, waves of out-migration in 1948, following the communist takeover, in 1952 following the Slansky trials, and in 1968, following the Russian occupation of Czechoslovakia, and the community's weak organizational structure .

Side by side with pronounced anti-Semitism, modern Czechoslovakia has been inspired, under the leadership of luminaries such as Thomas and Jan Masaryk and Edward Benes, by a strong liberal impulse, respect for democratic principles and tolerance for differing lifestyles and political philosophies. Currently, President Vaclav Havel is a towering philosopher-statesman (actually he is a playwright and a poet) who has brought — not without difficulties — into public life, respect for individual freedoms so embedded at least in part in Czech tradition. And as in many countries where Jews were freed from the bondage of civic restrictions, such enlightened forces accelerated Jewish integration and assimilation into mainstream Czechoslovak society.

The Encyclopedia Judaica reports that already in 1930, only about 57 percent of Czechoslovak Jews (defined by religion) declared their nationality as Jewish. The rest declared their nationality as either Czechoslovak or German. At the time that survey was conducted, only 27 percent of the Jews of Prague considered themselves Jewish by the same yardstick.

A similar profile unfolds with regard to education and community organization. In education, not even the bare minimum was provided as late as five years ago. The people whom I interviewed reported some progress in the teaching of Hebrew, lectures for adults about Israel run by the community rabbi, and some supplementary Talmud Torah classes up to the third grade for the young. All they could hope for was a full kindergarten and a two-class elementary program targeted for the year 2000.

The Jewish federation based in Prague is an umbrella organization administering the locally organized Jewish population presently concentrated in 10 cities across the Czech Republic, of which Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Pilzen, and Carlovy Vary — formerly Carlsbad — are the largest ones.

The Prague Jewish community is the official representative of the countrywide Jewish population vis-a-vis the Czech government, the government of the State of Israel, and the worldwide Jewish community. The Czech Jewish community is officially a member of the World Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Congress and the European Council of Jewish communities, and is registered as a district ethnocultural community with the Czech Ministry of Culture.

Presently, most community functions are performed by the office of the rabbi, the community's social, cultural, economic, and educational sections (departments) and the secretariat, in charge of day-to-day administration and technical upkeep.

The community's upper echelons where most power and influence are concentrated consist of an elected president (a position occupied at the time the interviews took place by the late Zeno Dostal, film director, scholar and writer), an appointed executive director (Dr. Tomas Kraus, linguist, jurist, and art organizer), the rabbi (Czech educated Rabbi Karel Ephraim Sidor), and 28 elected (predominantly male) board members of whom no more than eight individuals actively partake in the decision-making process.

Cultural and especially literary output has been the sole area where the pace of Jewish creativity has been developing largely unhindered, despite the sharp swings between the peaks and nadirs of Jewish life and frequent impediments mounted by both Czechoslovak officialdom and large sections of the Czechoslovak population.

By historical circumstance and because of the country's ethnic and religious heterogeneity (German, Czechoslovak, Hungarian and Carpatho-Russian), Czechoslovak Jews have produced literary giants such as Franz Kafka, Max Brod (chronicler of Kafka's life and work), Franz Werfel (who wrote about the Turkish massacre of the Armenians), and more recently Frantisek Langer (the greatest Czech playwright after Karel Capek), Eduard Goldstuecker (a literary historian), and Arnost Lustig and Jiri weil (both of whom wrote about the plight of Jews during the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia), to cite just a few examples. This is a contribution out of all proportion to the small minority of Jews in the country's population as a whole.

Jews have also been prominent, all the way down to the present, in mainstream Czechoslovak politics and public affairs (the current parliamentary president and minister of culture are both Jewish, though apparently of the "non-Jewish" Jewish variety). And the millions of tourists who flock annually to visit Prague's Jewish district with its magnificent synagogues, museums, and art treasures, are testimonies to a glorious past still lingering in the hearts and minds of Czechoslovak Jews.

This glory notwithstanding, it can hardly be expected, in and of itself, to turn the tide of diminution and decline of a community so proud during the pre-war years of its viability and durability.

Why, then, study a community in the throes of extinction?

Because for one thing, the die has yet not been conclusively cast, and because throughout history Jews have been known to have endured successive waves of decimation and assimilation and to have still come around to fight another day. For another, there are lessons to be drawn from this saga by Jewish communities in different parts of the world who may still turn the tide of extinction as they try to promote their own survival.

This is after all what the study of history is all about.

Yaacov Glickman is a sociologist who has recently published a study of Soviet Jewish immigrants in Canada. He is currently affiliated with the University of Toronto's Centre for Russian and East European Studies. *The writer wishes to acknowledge the contribution of Zeno Dostal, late president of the Prague Jewish community, and its current executive director, Dr. Tomas Kraus, to the preparation of this report.*

Opinions

Halifax deals with disturbing news

January 1997 will, for a long time, be remembered as that month when the Halifax Jewish community made headline news. Unfortunately, it was bad news.

By Viva Press in Halifax

Stuart Friedman, the cantor at Halifax's Orthodox Beth Israel Synagogue, was convicted and sent back to the United States for possessing and distributing child-pornography.

The conviction sent waves of disbelief throughout the Jewish community. Besides having to deal with the problems this event posed to Jewish communities as a whole, the Halifax Jewish community had to face the media frenzy that comes with such a situation. This was, after all, one of the biggest stories to hit Halifax in a long time.

This scandal was the lead story on television news for four days.

It was also front page news in the papers for a number of days. And commentaries on this crisis continued to be in the papers all through January.

One of the things that disturbed me was the way in which the news media referred to the synagogue. It was identified as a Jewish church.

I was watching the local ATV news when the story broke. The anchor introduced the story and said that Friedman was a cleric at the Beth Israel Jewish Church. This made me cringe. How could someone call the synagogue a church?

I immediately telephoned the newsroom. The news editor to whom I spoke asked me how I would describe a synagogue. I told him that people probably know what a synagogue is, but if they didn't know, then it could be described as a Jewish place of worship.

Within an hour, the news station had received more than 30 calls correcting their misnomer. When a friend of mine called the news editor, he sighed before thanking her for calling then added that she was one of many who had called in.

My question is, why did people have to call in? Shouldn't a well-known news station know that a synagogue is not a Jewish church? The mere wording of Jewish church is a paradox. The papers and radio stations also made this error.

I am left feeling confused. Did this misnomer occur to facilitate an understanding of what a synagogue is or did the researchers think it wasn't a significant distinction?

I was also asked many questions by my friends on how I felt about this whole issue. Was I shocked? Did I know the cantor? Did I agree with the sentence he was given?

Yes, I was shocked. Yes, I knew the cantor. Yes, I agree with his sentence.

Friedman came across as a pleasant man. He was very quiet and kept to himself. I had met him a few times, but had never really had an in depth conversation with him. His crime really came as a shock to me.

My first reaction was "Oh no, how could this happen?" Then, I thought of the effects this incident would have on the Halifax Jewish community and on the global Jewish community as a whole.

The Jewish communities worldwide are, despite inter-religious controversies, very tight-knit. Any time something unsavory happens in one community, all communities feel the impact.

Because Jews are often seen in a negative light, because we are often accused and slandered by outsiders, we have learned through history to stick together, to work as a community to dispel common misconceptions about who we are.

So, when a crime of this magnitude occurs in our community, the outside world loses no time in casting aspersions on the entire Jewish community. On the Jewish communities worldwide. Picking us apart.

There was a mad rush within the media to get the scoop. Members of the Jewish community were hounded down to comment on Friedman's obsession with child pornography. The community became the focus for media attention.

And this is why I agree with Friedman's sentence. Friedman was fined $2,000, he had to give his two computers to the police and he had to leave the country immediately. Friedman's leaving the local community is the best thing that came out of this case. Rather than have him stay in this community and encourage more press coverage, the culprit was gone.

I felt torn between two worlds. I wanted the Halifax Jewish community to have its privacy. But, I'm also a journalist. I know that if I were assigned to cover such a story, I too would have been one of people those asking the questions.

The Halifax Jewish community began picking up the pieces. The community, as a community, is still dealing with the fallout of this disturbing incident. The Halifax community is still in the process of self-examination and of healing.

Politics is a fascinating field

Since I am a political science student at McGill University, people assume that I am fascinated with politics. In Canada, however, a fascination for politics is something that is hard to come by. Not to be condescending to my home and native land, but the fact of the matter is that issues like the fisheries, the budget and even national unity seem quite secondary in the big picture. The positive side, however, is that Canada is an established country; we have already laid down the fundamental principles on which Canadian society is based. Although this doesn't do much to ease the "pain" of a Canadian political scientist, it says a lot about the progress the country has made since its establishment.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

Israel, a country entering its 49th year of existence, witnesses tremendous political tension with each decision, for underlying each decision is a debate regarding the basic principles on which the society should be based, as well as important issues of national security. The 120 members in the Knesset are representative of virtually every possible position on the political spectrum.

The past month in Israel has really been a "treat" for political scientists. As the long negotiation process on the status of Hebron finally came to end on Jan. 15, political rhetoric was uttered by all sides.

The politically loaded language that was thrown at Benjamin Netanyahu ultimately exemplified why Israeli politics is such a tense business. The left wing attempted to take credit for the agreement, sarcastically congratulating the prime minister on realizing that Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin were right all along. Many in the right wing tried to distance themselves from Netanyahu, labelling him as a sly politician who abandoned his electorate.

For anyone who has actually made the effort to examine the Hebron agreement carefully, it is evident that the seven-month negotiating process produced a number of changes to the original redeployment envisioned by Rabin and Peres in the principles of the Interim Agreement.

Netanyahu undeniably took his time to negotiate this agreement, but he also took extreme caution. Paying close attention to details, it appears he has attempted to ensure the safest arrangement in terms of security. Some of these details include the presence of the Israeli Defence Forces in joint patrols overlooking the Jewish area, the creation of buffer zones in areas of Jewish settlement where no weapons can be admitted, the freedom of action by the IDF in all areas of Hebron to defend Israelis, the restriction of Palestinian construction in areas adjacent to the Jewish presence and along major arteries, permanent joint mobile patrols taking place in the Palestinian controlled area, improvement of the main fairway, the Shuhada road, in order to improve security conditions, and a promise to "preserve and consolidate" the Jewish community in Hebron. While Netanyahu agreed to set the dates for further Israeli redeployment, he also received a pledge from Arafat to finally ammend the Palestinian covenant, as promised to his predecessors.

Netanyahu was elected in a campaign in which he promised to continue the peace process as it is stipulated in the Oslo agreements and that is precisely the framework he followed. The prime minister has continued to support and encourage the Jewish community of Hebron. The status of Hebron as a result of Netanyahu's agreement is very complicated.

Calling Netanyahu a prime minister who has "abandoned his electorate," "a traitor to Zionsim" and a "liar" for signing the very agreement that he criticized his predecessors for drafting is far from the truth.

This type of mud-slinging is characteristic of Israeli politics. But is it always something to complain about? In addition to providing some powerful expressions of strong convictions, it also gives the person interested in political science something to thrive on.

Return to Poland

Back in 1966, when Leonid Brezhnev and his Communist regime were still in power, I paid my only visit to Poland and its diminutive Jewish community. It was deeply depressing and, at the time, the future seemed very dim indeed. But the Communists are gone now, Poland has chosen a new road and Jews appear to be coming back to live there.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Someone sent me the off-print of an article that deals with that subject published in New York's *The Village Voice* (Sept. 10, 1996). The author of the article is Vince Beisel, and he took a look at a phenomenon that he judged truly extraordinary: "Poland is amongst the most anti-Semitic nations on earth. But it is also the site of a miraculous Jewish renewal."

The new Jewish culture in today's Poland, he says, is "spawned by Spielberg's make-believe Holocaust — simulated Jewish life in a place of overwhelming Jewish death." Beisel quotes one of the local observers to say that in the face of great difficulties, Jews are producing a nascent culture that stands in odd contrast both to the past and to the Polish present.

Experts disagree on the number of Jews presently in the country. Official statistics speak of a few thousand only — mostly elderly Holocaust survivors — but activists in the community estimate the real numbers to be anywhere from 10,000 to 80,000.

In this count, who is considered a Jew? Says Beisel: "Most of them fit the 20th century de facto definition of a Jew; they have at least one Jewish grandparent. That made you a Jew for Hitler, it makes you a Jew in Israel, and it makes you a Jew in Poland's new community." (The definition is of course de facto and in no way halachic.)

Beisel offers statistics about continuing anti-Semitism in the country and quotes a study by the American Jewish Committee, which found 30 percent of those polled did not want Jewish neighbors; 36 percent believed that Jews killed Jesus; and 35 percent think it is "good" that there are now many fewer Jews in Poland than before the war. "A favorite smear in post-Communist elections has been to accuse one's opponents of having Jewish blood. Lech Walesa pioneered the tactic in 1990 when he accused two rivals of 'hiding their Jewish origins,' unlike him, 'a full-blooded Pole.' "

On the other hand there is also a significant revival of gentile interest in what happened to the Jews and what kind of rich culture was theirs in the olden days. They point to the fact that the charge of Polish anti-Semitism reflects only a part of the country's relationship with Jews. All of this brings the author to his crucial question: Why do our people return there?

For anyone who has studied Jewish history and its demographic shifts, the answer is not hard to find: New generations breed both forgetfulness and hope in a better future. People go where they can make a living and they argue that the past cannot rule their future. In a way the revival of Jewish life in Poland, such as it is, parallels a similar development in Germany.

The Kirshner File

Russia vulnerable to right-wing extremism

"Are there any Jews in your party?" Aurel Braun asked Vladimir Zhirinovsky.

By Sheldon Kirshner

Braun, a University of Toronto political scientist, was in Russia when he put that question to Zhirinovsky, the reportedly half-Jewish, ultra-nationalist, anti-Semitic, rabble-rousing leader of the misnamed Liberal Democratic party.

Braun's encounter with Zhirinovsky took place three years ago, when he was in Moscow to compile research for a book on right-wing extremism initiated by B'nai Brith Canada.

And he hasn't forgotten Zhirinovsky's revealing response. "He looked me straight in the face and said, without blinking, 'Maybe one.'"

Was Zhirinovsky, who normally denies being of Jewish ancestry, referring facetiously to himself?

To Braun, co-author of *The Extreme Right* (Westview Press), the answer is almost beside the point. Regardless of Zhirinovsky's ethnic affiliation, he remains a potential threat to Russian democracy, Braun said in an interview.

Braun, who wrote the recently published book with Concordia University history professor Stephen Scheinberg, contends that radical right-wing parties in established Western democracies do not stand much of a chance of gaining power.

But in emerging democratic countries like Russia, "the danger is graver" and the "opportunities for extremism exist," notes Braun, a 49-year-old specialist in international relations who emigrated from Romania with his family in 1961.

In his view, Zhirinovsky's chances of succeeding President Boris Yeltsin are exceedingly slim. Still, Zhirinovsky is a major force. The real danger, Braun says, comes from supposedly respectable Russian politicians who basically share his chauvinistic ideas.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in December 1991, right-wing extremist parties and organizations have multiplied exponentially, writes Braun in one of the 12 scholarly essays in *The Extreme Right*.

As a result, Russia — which lacks a mature political culture and is inured to centuries of oppressive rule — is vulnerable to right-wing extremism.

Although immigrants are the main target for right-wing extremists from Vladivostock to Vancouver, Jews remain the one constant object of animosity and attack.

Anti-Semitism, he believes, is widespread throughout the extreme right in Europe. "In spite of the very small number of Jews in many European countries, the popular condemnation of anti-Semitism, the political disadvantages of such prejudice and the availability of other victims, strong anti-Semitic currents constantly materialize on the extreme right," he observes.

According to Braun, anti-Semitism is useful to these elements for three reasons. It is critical for indoctrinating new recruits, furthering internal solidarity and conferring continuity from the past.

"For right-wing extremists, Jews represent the unidentified enemy behind the state, behind politicians, behind any position of power," Braun adds.

Extremists in Canada are just as paranoic. But in Scheinberg's opinion, the extreme right here pales in comparison to racist movements in Western Europe and the United States. And membership in Canadian hate groups is proportionately lower than in the United States.

In a survey of the far right in Canada, Scheinberg says that the Ku Klux Klan enjoyed its greatest success in Saskatchewan back in the late 1920s, and that "the first truly right-wing extremist organization" in this country was led by Adrien Arcand in Quebec.

Scheinberg considers the Toronto-based Heritage Front a menace because of its propensity for crime and violence. And he points out that desecrations of synagogues and cemeteries, as well as assaults against visible minorities, have marked the trail of Canada's neo-Nazi skinheads.

Be that as it may, he sees no strong, united extremist network functioning in Canada.

Casting his gaze at the United States, Scheinberg claims that the Ku Klux Klan is now a splintered, faction-ridden organization, but is still potentially dangerous. The skinhead movement has grown, as have the militias. But the Liberty Lobby, he warns, is perhaps the most effective extremist group in terms of propaganda and political action.

In Britain, support for the extreme right remains electorally insignificant, David Matas writes in another essay. But in France, the National Front, headed by Jean-Marie Le Pen, has become a "credible player" on the political scene.

Germany, given its past, will be of particular interest to readers. In his monograph, Ian Kagedan makes two telling points:

• There is not much evidence of direct, ongoing links between the more formal extreme right-wing parties and the generally youthful extremists who have committed acts of racist and xenophobic violence.

• The majority of Germans reject the world view of extreme right-wingers.

Jews remain constant object of animosity

In Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union, the fall of Communism has coincided with the emergence of parties and movements which blend right-wing and left-wing extremism.

Extremism in Poland — home to 3.3 million Jews before the Holocaust — is a marginal phenomenon, but that could change, Braun thinks. Anti-Semitism in Poland, he explains, functions as a rejection of liberalism and of democratic values, and thus threatens Polish society.

Hungary, with the largest Jewish community in Central Europe, has managed to keep extremism in check. However, political anti-Semitism is a powerful and growing force there.

There is no far-right international movement with global objectives, Michi Ebata states. But extremist groups do maintain transnational contacts, exchange anti-Semitic propaganda material and have discovered the Internet.

As an example, he cites the case of Ernst Zundel, the German-born Toronto propagandist who has launched short-wave radio programs and a television show from the United States.

In the final essay of this thought-provoking volume, Scheinberg sounds a warning:

"In 1935 the American novelist Sinclair Lewis' work *It Can't Happen Here* was published. Lewis warned Americans that fascism could triumph in their own land. We are far from the social-political context of the 1930s... Still, in an amazingly short time the extreme right has made rapid gains...

"Extremism does not pose an immediate political threat to take power in the nations included in this work. Yet prudence and respect for human rights demand that citizens and their governments act now, while there is still time."

Braun's prescription for combatting extremism is democracy. As he puts it: "The best protection against extremism [is] the successful transition to a pluralistic democracy — to a political system where there is a well-rooted legal order and a strong and independent judiciary to safeguard it."

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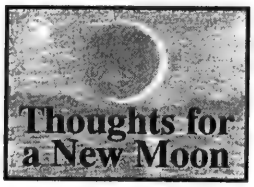


By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Purim's hidden truths

This year, a leap year, we add an extra month, Adar I, to the Hebrew calendar.

Ordinarily, people associate Adar with Purim, which does not occur until next month, Adar II. With the extra month of Adar I, we are afforded the opportunity to prepare our thoughts with an eye toward the upcoming holiday.

The Torah readings this month contain a section which raises pertinent questions with regard to Purim — encountering hidden truths.

Rabbis in the Talmud have spoken at great length about the theme of "hidden reality" as it appears in the Purim scroll. Esther hides her identity as a Jew; Mordecai hides his relationship with Esther; G-d hides Divine intervention from the observer. The people within the Purim story are continuously dealing with the dual level of appearance and concealment.

Interestingly, the Torah portion this month recounts a request made by Moses to G-d, which deals with the need to confront that which is ultimately hidden. Moses asks to see G-d's face.

While atop Mount Sinai, Moses appeals to G-d to reveal the Divine face visually. Moses' encounters with G-d have been very visual from the start and therefore the request is consistent with the relationship. G-d must deny this request, stating that a human being cannot see the Divine and continue to live. In other words, in viewing G-d with our eyes we would cross a line which would take us out of the realm of humanity.

Yet G-d's love for Moses does not allow G-d to dismiss the request entirely. G-d compromises by covering Moses' eyes, passing the Divine Presence over Moses' face and then uncovering his eyes allowing Moses to see only G-d's back.

G-d has accommodated Moses in the best way possible while preserving Moses' humanity. Yet even this compromise has repercussions, for the text relates that after Moses returns to the people his face is emanating light to such a degree that no one could bear to sit in his presence. Moses must now hide his face behind a veil when speaking to another person.

Because he has even remotely had his request to see G-d's face accommodated, Moses can never again speak face-to-face with another human being. The mere glimpse of an encounter with G-d results in a separation of Moses from all people for all time. Moses asks to see what must remain hidden and we are taught the lesson of human limitations.

In the Purim story, Mordecai asks Esther to approach the king and plead for her people. Esther refuses and Mordecai suggests to her that perhaps she has been made queen solely for this moment. Perhaps her life's destiny culminates in this opportunity to save her people. The question is never answered; the truth of her destiny remains hidden from us.

Purim opens the door to a world of hidden truths. Moses shows us that what is hidden far surpasses what can be sought. Somewhere between Esther and Moses we must all find our place.

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Searching for fool's gold

My uncles, aunts and cousins on the Glicenstein side always perk up when I mention the huge unclaimed fortune that is supposedly hidden somewhere in our extended family tree.

Their eyes grow big when they hear that an alleged distant cousin of ours, a wealthy brewery owner, supposedly died intestate (without an heir) in Texas sometime between 1900 and 1910, leaving at least $3 million unclaimed. The figure goes up to $40 million in some versions of the story.

I first heard the tale about a decade ago from a certain Mr. Gluckstein, a second cousin once removed whom I tracked down from a listing in the Toronto phone book. Since then, variations have reached me from four other widely-separated sources.

To this day, distant Glicensteins relations scattered around the world who know little or nothing of each other still recount handed-down anecdotes about the lawyers who offered to help their grandparents collect the inheritance in exchange for a stiff fee in advance and an eventual cut of the bounty. According to Mr. Gluckstein, his family rejected the lawyers' offer because the risks seemed too great and the terms too steep.

Another new-found relation, Mr. Glickenstein of Brooklyn, identified the rich brewer as a great-uncle of his father. By Glickenstein's account, the man had left Russia-Poland to avoid the army, had worked in a brewery in England, and had moved about 1890 to Texas and thereafter founded a brewery of his own.

Glickenstein's father, the owner of a coat factory in Lodz, reportedly sold it about 1910 upon hearing of the unclaimed millions awaiting him in America. I've heard of other relations who likewise left the Lodz area for America with the identical dream of acquiring the Glicenstein fortune. Not one of them ever saw a penny of it.

Although I've found a Glicenstein wine merchant in 19th-century London, I've never found a trace of the brewer in Texas censuses, death registries, ship's passenger lists and other sources. Was he a fantasy concocted by bogus lawyers as part of a sophisticated scam?

Like most undocumented family stories, this one must be regarded with some skepticism. I have heard of only one instance where a Jewish genealogist came into some money as a result of his research. Years ago, the now-defunct journal *Toledot* reported that someone found a distant cousin who had died alone in a Manhattan apartment, leaving a few thousand dollars stashed in a mattress. Hardly the stuff of dreams.

Recently I discovered evidence that the elusive Glicenstein fortune may have been a hoax all along. Charlotte Sholod, a New York art historian, has informed me that Emanuel Romano, son of sculptor Chanoch (Enrico) Glicenstein, recorded a relevant episode in his unpublished memoirs.

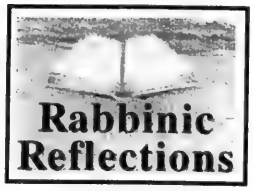
About 1909, when Romano was a schoolboy in Rome, a teacher showed him a newspaper headline – "$40 Million Inheritance Left by a Rich American Uncle" – and asked if it were true.

Romano wrote: "I had already heard that my relatives were speaking of this, and I said, 'Yes, it is true.' Morino [the teacher] opened his eyes and his mouth – 'Forty million dollars? Are you sure this uncle is a member of your family?' I answered that a cousin of ours was in contact with lawyers in the United States. Morino's eyes became still larger. 'Well, you will become a very rich boy,' said he in a wondering air. I did not answer, but my expression was of a boy who was sure that the inheritance would come his way...

"During that whole year he continuously asked me for news about the inheritance, and I continued to tell him about the progress of our lawyers in getting it. But we knew that the whole story was a hoax. Yet on this hoax, a cousin – Wilhelm Scwarz of Warsaw – lived on credit for a whole year..."

Hoax or not, such a tale is worth its weight in gold, and makes a welcome chapter in any family history. The plain truth is that family tree research is usually a slow, laborious process that involves considerable out-of-pocket expenses for postage, photocopies, archival fees and so on. While it offers its own significant rewards, material gain is rarely one of them.

Has some aspect of your family tree research got you stumped? Write to The CJN, Roots & Remembrance, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York M3B 3K4, and your query may be answered in a future column. Sorry, no personal replies will be made.



Two to one is murder

By RABBI IRWIN ZEPLOWITZ

Do you have sayings or jokes that only people in your family know? We have one: "Two to one is murder."

It began when three of us were trying to decide where to go for dinner. After a lengthy discussion two of us decided on chicken. The third wanted pizza. "I don't want chicken tonight!," the hardy individualist said. "Too bad," was our retort, "two to one is murder." Thus was born a phrase we have used countless times since then when we need to come to some resolution of a family debate.

This phrase expresses a powerful philosophical absolute that majority rules. We are not alone in our belief. In a myriad of ways we make decisions by voting in order to determine the will of the majority. Many assume that the rule of the majority is a democratic principle which has its origins in modernity. Yet in Judaism, too, the principle of the majority has a long and honored history. In the Talmud the majority principle (called rov) is established as a basic tenet of Jewish law.

A famous passage in Bava Metzia 59b illustrates this through a story about Rabbi Eliezer and the sages. Though a Divine Voice sided with Rabbi Eliezer, the law went according to the sages, for they represented the majority opinion.

As ingrained and seemingly sacrosanct as this notion of majority rule may appear to be, it does have limitations. In this week's Torah portion, Mishpatim, we are reminded, "You shall not side with the mighty to do wrong..." (Exodus 23:2) One interpretation is that fairness should be rendered in judgment. Justice should be our guiding light, not status or fortune.

The Hebrew of this verse can, however, be understood differently. The term for "mighty" (rabim) can also be understood as "majority."

The verse, therefore, might be teaching us not to side with a majority when it does wrong. Abraham Ibn Ezra comments that this verse warns us against trusting a majority without question. Yes, the majority should be listened to, but not if what they advocate is evil. Majority rule without justice is a perversion.

At the end of a century that has seen nations torn apart by fascism and racism, this is a warning worth bearing in mind. In Nazi Germany, in the former Yugoslavia, in Rwanda...the majority believed that because they had the power, they could do what they wished to those who opposed them. "Two to one is murder" has, tragically, been all too true in our age.

It is, of course, difficult to judge when one should, in all good conscience, oppose the majority. How can we apply the insights of our traditions to the realities of our lives? When is opposition to the majority simply self-indulgence and when is it truly a search for justice?

While no law can define the limits of every situation, our Torah portion does guide us towards taking extra care with those who have less power, in greater need and whom the majority can easily dismiss. First, we must "not subvert the rights of (the) poor." (Exodus 23:6) Second, we cannot "oppress a stranger, for you know the feelings for the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt." (Exodus 23:9)

The great danger to a majority is to make laws and structure society in a way which tramples upon the rights of the few if it is done for the benefit of the many. Torah reminds us, however, that if we treat those without power unjustly, "two to one" is worthy of condemnation. In a hierarchy of values, "majority rules" is important, but not greater than God's demand that we care for those in need.

Rabbi Zeplowitz is spiritual leader of Temple Anshe Sholom in Hamilton.

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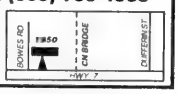

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Guest Voices

Honoring foster parents

By MURRAY TEITEL
Special to The CJN

The first speaker at a dinner held to honor Jewish foster parents in Toronto had orange spiked hair, multiple nose rings and wore construction boots and a dress. She was followed by a rabbi with a black hat, a long black coat and a beard.

Though he may have personally disapproved of her style, the rabbi began by telling the audience that he had been greatly moved by the first speaker's words. A teenager, she had run away from home and ended up living on the street abusing drugs. When she had hit rock bottom, she called Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS), which placed her with a foster mother with whom she was still living. She was in her final year of high school and hoped to be accepted to university.

The rabbi went on to talk about the Jewish concept of gemiluth hassadim (the doing of good deeds). He had noticed that it is often those people who have many children and lead busy lives who find the time and the energy to become involved in doing good things for other people. "*Chesed gorer chesed*," he said. One act of kindness fosters another.

Given the recipients of that year's Foster Parents of the Year Award, his remarks could not have been more apt. With three children of their own, they had over the years, taken in no fewer than 15 foster children, many on a long-term basis. In her very brief acceptance speech, the wife said that her mother's house always had foster children. She could not imagine living in a house without foster children. End of story.

It was clear to all those present that she did not view herself as particularly noble and did not understand why she and her husband were being publicly honored for doing no more than following her parents' example.

She and her husband go about performing their kind deeds in their quiet, unassuming, modest way because it is in their nature to do so.

Nor would I call this couple atypical to Toronto's Jewish (and, I would assume, non-Jewish) foster parents. Another woman has over the course of 21 years cared for more than 75 children with disabilities. No matter how severe the child's disability, she has never turned a single one down.

In performing their acts of goodness as anonymously as their circumstances permit, these and other foster parents are, in effect, an example of what the greatest Jewish philosopher of all times, Maimonides, had in mind when he ranked charitable acts.

For Maimonides, the highest form of charity occurs when the donor and recipient are unknown to each other. That, of course, is impossible in the context of foster parenting. However, avoiding public honor and, above all, ensuring that the recipient does not feel himself or herself the object of charity makes the conduct of these people most worthy in the Maimonidean tradition.

JF&CS needs foster parents right now. The agency would like to hear from any Jewish adult interested in becoming a foster parent. If you have room in your heart and your home to be a foster parent, call Selma Elzas at JF&CS, 416-638-7800.

If you become a foster parent, you will not have your name on the side of a building. A street will not be rededicated in your honor. You will get more. If you become a foster parent, you will get the satisfaction of helping a child who is the victim of unfortunate circumstances. This is worth much more. Those to whom it comes naturally do not want the pleasure they get performing good deeds adulterated by public recognition. Maimonides, of course, was right.

Murray Teitel is a Toronto lawyer and journalist.

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Greater Toronto Area

Study of Canadian Jewry chair launched at York

TORONTO — The Centre for Jewish Studies at York University is to be the home of a new Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry.

Toronto philanthropist and retired businessman and lawyer J. Richard Shiff has given the lead gift toward the establishment of the chair and will be involved in a campaign to raise the remaining funds.

"This will be the first chair anywhere for the study of Canadian Jewry," says Shiff, former president, CEO and chairman of the board of Bramalea Ltd. "The Jews in Canada have made a tremendous contribution to the country. It's important to know this in our multicultural society."

"Despite being one of the youngest universities in Ontario, York has one of the oldest, largest and best developed Jewish Studies programs," says centre director Michael Brown. He notes that courses in Jewish studies were first offered at York in 1968; the Centre for Jewish Studies was founded in 1988; the Jewish Teacher Education Program is "unique" outside Israel.

"As for the chair," he said, "it's a natural development. A number of York scholars in history, sociology and literature have made this university the pre-eminent institution for Canadian Jewish studies. We have been so for more than a decade."

"We need friends to help us expand," York president Susan Mann told Shiff, his family and faculty members at a recent reception in their honor held in her office. "York is a pioneer in this field, in Canada and internationally," she added.

Seen at the signing are (standing from left) Michael Brown, Irving Abella, Danny Shiff, Aleta Shiff, Laurence Shiff, Sydney Eisen, Howard Driman, Barry Shiff. Sitting: York University president Susan Mann and Richard Shiff.

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Subjects with Jewish themes offered

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The newly formed Canadian Centre for German and European Studies, established jointly by York University and the Université de Montréal, will offer courses in Jewish subjects.

The centre, scheduled to be officially inaugurated on Sept. 11, will work closely with York University's Jewish Studies Centre.

"We're just delighted that it's coming here," said Michael Brown, director of York University's Jewish Studies Centre.

"We have three, four people who work on the Holocaust, and I assume that the German studies program will cross-list these courses."

Mark Webber, a York University professor of German literature and a founding co-director of the Canadian Centre for German and European Studies, said a variety of graduate-level courses in several disciplines will be offered.

"We'll look at contemporary Germany, and clearly, Jewish themes will be relevant," said Webber, currently on sabbatical at the University of Konstanz in southern Germany.

In a quest to find German-Jewish partners for the centre, Webber has held discussions with officials at the Moses Mendelssohn Centre in Potsdam and the Simon Dubnow Institute in Leipzig.

The centre, one of the only ones of its kind in Canada according to Webber, is being funded by the German Academic Exchange Service, York University and the Université de Montréal.

Born in St. Louis, Mo., Webber holds graduate and post-graduate degrees from Harvard and Yale. Now a Canadian citizen, he was formerly head of adult education at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

A member of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, Webber received Germany's equivalent of the Order of Canada in 1993 for fostering German-Jewish understanding.

A specialist in 19th century German literature (the Young Germans) and the works of Franz Kafka, Webber said his parents lost relatives during the Holocaust in Lithuania and Russia.

Germans he has met have expressed curiosity and satisfaction that a non-German has mastered their language and delved so deeply into their body of literature.

"In some cases, I'm the only Jew they've ever met," said Webber.

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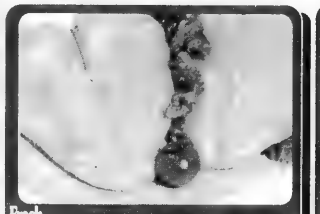

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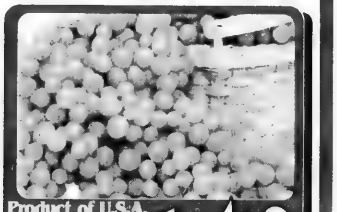

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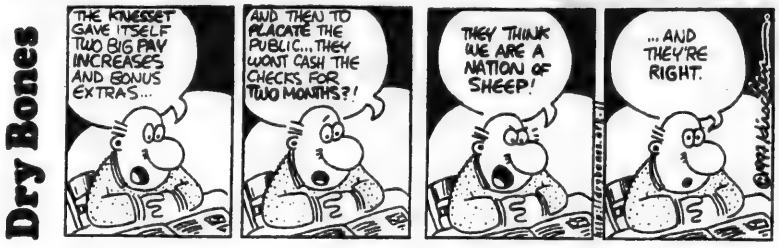

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

האָבן מיר שוין ווידער אַן עיבור-יאָר

פון אַלעק סילווער

— „גוט שבת, פעסל“ — זאָגט דער זיידע מרדכי-לייב סטאַ-לאַרש ע״ה, קומענדיק אַהיים פון בית-מדרש אין א ווינטערדיקן שבת. — „א ביטערע קעלט אין דרויסן“. — „גוט שבת, גוט יאָר“ — ענטפערט די באָבע ע״ה. — „ביסט אוודאי געפרוירן בין ביין“. געוויינלעך פלעגט זי מיטגיין מיט אים צום דאָוונען, אָבער דעם שבת איז געווען א „ברענענדיקע“ פראָסט און א גרויסער שניי איז געפאַלן. פאַר איר איז שוין אין אַזאַ טאָג געווען שווער צו גיין צום דאָוונען. אויפן וועג אַהיים פון בית-מדרש האָט מען געמוזט דורכגיין דעם גאַנצן מאַרק ביז צו די „בודקעס“. דאָרט זיינען גע-וען שטיצן פון בידע זייטן, אין ווינטער-צייט געפרוירן און גלי-טשיק. דורך זיי איז מען אַראָפגעגאַנגען אויף א בערגל ביז צום הויף, נישט וויט פון דער „פאַשיסטישער קאַמאַנדע“, וואו מיינע זיידע-באָבע האָבן געוואוינט. וו מען פלעגט זאָגן ביי אתרז אין שטעטל: „פּאָלג מאָך א גאַנג“.

נאָכן מאָכן קידוש אָן עפּעס איבערביסן, זאָגט דער זיידע: „וויסט, פּעסל, מען האָט היינט געבענטשט ראש חודש אדר ראשון. דאָס מיינט, אז מיר האָבן הי-יאָר אַן עיבור-יאָר“. — „א גלײַך האָט מאָך געטראָפן“ — זאָגט די באָבע סאַרקאַסטיש. — „וידער האָט אונדז גאָט געבענטשט מיט א לאַנגן ווינטער“. נישט קיין וואונדער, וואָס זי האָט נישט אויפגענומען די דאָזיקע נייעס מיט גרויס צופרידנקייט. וויר נישט, אָבער א יידישע פרוי איז אַלטן שטעטל האָט געוואוסט, וואָס עס מיינט נאָך א חודש אין ווינטער.

געוויינלעך קוקט מען אַרויס אויפן סוף פון חודש שבט מיט די האַרבע פרעסט, שטורעם-ווינטן און שניין, אָזוי הויך ווי די היזיער. אָבער דאָס מאָל האָט דאָס בענטשן ראש חודש אַדר נישט גע-ברענגט די זעלבע פריידיקייט. איך א נאַרמאַלן יאָר איז דער חודש אַדר, מיטן פורים יום-טוב אין מיטן, געווען אַן אָנאָג, אז דער פרילינג איז שוין נאָענט. נאָך פורים האָט מען שוין כמעט געקענט פילן, אז די זון וועט וואַרעמער, די טעג א ביסעלע לענגער און דאָס געמיט מער אויפגעהייטערט.

אָבער נישט הי-יאָר. אַדר ראשון איז כמעט ווי א המשך פון חודש שבט. אפשר וואָלט מען עס געדאַרפט א נאָמען געבן „שבט שני“. די זעלבע פרעסט, שניין, ווינטן, די זון איז נאָך אלץ באַ-האַלטן היינטער די וואָלקנס, קודצע טעג און לאַנגע נעכט און דאָס זעלבע שווערע גמיט אויפן האַרצן. נישט אומזיסט האָבן יידישע באַלעאָסטעס אין דער אַלטער היים, מיין באָבע אויך, זיך באַ-קלאָגט אויפן „לאַנגן“ ווינטער.

„מעטשעס“ מאָרגן באַלד אידערפרי וועט מען דאַרפן א קוק טאָן ווי מיר האַלטן עפּעס אין דער וועלט. קודם כל איז דא א זאַרג צי וועלן די זוילן אויף די שטיוול אויסהאַלטן נאָך א חודש. די טיפּע שניין העלפן זיכער נישט צו צום לעבן פון די „פּאַדשוועס“. די שמאָטע „צילקעס“, אַרומצוואוילקלען די פיס זיינען שוין באַלד פול מיט לעכער. מען וועט דאַרפן זוכן נייע שמאָטעס.

צומאַרגנס איז די באָבע אַריין אין קאָמער און אַראָפּ אין קעלער איבערצוקוקן דעם „פראָויאַנט“, וואָס מען גייט צווישן-לעך צו פּאַרן ווינטער. געלויבט צו גאָט, אז ס׳איז נאָך פאַרבליבן אין קאָמער א האַלבע וואַנט מיט צעזעגטע קלעצלעך האָלץ פּאַרן קאַכלאָוט אויוון. נו, דאָס וועט העלפן איבערצוקומען די קעלטן כאַטש אויף נאָך עטלעכע וואָכן. א ביסל מעל אויף צו באַקן חלות איז אויך נאָך געבליבן. וועגן טאָג-טעגלעכן ברויט האָט מען זיך נישט געזאָרגט. דאָס וועלן שוין די שטאָט-בעקערס באַזאָרגן. וועגן פלייש איז אויך נישט געווען קיין זאָרג. באָבע-זיידע האָבן געהאַט אַן איידעם, מיין פעטער, דער געלער שלמה, וואָס האָט געהאַנדלט מיט בהמות. ווען ער האָט געקויפט א קעלבל פאַר זיך, האָט דאָס רעשט פון דער משפחה אויך פון דעם גענאָסן.

אין קעלער האָט זי געגעבן א קוק אויף די קאַרטאָפל. מיטן אויג אָפּגעשאַצט, אז מיט א ביסל שפּאַרעוודיקייט, וועט מען אפשר צוציען ביז די פּויערים וועלן ברענגען די נייע. אין די קוישן צישעלעס, מערן, בודיקעס, אוגערקעס, עפּל, פלומען און דאָס גליקן, זעט מען שוין אַרויס דעם דנא. וועט מען דאָס דאַרפן נתנן מיט רחמים. נאָך דא, „בוכאַשעס“, א גאַנץ שטפּל געגרזן-שמאַלץ, וואָס וועט סטיינט פאַר עטלעכע וואָכן. דעם נייעס, כשר לפּסח שמאַלץ, קען מען דאָך נישט נתן. ערגער איז מיט דער פּאָוודילע און מיטן אינגעמאַכטס. בלוז איך סלאָיק איינגעמאַכטס און א האַלבער סלאָי פּאָוודילע. נו, וועט מען מחן אַזוי אַדורכקומען.

עס איז מיין באָבעס פעסל געוואָרן א ביסל גרינגער אויפן האַרצן. אז גאָט וועט נעבן געזונט, וועט מען יאָקבע אַדורכשטופן נאָך א ווינטער חודש און אויבערגעבן נאָך אַן עיבור-יאָר.

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 6, is deadline for Feb.20 issue, and Thursday, Feb. 13, is deadline for Feb. 27. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Feb. 9

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *Gentleman's Agreement* 7:30 p.m., at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall. Society members must be at the theatre by 7 p.m. Single tickets go on sale 7:15 p.m. **Bill Emery** at Bloor JCC 924-6211.

AN EXPANDED TORONTO

At Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast, **Edward J. Levy**, professionally associated with the Metropolitan Board of Trade, Transportation and Planning Committee and several government organizations, discusses The Expanded City of Toronto: Background and Implications for Transportation and Other Services. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

JEWISH SINGLES

Games Jewish Singles Play, a fun social evening for Group A ages 26-40 and Group B ages 41-69, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrooke Ave. $5. Early bird bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

WHO NEEDS WRITERS?

Temple Sinai adult education committee presentation, Who Needs Writers? with lawyer/author **Morley Torgov**, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

SJA INTERTALK

Secular Jewish Association Intertalk, a suport group for inter-cultural couples moderated by **Eva Goldfinger**, 10 a.m. to noon, the Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8/person. RSVP, Eva 905-889-7450.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

The Beach Hebrew Institute Women's Rosh Chodesh group meets to discuss their relationship to Judaism from a female point of view, 7 p.m., 109 Kenilworth Ave. 694-7942.

THE LEARNING ANNEX

Kabbalah and Reincarnation, noon to 4 p.m., Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

BOOK FAIR

Book Fair 1-4 p.m. at Hillcrest Progressive School, 59 Plymbridge Rd. 489-8355

Monday, Feb. 10

ABOUT JEWS & MUSLIMS

Jacob Lassner, Northwestern University's, three public lectures on Jewish-Muslim Relations: Impressions of and Attitudes Towards the Other begin with The Historical Background of Jewish-Muslim Relations, 8 p.m., Koffler Centre for Pharmacy Management, Room 108, 569 Spadina Ave. Presented by the Shoshana Shier Distinguished Visiting Professor in Jewish Studies, University of Toronto. 978-5301.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

JEWISH WOMEN IN PRISON

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood meeting features **Chana Brown** speaking on Jewish Women in Prison, 8 p.m.

JWI, ORA CHAPTER

Jewish Women International, Ora chapter meeting invites you to hear **Jessica Porter** from Baldwin's Natural Foods speak on Vitamins, Minerals and Other Health issues. **Annette** 789-2434.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

CANADA-ISRAEL CHAMBER

Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry hosts a reception for young professionals with speakers **Yael Varsano-Barzilay**, Israeli trade commssioner and economic counsul, and **Robert Eli Rubinstein**, president, Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, partner, H&R Developments, 5:30 p.m. reception, 6-7 p.m. program, Goodman and Carr, Suite 2300, 200 King St. W. 595-2300. RSVP to the Chamber 410-7273.

PRIORITIES

Nishma panel discussion on Priorities, **Rabbi Aaron Hoch**, Aish HaTorah; **Rabbi Martin Lockshin**, professor, Judaic Studies, York University; **Rabbi Mordechai Sevy**, Or Haemet Sephardic School;

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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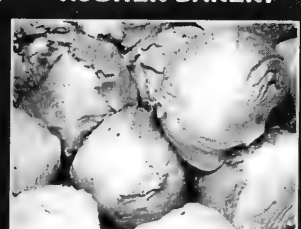

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Rabbi Moshe Yeres, Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim. Introduction by **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht**, founding director, Nishma, entitled Framing the Question, 7:45 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. $5.

PERSPECTIVE ON THE GET

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood program with **Rabbi Dow Marmur** discussing If You Need a Ketubah, Why Not a Get? A Reform Perspective on the Get, 8 p.m., boardroom.

PARENTING SERIES

How to Raise a happy Kid with Sarah Chana Radcliffe, 8:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. $40/couples, $30/person. Pre-register. 905-764-1818.

APPLIQUE WORKSHOP

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles stained glass applique workshop, 8 p.m., National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, 4700 Bathurst St. For supplies to bring, **Janis** 497-5857 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

BOOK CLUB

Shaarei Beth-El Sisterhood Book Club discusses *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels**, 7:30 p.m., Sandy Slater's house, Oakville. **Deborah Cohen**, 905-849-0408 or **Michele Glatt** 905-847-6999.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Women's Institute of Torah Study series, Feminine Images of the Bible with **Rochie Wagner** continues with Diamonds Are Forever, 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Dr. $4. 905-881-2012.

WINTER FILM SERIES

Holy Blossom Temple's fourth annual Winter Film Series, The Sound of Jewish Music, screens *Funny Girl*, comments by **Richard Rotman**, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 13

BIBLICAL WOMEN

Temple Har Zion Sisterhood presents York University humanities professor **Elaine Newton** discussing the untold lives of biblical women: Lot's wife, Delilah, Jezebel, Potiphar's wife, Hagar, Pharaoh's daughter — women, who like Ruth, Eve and Sarah have been of enormous significance to Western thought and culture, 7:45 p.m. $5 members, $7 non-members.

And What Else Is New

MELAVA MALKA

Marking Jewish Music Month, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood in conjunction with the Siyum Hatorah Education Committee, presents an evening of song with **Kim Kowarsky Doron, Cantor Louis Danto** and the Zemer Chorale under the direction of **Charles Heller**, Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

MY FAIR LADY

Associated Hebrew Schools presents the hit musical *My Fair Lady* Saturday, Feb. 8, 8:30 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 9, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the Main Stage, Kamin Education Centre, 300 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill. The cast of junior high thespians is directed by Sharyn Stein Hurwitz and features **Rebecca Hager** as Eliza, **Joshua Freeman** as Prof. Higgins, and **Ryan Kraft** as Pickering. For tickets 494-7280.

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

The gala opening of Centre Spotlight, a showcase for Yiddish and Jewish peformance, a joint project of Morris Winchevsky School and Jewish Arts Scholarship Society (JASS) is Saturday, Feb. 15, 8:30 p.m. at the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Hosted by **Gloria Valentine,** event features singer **Allan Merovitz,** comedians **Allen Farkas** and **Michael Lebovic**, storyteller **Leslie Robbins**, actor **Howard Jerome**, Yiddish reader **Richard Bassett**, guitarist **Brian Katz** and pianist **Nina Shaplisky**. $10 annual contribution for the opening party, $5 for subsequent monthly events

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation celebrates its 100th anniversary at a dinner June 26. **Rabbi Moshe Burak**, who served the congregation for over 35 years, will be main honoree. In addition all past presidents from the date of the shul's founding will be honored. The dinner committee is looking for information about the people or their close family members as well as old photographs, names of people involved with the shul, letters, and anything that touches on the history of the congregation. **Marlene Marcus** 635-9287 or dinner chairs **Dr. Aaron Jesin** 636-2223, **Irving Karoly** 636-9428.

KIDS MAKING FRIENDS

Jewish Family & Child Service offers Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends? groups for parents and kids. A peer socialization group for children who have difficulty making friends or behave in a socially inappropriate way. Groups will enhance your parenting skills, improve your child's social skills as well as his/her self-esteem. Begins Wednesday, March 19. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FIRESIDE CHATS

Temple Sinai adult education committee three-part mid-week series of fireside chats with **Rabbi Lawrence Colton** Wednesdays, 8 p.m. beginnng Feb. 19 — A Reform Rabbi Reads the Shulchan Aruch, The Code of Jewish Law. 487-4161.

WALDMAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Dennis Waldman Foundation for Jewish Education is soliciting applications for the eighth Waldman Scholarship to be awarded in June to a student graduating from a Jewish high school program who is going on to a university or yeshivah, or to a .tudent graduating from a public school who intends to pursue a course of Jewish study. Applications, due by May 2, are available at many schools or through Solursh, Feldman and Partners, 250-1212. **Dr. N. Waldman** 635-9765.

THE LITTLE MINYAN

Looking for an intimate, participatory Shabbat service? Join in The Little Minyan at Beth Tzedec Congregation. Upcoming services are Feb. 15, 22, March 8, 15, 9:45 a.m. to noon.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: The Self-Confident Woman, begins Feb. 19; Parenting the Young Child, begins Feb. 19; One Marriage: Two Religions, begins March. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR YIDDISH LOVERS

A special course to expand knowledge and appreciation of Yiddish literature and language, Yiddish 3 (advanced class) with **Ellie Moidel** runs Mondays, 7-9 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. **Sam Blatt** 651-8500.

A CORRECTION

Regarding the Jan. 9 item about **Renee Wortzman's** appointment as executive director of Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim, Wortzman is no longer a member of the board of Anshei Minsk Congregation and is a past president of the sisterhood. Sorry for the error.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Valentine Dance with **Michael Khinkis**, Sunday, Feb. 9; Bazaar, Sunday, May 4; Ottawa Tulip Festival, May 13-15, $285. accommodation, meals, Thousand Island cruise and more. Call office regarding other upcoming trips 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club; Orientation meeting Monday, Feb. 10, 1 p.m.for all inclusive trip to Israel March 5-26. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 13 is games evening and bingo. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Valentine Afternoon Tea Dance, Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1:30-4 p.m. Dance to North American music with **Michael** and **Rachel**. Members $4, non-members $5.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre Parkinson's Support Group meeting, speech language therapist **Bonnie Bereskin** presents What Did You Say?, Speech Problems in Parkinson's, Tuesday Feb. 11, 1:15 p.m. **Sharon** or **Ruth Cohen** 225-2169.

Safety and Falls Prevention, North York public health nurse **Nancy Rogers** talk and video presentation, Thursday, Feb. 13, 1:30-3 p.m.

Etrog Israeli Cultural Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. A lecture is scheduled for Feb. 13. **Anna.**

The movie, *A Simple Twist of Fate*, Sunday, Feb. 9, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor JCC Cultural Arts Group presents Between Stages, Playwrights Reading Workshop, Monday, Feb. 17, 8 p.m. **Sean Reycraft's** *Einstein and the Relativity of Dreams*

Learn about Purim with **Elliott Malamet** of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) Sunday, Feb. 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bloor JCC, sponsored by Bloor JCC and Downtown Jewish Community School. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Senior's Club programs: Oral care for Seniors, Thursday, Feb. 6, 2 p.m. Reflections on Jewish Prayer, **Rabbi Irwin Beigel**, Thursday, Feb. 13, 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

Sex and Deception in the Bible with **Dr. Adele Reinhartz**, Thursdays, February 13, 20, 27, 8-9:30 p.m. $60 924-6211.

AISH HATORAH AT WESTERN WALL

Touring the excavation site of Aish HaTorah at the Western Wall adjoining Aish HaTorah World Centre Dan Family Building, during the international meetings in Jerusalem are (from left) Harvey Hecker, Aish HaTorah international president; Rabbi Ephraim Shore, Rabbi Ahron Hoch and Rabbi Nechemia Coopersmith.

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Partnership 2000

Toronto & Eilat-Eilot tighten ties

A new partnership is emerging between UJA Federation, the city of Eilat and the neighbouring regional municipality of Eilot.

For more than a decade UJA Federation has been helping to develop the Israeli communities of Beit Dagan, Kfar Gvirol and Eilat-Eilot, through Project Renewal. Libraries, community centres, daycare facilities and social, cultural and educational programs, have improved thousands of lives in these areas.

But while Project Renewal work continues, a new partnership between Eilat-Eilot and Toronto, is designed to take Israel-Diaspora relations to the next level.

"Partnership 2000 focuses on projects that build meaningful links between Toronto Jews and residents of Eilat-Eilot as equal partners," explains Randy Shiff, who co-chairs Toronto's Project Renewal/Partnership 2000 committee with Bill Kassel.

"Our role," explains Shiff, "is not just to provide funding but rather to act as a catalyst for new innovative ways of working together, and to offer, where appropriate, our expertise and experience in addition to funding."

"It's a more mutually beneficial relationship whereby Israelis and Torontonians both have something to offer each other," adds Kassel.

One project sent Canadian students, who were on a one year study program at Tel-Aviv University, down to the Arava Environmental Studies Institute near Eilat to conduct environmental research.

"The people to people projects are the essence of what Partnership 2000 means," maintains Shiff. Last year, Toronto contributed $600,000 to Partnership 2000 projects including the El Ami program which is the only provider of Jewish education in the region for elementary school students; the Early Childhood Technology Centre to buy equipment to upgrade science skills; the Treatment Kindergarten for children with special needs; Operation MATI, which helps to foster entrepreneurial start-ups and a three year, $60,000 teaching upgrade program.

Partnership 2000 committee member Warren Kimel passes out stickers donated by Sandylion Stickers and books to children at the Tseilim Library, built by Toronto's Project Renewal.

UJA Federation's Director of Jewish Continuity Programming, Susan Jackson, and Partnership 2000 steering committee co-chair Randy Shiff visit an air-conditioned tent built by Partnership 2000 on Kibbutz Hevel Eilot. The new tent makes it possible to extend school hours during the hottest time of the day.

(left to right) The head of Eilot's regional council, Bilu Mishuri, Jewish Agency representative Erez Kapara, Gabi Kadosh, Mayor of Eilat and Bill Kassel, co-chair of Toronto's Partnership 2000 committee prioritize projects for 1997.

Shiff is particularly excited about the Educational Leadership Exchange planned for this year. Teachers from Eilat-Eilot will travel to Toronto to work on curriculum development with their counterparts in Jewish day schools. "This is a good example," according to Shiff "of real ways we can benefit from the two-way relationship."

"The warm relations that have developed over the past few years between the residents of Eilat and the Jewish community of Toronto represent the true, close relations that we should develop with Diaspora Jewish communities throughout the world," says Eilat Mayor Gabi Kadosh.

Institute is a breath of fresh air

A new environmental studies facility near Eilat is doing as much to improve relations between Arabs and Jews, as it is to improve the environment.

The Arava Institute, on Kibbutz Ketura in the Eilot region, is just one of many UJA Federation Partnership 2000 projects improving the quality of life in Israel's most southern region.

"The environment has no borders," says institute director Alon Tal. "I view this institute as a cadre of environmentalists that will promote peace and environmental responsibility through the exchange of ideas and expertise."

The creation of a new computer lab has made it possible for Arava students to send each other e-mail, listen to lectures, surf the Internet and even complete exams. "For the first time, Arabs who come to study from Jordan and Jews can log on to a direct link with each other and the rest of the world," explains Tal, who feels Israelis and Arabs have common environmental concerns that could be better dealt with as a team working together.

Tal is currently developing student exchange programs with the Arava Institute, York University and U of T.

Three Torontonians studying at Tel-Aviv University recently spent a semester at the institute as part of their course in environmental studies. Adam Maerov single-handedly increased the institute's library of periodicals by 30%. Daniella Kiguel helped to expand organic agriculture on the kibbutz and Malkie Spodeck taught kibbutz residents how to run their own composting program.

(left to right) Malkie Spodeck, Adam Maerov, Evan Buntman and Daniella Kiguel shared their environmental know-how with Kibbutz Ketura.

UJA Federation makes a campus call

University of Toronto and York University students welcomed a new face to school last week.

UJA on Campus days, which drew interest from Jews and non-Jews, familiarized students with the work UJA Federation does in Toronto's Jewish community, in Israel and around the world.

Booths with representatives from UJA Federation beneficiary agencies such as Reena, Jewish Family and Child Service and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, offered students a wide range of volunteer opportunities.

Curious passersby sampled Israeli cuisine, purchased necklaces with Hebrew names and checked out a variety of Israel Experience programs. Rabbi Michael Skobac, from UJA Federation's Jewish Campus Services (JCS), manned the "Ask the Rabbi" booth.

"A lot of people were asking about the holidays," observed Skobac. "One person even asked me about the meaning of life."

Fourth year student Stephanie Zwicker said having a UJA presence on campus was a "great way to expose people who would normally not be involved with what goes on in the Jewish community."

"A program like this one," explained Pearl Gropper, director of York's Jewish Student Federation, "reinforces Jewish life on campus and allows unaffiliated students to explore links to their Jewish identity."

JCS Director Zac Kaye said he was pleased with the cross-section of Jewish students who wandered by the displays. "We want the students to know that UJA Federation offers something for everyone."

UJA Days co-ordinator, Johanna Levitt, said the program was so successful "many students have asked us to do it again next year."

Jewish Family and Child Service volunteer coordinator Joan Stevens hands U of T student Ivan Diamond a brochure describing JF&CS volunteer opportunities.

Champion of children honoured on 90th birthday

Henry Goodman, the man who pioneered many Jewish community human services, turned 90 last week. He celebrated, among other achievements, more than 60 years of assistance to people in need.

Goodman served as President of Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, during the 1960's, when he led the way in developing programs to improve the lives of children.

In 1984, Goodman began the successful *Friends of JF&CS* campaign, which raised enough money to build a home for children with special needs.

"Children are our future," explains Goodman, who continues to be heavily involved in the *Friends* campaign. "JF&CS was my first love because they take care of people from birth to death and that's what being Jewish is about."

Goodman also dedicated much of his volunteer time to UJA Federation, first as president of the United Jewish Welfare Fund, then as one of the founding members of the Social Planning Committee which he chaired for seven years. Jewish Information Service was created under Goodman's chairmanship.

"Henry brought a tremendous vision to Federation which helped put social planning on the map," recalls Madeleine Epstein, who followed Goodman as chair of the committee.

"He had a real understanding of the social fabric of the community," remembers Michael Benjamin, who also served as social planning chairman. "He was one of the best authorities around on Jewish continuity."

To honour Goodman's 90th birthday and his many years of dedication to the community, JF&CS has established the Henry and Jenne Goodman Scholarship Fund, which will enable crown wards to pursue post-secondary education.

If you would like to make a contribution to the fund call (416) 638-7800 ext. 214.

Henry Goodman

U of T students express their Jewish pride at UJA Day which took place at the campus' Sid Smith Building.

Thank You

UJA Federation would like to thank 13 year old Hadassah Rosenthal for volunteering her time to catalogue and update our video library. We wish Hadassah good luck and hope she comes back to visit soon.

Out in Front plugs in young adults

Want to become more connected to your Jewish community?

On Wednesday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m, The Game Room, 449 Walmer Road, UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet is hosting an *Out in Front* information session for 25-40 year olds interested in exploring volunteer opportunities.

Participants will meet volunteers and hear how they got started, assisting UJA Federation and its beneficiary agencies.

Anthony Morris, who attended last year's *Out In Front* program, became involved with UJA Federation's Young Business Network. Morris recently returned from the Yachdav '96 Young Leadership Mission to Basel, Switzerland and Israel.

Anthony Morris

Other participants volunteered as tutors for children at Jewish Family and Child Service and campaigners at UJA Federation telethons.

For Cindy Pedvis, who became involved with UJA Federation's Young Adult Network (YAN) seven years ago, volunteering in the community has brought "a great sense of pride." She'll be speaking at *Out in Front* about YAN programs, including the recent Chanuka party for children at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Pedvis co-chairs YAN with Richard Lewin and Jay Stochinsky.

"*Out in Front* is a great way for Toronto newcomers to get to know people," notes Jacqueline Valmont who is co- chairing the session with David Rashkovan.

For more information about *Out In Front*, call Ronit Holtzman at (416) 631-5738.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Conservative Judaism gets first campus rep

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Adam Silver

TORONTO — The Jewish Conservative movement now has an official presence on Toronto university campuses.

In August, Adam Silver, 25, became the campus fieldworker for Koach, an offshoot of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Koach was instituted by the U.S.-based umbrella organization to reach out to college students.

Silver's position, the only one of its kind in Canada and one of very few in North America, is a pilot project which represents a three-way collaboration between Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (in whose office he is based), the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Ontario region, and a local Koach committee made up of lay people within the Conservative movement. The project is supported by the New York-based national United Synagogue.

A 1994 history graduate of York University, Silver has a strong background in the Conservative movement. While in university he worked as youth director at Adath Israel Congregation. After graduation, he left Toronto for Minneapolis, where he served for almost a year as regional youth director for the Central States and Provinces region of United Synagogue.

He returned here to become national director of Network, which ceased operations due to withdrawal of funding by the Council of Jewish Federations Canada last summer.

A self-described "shul kid," Silver grew up attending services regularly at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, where he has served as youth adviser and of which his father Norman is a past president. His mother, Judy, is a past sisterhood president.

Last year, when Network was housed at Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, Silver would often brainstorm with JCS director Zac Kaye about ways to better serve the student population.

Toronto campuses have a large number of Conservative students, many of whom have not been involved in existing Jewish groups, said Silver. "Certain needs were identified through focus groups."

After a meeting with Chicago-based Koach director Richard Moline at last year's United Synagogue Youth convention held in Toronto, it was determined there was "a potentially big enough demand to try servicing these students."

Silver is quick to point out that the initiative came from Toronto and that local Conservative shuls have taken an active role.

"They realized this is a priority, reaching out to the next generation. There's a void. Shuls provide programs for ages four to 18, but not a specifically geared program until you hit the young adult stage or get married."

Koach aims to fill a gap and reach uninvolved students, explained Silver. So far they have 150 people on their mailing list.

"This is where the partnership is very nice. You have to be conscious of not overlapping and not having redundant programming. We're trying to provide a service within the existing structure."

Silver has an office at JCS and recently oversaw Koach's first large-scale program, a relaxed, camp-style Shabbat dinner held at Beth Tikvah Congregation in partnership with the shul's young adult committee.

Sixty-eight students showed up, at least 10 of whom had learned of the dinner through a synagogue mailing, not their campus group. "It was a nice demonstration of how a partnership can work."

Discussion on the spirit of Shabbat continued until after the dinner was over, Silver said. Future plans include another Shabbat dinner and more educational programming on campus.

Although students have been involved in organizing programs, there are no plans to form a student executive, because focus group studies showed that many students just didn't have the time to become involved to that extent, said Silver.

CORRECTION

In the article, "Professor creates database on the Holocaust" (*CJN*, Dec. 12), the description of a book published by the Auschwitz Foundation of Belgium states that 60,000 people were taken from Belgium to the concentration camps.

There were in fact 57,000 registered Jews in Belgium, plus an estimated 12,000 unregistered. Twenty-five thousand were deported and 1,000 of those deported survived, notes Alain Goldschläger of the Institute for Holocaust Literature of the University of Western Ontario.

The CJN regrets the error.

Greater Toronto Area

Tu b'Shvat celebrated at Promenade Mall

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — While chilling winter winds blustered outdoors, trees and foliage were the focus of indoor festivities at the Tu b'Shvat celebration held recently at the Promenade Mall in Thornhill.

The event, sponsored by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), included performances by David Brant, Maytal Golan and choirs from Leo Baeck Day School, Bialik Hebrew Day School and Associated Hebrew Schools. Purchasers of trees for Israel were given tickets to play carnival games run by several Jewish youth groups.

The Israeli consul, Irit Waidergorn, brought greetings from the Jewish state. JNF president Tom Ungar welcomed the audience.

"It's symbolic that in Israel they're eating the first fruit from the trees...Jewish National Fund has as its mandate to plant trees and take care of the greenery, Ungar said."

Event co-chairs Marla Dadoun and Barry Ganz told *The CJN* they were thrilled with the large turnout.

JNF executive director Ben Prossin said the mall venue, a first for this event, provided excellent exposure for JNF. "We figure several thousand people walked through the mall and saw the performances and the exhibits."

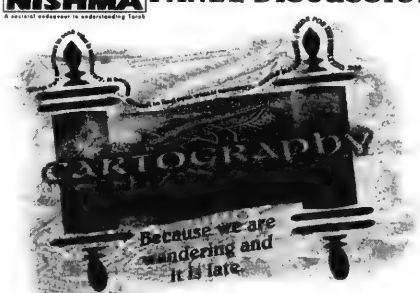
He said the event went so well that he envisions holding a similar bash next year, but on a larger scale in order to involve more schools.

The festivities marked the kickoff for the annual Tu b'Shvat telethon which took place Feb 2, he said. Telemarketing lines, donated by a JNF supporter were staffed by 100 volunteers.

Those missed by the telethon can call 638-7200 to buy trees and support JNF.

Tara Snider, 22 months, and her mother Judy, play a carnival game at the recent Tu b'Shvat celebration. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

A NISHMA PANEL DISCUSSION



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Kefiada '97

Photo by Deb Arnold

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United Israel Appeal of Canada, Canada Israel Experience Centre, The Ministry of Education of Israel, Israel Association of Community Centres, Canadian Jewish Federations.

JOIN US FOR KEFIADA INFORMATION SESSIONS:

MONTREAL: Wednesday, February 19, 7:30 pm
Hillel House
3460 Stanley Street

TORONTO: Thursday February 20, 7:30 pm
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street

Toronto Jews send medical supplies to Ukraine

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A defibrillator, which regulates heart beats, and two heart monitors were among 500 pounds of medical supplies airlifted to the Jewish community of Ukraine from Toronto.

The airlift was comprised of samples donated by local physicians. In Kiev, the supplies were distributed by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

The shipment was arranged by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, in cooperation with the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, Bruno Rubinger, Congress executive member, reported to a recent meeting of the region executive.

A Chanukah shipment to Cuba flown to Havana in the private jet of Toronto film mogul Robert Lantos was gratefully received by the Jewish community there, Rubinger also reported.

Through the ma'ot chittin fund, the shipment included 75 boxes of potato pancake mix, 10 boxes of chocolate Chanukah gelt, 100 cans of sardines, 100 cans of tuna fish, decaffeinated coffee, a large quantity of pasta and religious supplies of 50 tallitot and two gross of kippot.

Helga Stephenson, chair of Viacom Canada, who flew to the Havana film festival with Lantos, personally delivered the supplies just two hours after her arrival.

Both shipments were arranged by the Ontario region's world Jewry and international affairs committee.

Joseph Turkel (left) and Bruno Rubinger (right), co-chairs of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region's world Jewry and international affairs committee, join Daniel Fine, CJC's director of political liaison and international affairs, in packaging heart monitors for the Jewish community in Ukraine. [Daniel Fine photo]

Jack Cole revolutionized bookselling concept

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — World-famous book seller Jack Cole died recently at Princess Margaret Hospital. He was 76.

A high school drop-out in the 1930s, Jack Cole, along with his late brother Carl, built Coles Books into one of the biggest bookstore chains in the world.

He was born Jack Colofsky, but his father, a cabinet maker who came to Canada from Russia in 1912, changed the family name to Cole.

Growing up in the Bathurst-Dundas area, Cole quit Harbord Collegiate in Grade 12 and went to work with his brother who had opened a Bloor St. West store where they bought and sold used school books.

Four years later, in 1940, a second store was opened at Yonge and Charles Streets, which also specialized in school texts.

During World War II, Cole served in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The yellow-and-black striped Coles Notes, developed by the two brothers, went on to become the world's best-selling study guides.

In 1978 when Coles Books was sold to the Southam company, the price tag was almost $34 million. At the time there were 164 Coles stores, 126 in Canada and 38 in the United States. In 1986, Coles Notes wre being sold in 73 countries. In 1990, when the company marked the 50th anniversary of the first store, there were 222 outlets.

In 1980, Cole oversaw the opening of the company's World's Biggest Bookstore. The Toronto emporium was a precursor of the giant superstores, Chapters, which was formed when Coles Books merged with the SmithBooks chain in April 1995.

He leaves his wife, Esther, daughters Norma and Linda, sons David and Jeffrey, and 16 grandchildren.

Services were held at Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel and burial was in the Temple Sinai section of Pardes Shalom cemetery.

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From coast to coast

Kashrut changes cause controversy in Calgary

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — A change in policy on Calgary Kosher (CK) supervision in local synagogues has created controversy and debate within the community.

CK is the community-run kashrut supervision program, which operates under guidelines set by the Calgary Rabbinical Council (CRC) and the Calgary Jewish Community Council (CJCC).

According to a position statement released to the CJCC board in December, the CRC decided in March 1996 to "remove the CK from ongoing daily supervision of all the synagogues in Calgary," leaving the day-to-day supervision of each institution's kashrut to its respective rabbi and/or administration.

"At the same time, the CRC adopted the halachic position that in order to supervise an ad-hoc function at the request of the hosting family or organization at one of the community's synagogues, it would be necessary to operate under the premise that the CK cannot use the synagogue's existing equipment and dishes.

"This is based on the reasoning that a kashrut organization cannot put its own endorsement on equipment it is not responsible for and does not supervise on a regular basis.

"Hence, it is necessary in such circumstances to implement a discrete kashering of the kitchen facility and use dishes belonging to the CK," the position statement said.

The board at Beth Tzedec Synagogue has objected to the need to re-kasher kitchens in order to adhere to CK standards.

"When the kitchen has to be re-kashered, it makes a statement," said Beth Tzedec president Isaac Aptowitzer. "The implication is that it's not up to standard, and that is not right."

David Isaac, who represented the synagogue at the CJCC meeting, argued that the new standards were "imposed" on Beth Tzedec and were never agreed to by the congregation.

In the synagogue's view, the old rules, under which the rabbi was responsible for a shul's kashrut but the community mashgiach could come and go at will, were acceptable.

In a statement read out to Beth Tzedec congregants on Jan. 11, the synagogue's board and executive stated unequivocally that the shul's kitchens are kosher. The statement went on to describe the measures taken by the congregation to maintain kashrut.

However, the rabbinical council does not claim to judge the kashrut of any particular synagogue.

The CRC's statement reads: "It is important to state unequivocally that at no time did the Calgary Rabbinical Council call into question the integrity of the kosher status of any synagogue's kitchens."

As president Nate Feldman told the CJCC board, "the policy is not here to comment on the level of kashrut at any given facility. If anybody wants the CK stamp on a function, there must be a common set of standards."

In the view of Temple B'nai Tikvah Rabbi Jordan Goldson, who is also chair of the Calgary Rabbinical Council, the new policy is not about whether any synagogue is kosher, but simply a matter of supervision.

"From a halachic point of view, if we are going to have a CK standard, it has to operate in this way," Rabbi Goldson said.

The problem with the old policy, Rabbi Goldson said, is that two systems were operating in parallel — rabbinic and CK supervision.

"You can't have two systems together unless you treat them blindly," said Rabbi Goldson. And when it comes to kashrut and halachah, two systems are impossible.

"If an event is going to be kosher, someone has to be responsible and say 'yes, it's a kosher affair,' " explained Rabbi Goldson. To meet CK standards, that person must be the community mashgiach.

"This is not a question of the qualifications of a rabbi to serve as a mashgiach, but of the availability of the rabbi," Rabbi Goldson said, explaining that because of their other duties, rabbis often don't have time to supervise every aspect of a kitchen's operations, including delivery of food to its preparation and presentation.

Rabbi Shulman told the CJCC board that the first time the new policy was put into place was at his shul, House of Jacob-Mikveh Israel. A bar mitzvah host requested CK supervision, and the synagogue's kitchen was kashered and the community dishes were used, in accordance with the new policy.

Rabbi Goldson pointed out that several meetings have been held with Beth Tzedec to discuss the issue.

"They've made the decision not to operate according to the standards of CK," Rabbi Goldson said. "They have every right to do that. We had hoped to work out an agreement whereby CK could come in an unobtrusive manner" but so far, there has been no success in the negotiations.

TU B'SHVAT PROGRAM
At Associated Hebrew Schools Tu b'Shvat program are (from left) Dorit Neve-Bar, Hebrew librarian and co-ordinator of computer learning, Adam Gold, Samuel Sela and Michael Fox.

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Campaign goals may be exceeded

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — It's not over but so far, it's been challenging and successful, said outgoing United Jewish Appeal (UJA) co-chair Cheryl Klein at the recent Hamilton-Wentworth & Area Jewish Federation-UJA annual general meeting.

Klein, who has co-chaired the UJA campaign with Rick Black for the past three years, reported on the 1996-97 campaign. Projections indicate, she said, that it will not only meet its target, but will exceed it provided outstanding pledges are collected.

This year's campaign introduced "plus giving," a program first used in Vancouver, under which donors can designate 50 percent of their "plus" gift to an agency of their choice.

One positive result of plus giving, Klein said, has been greater cooperation between UJA and local institutions and organizations. As well, it brought about "a new dialogue" between donors and canvassers.

And proof of its success was in the cheque Klein was able to hand to the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, Adas Israel Synagogue and the Beth Jacob school and synagogue.

Another success story has been Midrasha, the community school of continuing Jewish education for high school students. Founded by Dr. Judah Denburg of the McMaster University Medical school and Prof. Adele Reinhartz of the department of religious studies, the school is now in its third year.

Reflecting on the highlights of the past year, Federation president George Czutrin recalled community events that involved children and teenagers in various tzedakah projects.

Plans for the future include a community endowment fund and the appointment of a professional endowment director to be shared by the Hamilton, Windsor and London communities.

Incoming board members were installed by immediate past president David Steinberg. While Czutrin continues as president for another year, the new executive includes Cheryl Klein, president-elect; Al Rams, UJA campaign chair; Judah Denburg and Harvey Waxman, vice-presidents and Bill Halpren, treasurer.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Israel Day a success

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Despite bitter prairie cold, organizers of the recent first-ever "Israel Day At The Centre" were pleased at the turnout.

"There were quite a number of young people who came to check out our programs," says Reva Craven of the Israel Experience Centre-Winnipeg. "People really seemed to be seriously interested in what our programs have to offer."

The Israel Experience Centre, backed by the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, was formed last June through an amalgamation of the Canadian Zionist Federation and Travel Israel. "We thought an Israel Fair highlighting programs for young adults would be a good program," says Craven.

Almost all Jewish organizations in the city were represented at the fair, which was co-sponsored by the YMHA Jewish Community Centre.

Visitors learned about summer programs and volunteer opportunities in Israel as well as the country's high school, university and religious programs. Israeli cuisine was available for sampling.

Presentations were made by Adam Minsky, national education director of the Canada Israel Experience Centre and Michael Litvack, national academic affairs co-ordinator of the Hebrew University.

The Israel Experience Centre-Winnipeg is looking forward to a bigger and better fair next year, says Craven. It's also planning an event for Yom Ha'atzmaut on May 12 in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first World Zionist Conference, she says.

From coast to coast

War crimes case

[Cont'd. from page 1]

the Second World War and your association with organizations actively engaged in atrocities against the civilian population."

In a letter to Rock, Powell said "your officials falsely accused Vitols of personal complicity in atrocities against the civilian population and then backed off when confronted with the facts." He suggested Vitols "will have such strong community support when the case is made public that he will be able to raise enough funds to retain a leading litigation lawyer to sue the government" for abuse of process and malicious prosecution.

Powell concluded his letter saying "Vitols will not sue if the matter is dropped immediately. Nor does he demand an apology."

Powell told *The CJN* his father-in-law does not deny belonging to the organizations listed by the government, but that he was not involved in any war crimes. He said the government case is based on "guilt by association" and should be dropped.

A letter released by Powell, dated Dec. 23, 1996, from Justice Department lawyer Roslyn Levine, states "the murder of communist sympathizers in the forest near Madona in December 1941 will remain part of our case. The Crown will seek to rely on the evidence surrounding the...event, but will not seek to prove direct participation by Vitols in the atrocities. Rather, this evidence will be used to establish the atrocities committed by the various organizations with which Vitols was associated during his tenure with them."

Levine's letter goes on to allege that Vitols' rank in the Madona police and the 281st Schutzmannshaft Battalion was "lieutenant, company commander."

Powell said he sent copies of the correspondence to Canadian Jewish Congress, in part to seek their cooperation in opposing a wrongful prosecution but "more realistically" to ensure that Rock does not suffer politically if he drops the case.

"The case is politically sensitive and therefore I expect that only the minister in charge can make the necessary decision," Powell stated in a Jan. 20 letter to Rock. Powell said he had no intention of turning the case into one in which ethnic groups clash.

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Congress, said "let the courts decide" the Vitols case.

Congress has always maintained "it's not an issue of ethnicity. It's a matter of truth and justice," he added.

Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee, said "it would be a fundamental mistake to make it a community issue. It's an individual being charged, not the community. I think it would be a sad comment if the Latvian community came to [Vitols'] defence."

Meanwhile, both Farber and Abella criticized the head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit for failing to participate in a recent news conference in which U.S. investigator Steven Rambam turned over audio tapes of his meetings with alleged Nazi war criminals. They said Paul Vickery had been invited to attend, but sent two RCMP officers to receive the material instead.

"From our perspective, it was a win-win situation for the government," Abella said. "They could show the government was taking the issue seriously. By not showing up, it sent a symbolic message to the international media that they don't take the issue seriously."

Sims told *The CJN* he has full confidence in Vickery's commitment to the war crimes portfolio. "There is no one more hardworking and dedicated in Canada's war crimes program than Vickery," he said.

Turning to the Rambam news conference, he said Vickery "sent the right man for the job. If the boss of the unit ran out and did the job of the police, nothing would get done."

Sims pointed out a team of lawyers, lab technicians and RCMP officers worked on the material over the Christmas holidays.

Conversion bill

[Cont'd. from page 1]

I would not change the status quo. There were one or two demands on me that we would not recognize conversions in North America and I refused."

On a question from Baltimore and Toronto on relations with Syria, Netanyahu said he welcomed a recent statement from the Syrian leader that peace is more important to Syria than it is to Israel.

"My sense is that the less said publicly about this the more possibility there is for beginning peace talks."

He said that within a decade, it is possible that the majority of the world's Jews will live in Israel.

The post-Hebron agreement with the Palestinians is more significant than the Hebron agreement itself, Netanyahu said. "Israel alone will designate the extent of redeployment in Judea and Samaria."

The prime minister said Palestinians have agreed they would have no political activity in Jerusalem and that his government is "looking into" a report that they have re-opened one political office. "We expect full compliance with the agreement,"

He said his government is planning to deregulate communications, cellular phones, and bus transportation and is hoping to privatize banks.

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From coast to coast

Nathanson served as mayor of New Waterford, NS

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Dr. Daniel Nathanson was remembered as a man with integrity, good judgment, a love of his community and the respect of all who worked with him during memorial services in New Waterford, N.S. recently.

Nathanson, 71, died Jan. 15 after a 20-year battle with cancer that doctors said would take his life within a year. "When he was told he had cancer, two doctors in Montreal suggested he take a trip around the world and get his affairs in order," recalled his brother Bernard (Nardy) of Halifax. "But those doctors both died a few years later and Dan lived on."

The Cape Breton physician and surgeon served his town as mayor from 1965 until 1976 when illness forced his resignation. Born and educated in Glace Bay, he studied pre-medicine at Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B., and received his medical degree from Dalhousie University in Halifax in 1953. After post-graduate work, he came to New Waterford to practice in 1956 and remained there until his death.

He helped establish the New Waterford Hospital in 1963 which propelled him to the mayor's seat two years later. During his mayoralty terms, Breton Education Centre, a high school in New Waterford was built and he oversaw renovation of the town's school curriculum, making New Waterford a leader in provincial education.

He worked to successfully upgrade senior citizens housing, establish a much-needed nursing home and improve many municipal services necessary for small town survival.

Former New Waterford mayor Jerry Marsh, a council member during Nathanson's regime, said "he saw the needs of the community and worked for the betterment of the citizens."

Louis Mercer, another former mayor, said "Dr. Nathanson was one of the greatest politicians I have ever worked with. He always kept in mind the thoughts of the people of the community."

Jerry Ryan, chief administrative officer of the community who started working in the town during Nathanson's term, said he was visionary, a man ahead of his time. "The type of community New Waterford is today is due to his vision."

Nathanson lost use of his legs because of radiation treatment for cancer but continued to practice until a few years ago. Despite using a wheelchair, he was doing major surgery while strapped to a table, Nardy Nathanson said. "He finally had to give it up because after a couple of hours, his legs would tighten and lock."

He is survived by his wife, the former Edith Hirsch; sons, Garth Sydney and Ian; daughters, Sheila Nathanson Simmons and Norine; five grandchildren; brothers Lawrence, Bernard and Hilroy; sisters, Doreen (Gordon) and Norma.

Scene in Ottawa
By RICHARD CLEROUX
WILL RETURN.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Honey & Jerry Mahl are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Jill to Ken, son of Marci Daiter & Larry Daiter. Proud grandparents are Sally Laufer and Syd Mahl.

Happy first birthday to our daughter Anna on Dec. 16 from mom and dad, Anne & Sol Perelmuter, and family.

Happy 68th birthday to Aubie Himmel with love and best wishes from children Andi & Gary Fiman, Cheryl Himmel, Michael & Joyce Himmel and granddaughters T.J. and Kelly.

Mazel tov Stephen & Gayle on your engagement from parents Arthur & Miriam Kertzman, Joe & Freda Naiman; grandparents Harry & Helen Naiman, Jack & Rose Nusinowitz; Alisa and Alan.

Faye & Morris Alter celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 6 with their children and grandchildren and many friends and family.

Happy 65th anniversary Esther & Sam Shatz, special parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, with all our love.

Mazel tov to Margaret & Herman Gluckman who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Love and best wishes from family and friends.

Mazel tov to Jack & Sala Ordynans on their 50th wedding anniversary. With love from Miriam & Lorne Lubotta, Bonnie & Jeffrey and Smadar & Leon Ordynans.

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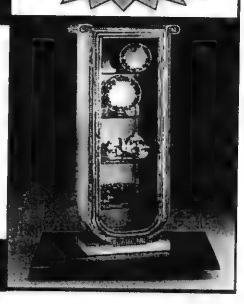

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Netanyahu, Arafat to meet in Erez for talks

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat agreed last Sunday in Davos, Switzerland, to meet again at the Erez junction this week as the first step toward launching the security-related portions of the Hebron accord.

However, it remains unclear whether Israel is sufficiently organized to have assembled the negotiating teams needed for dealing with the issues at hand: the PA establishment of both an airport and seaport in Gaza; safe passage for Palestinians between Gaza and the West Bank; and release of Palestinian prisoners.

In a panel session last Sunday night at the World Economic Forum's conference, which brought together more than 1,000 corporate executives to meet with world leaders, Arafat complained that Israel is hurting the PA's economy and that Israel owes the PA hundreds of millions of dollars in tax rebates.

In his remarks, Netanyahu heralded Israel as one of the great hi-tech centres of the world and predicted that its per capita Gross National Product — currently $16,000 — will double within the next 10 years.

Netanyahu held separate meetings with Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak; as all three are attending the conference at the Swiss resort. The Mubarak-Netanyahu meeting is their first since the two met in Cairo, when their relationship subsequently deteriorated because the Egyptian leader accused Netanyahu of bad faith over the Hebron talks.

Mubarak emerged from the meeting with Netanyahu optimistic that a common basis for the resumption of talks between Israel and Syria will ultimately be found, but admitted this could be "a question of time."

"I believe Syria says it's ready to start the talks, even if it may have some reservations. But this is a question of time and it's bound to be resolved," he said.

Yet, U.S. officials privately suggest that Cairo and Damascus, which have worked closely together in the past, now differ on how to deal with Israel in the aftermath of the Hebron accord.

Statements by senior Egyptian officials over the weekend have suggested that progress on the Palestinian track will be key in paving the way for Israel to emerge from its regional isolation.

There are indications that Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold visited Oman last week in a bid to enhance ties.

In contrast, Syrian Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Farouk Shara visited Gulf countries last week, urging them to keep the regional pressure on Israel and halt normalization until there is movement on the Syrian track. United Press International cited Syrian diplomatic sources in Damascus as saying that Khaddam and Shara will shortly continue their regional diplomatic drive to isolate Israel by visiting Algeria, Morocco, Libya and Tunisia.

Syria believes that only if Israel is isolated regionally will it be forced to accept Damascus' demands as a condition for renewing talks. Netanyahu utterly rejects the Syrian notion that in the past Israel committed itself to full withdrawal from the Golan and therefore he is bound to accept this idea if he wants talks to resume.

Speaking in Davos, Netanyahu suggested that Israel will not beg Syria to restart talks if Damascus is reluctant.

"I cannot force President Hafez al-Assad to resume the peace talks. If he wants to, we'll find the formula. If he doesn't want to, there can always be 100 reasons why we cannot start the peace talks."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said peace talks with Syria cannot resume as long as there are attacks on IDF forces in Lebanon, but denied this was a condition for resuming peace negotiations with Damascus.

"We are interested in renewing the negotiations with the Syrians. Together with this we are telling the Syrians that political negotiations and progress in the peace process cannot progress with terror acts in Lebanon and other places against the State of Israel," Mordechai said to reporters during a tour of the Karni Crossing at the Gaza Strip.

It remained unclear if the Israeli-Egyptian relationship will quickly improve. Mubarak, as expected, did invite Netanyahu to Cairo, but there is no early date for such a meeting.

In return, Netanyahu extended one in an endless series of invitations to Mubarak to visit Israel, but Mubarak did not react. With the exception of Yitzhak Rabin's funeral, Mubarak has refused to visit Israel since assuming the Egyptian presidency in 1981.

Sharansky returns to Moscow

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Semyon Tayts, an 11-year-old Jewish day school student, had never heard of the time when Hebrew instruction was forbidden.

For him, learning the language often involves nothing more difficult than looking up words in a computerized Russian-Hebrew dictionary.

His situation provided a stark contrast to the experiences of Natan Sharansky, who returned here last week as Israeli trade minister 11 years after he was released from a Soviet gulag.

During his visit, the former refusenik recalled how he and his friends strove to learn Hebrew secretly during the early 1970s. "Someone would write down the Hebrew lessons broadcast" by Israel Radio, Sharansky said. "Then, those who had learned 300 to 400 Hebrew words would be considered good language teachers."

Sharansky added that he was strongly impressed by the progress the Jewish community had made, especially in the area of education, since his departure from the former Soviet Union as part of a 1986 prisoner exchange with the West.

Discussions with teachers at Jewish schools in Moscow indicated that Russia had achieved much during the past decade in granting greater religious freedom, he said.

The Jewish educators complained about lack of funds and discussed proposed improvements in their schools' curricula, Sharansky told a news conference.

"Those were quite normal complaints I could have heard from any Jewish educator in any country," he said.

Sharansky, who came to Moscow with the formal mission of improving Russian-Israeli trade ties, said he considered his meetings with members of the Jewish community the highlight of his visit.

Those contacts with the community proved that Russian Jewish life is as rich and diverse as in other nations where the tradition of Jewish life had never been interrupted, he said.

"These meetings were not much different from those I've had in Jewish communities around the world," Sharansky said at one event last week, when he addressed more than 1,000 Moscow Jews in a packed concert hall.

During a visit to the Jewish day school where Tayts studies, Sharansky told a gathering of pupils what today's Russian Jewish revival means to him as a former dissident.

"Years ago, you had to fight against the regime in this country if you wanted just to be a Jew," he said. "I'm happy that this contradiction does not exist anymore."

Sharansky was the first member of the current Israeli cabinet to visit Russia. One of his primary responsibilities was to lay the groundwork for a visit by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, scheduled for next month.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Hebron deal seen as encouraging Syria to talks

By ELDAD BECK
AND HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said last week that Israeli withdrawal from remaining parts of Palestinian land is the key both to better relations with Egypt and progress towards peace with Syria.

Speaking at the Swiss resort of Davos, where he was attending the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum, Moussa said a bad atmosphere in relations stemmed from the initial policies and actions of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after he was elected last May.

"The bad atmosphere was not personal," Moussa told Reuters. "We had reservations about certain policies and practices, but we see in the Hebron agreement [signed last month] and in particular the time frame for further withdrawals a positive sign that would help change the atmosphere.

"Now we have to actively pursue the rest of the steps of the Palestinian-Israeli track, first of which is to withdraw or redeploy from the villages and the rest of the land of the Palestinians – this will be the key to change," he added.

Moussa said Syria, which has had no direct talks with the present Israeli government, has good reason to be suspicious of Israel's commitment to anything it signs.

"But if the Hebron agreement and the annexed [agreement] on the next steps are implemented, then the Syrians and Lebanese will see that Israel is respecting what it has signed. So the signing of the Hebron agreement, coupled with implementation, would certainly encourage the Syrians and Lebanese or at least show there is a positive point in getting a deal with the government of Israel," he added.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister David Levy said after meeting French President Jacques Chirac last week that peace talks with Syria are not frozen and that France wants to help narrow Israeli-Syrian differences.

Levy accused Syria of direct responsibility for last week's attack in which three IDF soldiers were killed by Hezbollah. "Syria is more than directly responsible [for events in south Lebanon]. It transfers weapons that arrive from Iran. Such behavior is not compatible with Syria's declarations about its desire to achieve peace.

"If peace serves the interests of both sides, Syria has an opportunity to prove the sincerity of its declarations. It must contribute to creating the conditions which will bring us to resume the peace talks," Levy said.

The future of Israeli-Syrian peace talks and the situation in Lebanon were the two major topics Levy discussed with Chirac and with his French counterpart, Herve de-Charette.

Levy tried to tone down tensions with Syria, speaking about the need to avoid a verbal war and to resume negotiations as quickly as possible.

Chirac told Levy that the Syrians are willing to examine every proposal that would help bridge the gap between the two countries' positions. Levy said he did not ask Chirac to transmit any message to Damascus, saying he is waiting to hear from the EU special envoy to the Middle East, who visited the Syrian capital last week.

Over the weekend, the United States also warned Syria to put a halt to Hezbollah attacks on the IDF in southern Lebanon.

In Washington, a senior administration official would not confirm whether Secretary of State Madeleine Albright spoke with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara on the matter, but said, "We have communicated these views to the Syrians."

Washington is aware that the attack could be linked to recent efforts to bring about a resumption of Israeli-Syrian peace talks, and the United States is once again telling Damascus that the link must be cut, he said.

The official added that with Netanyahu coming to the United States next week to discuss with President Bill Clinton how to resume the talks, Syria ought to create a better climate by clamping down on Hezbollah.

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Unilateral Lebanon pullout rejected

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — A unilateral IDF withdrawal from the security zone will not solve Israel's conflict in Lebanon nor will it ensure the security of the north, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak said recently.

"There is no one with whom to make a deal. As far as I know, the Lebanese government is not willing and is not able to take responsibility in [south Lebanon.] If it could take responsibility it could have prevented the past two Katyusha attacks on the north," said Shahak, who was speaking to reporters while visiting Roi Regev at Haifa's Rambam Hospital. Regev, a 19-year-old soldier, was moderately wounded in south Lebanon last week. His condition has improved and he was recently moved out of the intensive care unit.

"In the meantime, we must continue to rely only on ourselves... and continue fighting in south Lebanon," he said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who was visiting the hospital with Shahak, said he held Lebanon responsible for what happens in its territory. Mordechai said such attacks do not help the peace process, and warned all those who use terror in south Lebanon that they should know the consequences of such moves.

At the same time, he said "we must move forward in the search for formulas for reaching a settlement in Lebanon."

Mordechai, Shahak and OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine also visited IDF posts on the Lebanese border and were given a report on the recent attack.

Meanwhile, one of the fallen soldiers, Sgt. Niv Sadan was buried last week at Kibbutz Megiddo in the Jezreel Valley. Hundreds of comrades, family members and friends attended the funeral.

Tension remained high in southern Lebanon as Hezbollah detonated a roadside bomb near an infantry patrol of the South Lebanese Army militia.

But Lebanese security officials said there were no casualties in that attack or in a rocket strike later in the day on an SLA outpost in the mountains. There was no responsibility claimed for that attack.

Last week, Israeli helicopter gunships strafed suspected guerrilla positions in the south, apparently in pursuit of infiltrators who detonated a roadside bomb earlier in the day near an IDF patrol, causing no casualties.

VATICAN COUNSEL
While he was in Europe this week to attend the World Economic Forum, Prime Minister Netanyahu took the opportunity to travel to the Vatican to meet with Pope John Paul II. [Reuters/RNS]

The Week in Israel

Jan. 27

• Israeli media reported that Hamas leader, Abu Marzook, whom Israel holds responsible for several terrorist actions, and who is currently being held in the United States, withdrew his appeal of the request for his extradition by Israel. He is expected to arrive in Israel soon.

Jan. 28

• Natan Sharansky made his first official visit to Russia more than 10 years after his release from a Soviet jail. He met with Jewish officials at Moscow's central synagogue and visited the grave of his friend and human rights mentor, Andre Sakharov.

• A plan to expand Ben-Gurion Airport to accommodate 16 million visitors annually was approved by the national planning commission. Area residents and environmental groups opposed the plan.

Jan. 29

• The cabinet unanimously approved Jerusalem District Judge Elyakim Rubinstein to become the next attorney general.

• The prime minister's office announced that he will visit the White House on Feb. 13.

Jan. 30

• The Hamas movement in Gaza reportedly warned the United States that if it extradited Abu Marzook to Israel, America would become an enemy of "Islamic people everywhere". Yasser Arafat also reportedly warned the United States to refrain from carrying out the extradition.

Jan. 31

• The U.S. State Department joined Israeli diplomats to deny a Syrian claim that Israel had promised in 1995 to return all of the Golan Heights.

With files from JTA

Israeli diplomacy focusing on Syria

Indirect contacts already initiated

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

When Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets President Bill Clinton at the White House next week, one of the topics high on the agenda will be Israel's suspended peace talks with Syria.

Mideast Analysis

The focus has shifted to Israel's unfinished business with Syria now that Israel and the PLO have finally signed the long-delayed Hebron agreement, a breakthrough which sets the stage for final status negotiations .

With substantive progress having been registered on the Palestinian track, Israel has launched a diplomatic campaign whose objective is nothing less than the resumption of bilateral talks with Syria.

In the past two weeks, Netanyahu has said that he will "spare no effort" to resume the negotiations, Foreign Minister David Levy has initiated indirect contacts with Syria and issued a fervent appeal to Damascus to rejoin the talks, and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has predicted that they will start up again by the spring.

Meanwhile, in Cairo, top-ranking Syrian officials – Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa – have discussed developments with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

Israel broke off negotiations with Syria almost a year ago, upset by Syria's failure to condemn the wave of Palestinian suicide bombings in Israeli cities. Since then, the political impasse has turned downright nasty, touching off a war of words between Israel and Syria.

Last summer, rumors of war swept the region, triggered by ominous Syrian and Israeli military manoeuvres on the Golan. Then Israel's deputy chief of staff, Gen. Matan Vilna'i, bluntly declared that "the likelihood of war is greater than it was a year or two ago."

The tension increased when the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for a terrorist attack near Ramallah on Dec. 11, 1996, which claimed the lives of two Israeli settlers. And it was further heightened when Syria blamed Israel for a still unsolved bus bombing in Damascus which killed nine civilians and wounded 44.

Despite these worrisome incidents, neither Israel nor Syria have given up on peace. But the gap in their respective positions is such that it engenders a sense of pessimism.

Netanyahu has ruled out territorial compromise on the Golan Heights, saying that its future is "absolutely not" negotiable. In addition, he has refused to honor oral understandings reportedly reached by the previous government and has insisted that both sides should approach the problem without "preconditions."

For its part, Syria has asserted that the talks can only resume from the point where they left off and must be based on the unwritten Israeli assurances conveyed to Damascus via the United States in 1995.

According to reports, confirmed by Netanyahu but denied by Israel's former ambassador to the United States, Yitzhak Rabin made a conditional promise to Clinton that Israel would withdraw from the Golan, to the June 4, 1967 borders, in exchange for a full-blown peace treaty with acceptable security arrangements and provisions for normalization.

Not being amenable to these "hypothetical" terms, Netanyahu has said that Israel and Syria are free to raise whatever demands they want.

Syria, in turn, has accused Israel of backing away from Rabin's apparent promises, and said that talks can only be renewed on the basis of the land-for peace formula, as found in United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

Levy has embraced 242, but Netanyahu has not explicitly stated that it should form the keystone of talks with Syria. Perhaps a "bridging" formula can be devised in Washington when Netanyahu confers with Clinton.

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Media inaccurate in portraying Israel

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

The author, second from the left, and a number of Canadian rabbinic colleagues "learning a page of economics" during their recent visit to Israel. Standing to the left of Rabbi Bulka are Rabbi Mordecai Zeitz, Rabbi Louis Schechter, Joel Rabinowitz of Bank Hapoalim, Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich, Rabbi Martin Berman, Rabbi Roy Tannenbaum, and Rabbi Barry Schneider. At the far left and right of the group are bank officials.

If you form your opinion of reality based on what you read in the papers, hear on the radio or see on the television, or all of the above, then you are no doubt convinced that Israel is an unsafe place in which to live, that it is an unsafe place to visit and that the country is on the verge of falling apart at the seams.

The reason you may feel this way is that all you hear about are the protracted difficulties with the peace process, the ugly assaults on people, including the horrible bus bombings in Tel Aviv and the attacks in Hebron, and the ongoing stories of internal squabbles between the religious and secular communities in Israel.

However, there is another reality to Israel. It is the reality of Israel as we directly experience it, not by what we hear or by what we read or by what we see.

I recently returned from my latest visit to Israel and I am pleased to be able to report that the reality is far from the picture you may have formulated in your mind. I was in Israel when the machine gun fire was unleashed on Arabs in the Hebron market. This could have been a massacre, but thanks to the quick reaction of the IDF, the damage was kept in check. Six people were injured. Hopefully they will recover; thankfully there were no fatalities.

Perhaps because there were no fatalities, there was little backlash or polarizing invective.

The immediate purpose of my visit to Israel was to take part in the annual conference of the State of Israel Bonds Rabbinic Cabinet. During this conference, we visited many places. We visited Katzrin, on the Golan Heights, where we heard the rabbi speak about the communities of the Golan. He emphasized with pride that the religious and the secular in the Golan get along well and cooperate with one another.

On the trek back to Jerusalem from the Golan, we stopped off in Migdal HaEmek. There we heard the community's mayor, Likud MK Shaul Amor, speak about the positive interaction between the religious and the non-religious.

Then we went on to a moshav called Shadmot Mechola, where we also heard about the great rapport between the divergent communities in the area.

Now comes the obvious question. If everyone gets along so well, where is this much-trumpeted religious-secular conflict?

It is indeed in some places, but it is certainly not everywhere. We who are so vulnerable to being "brainwashed" by the press are convinced that Israel is a society slowly being torn apart by the internal bickering and destructive strife of the religious-secular variety.

The truth is: It is simply not so. There are definite flashpoints; there are pronounced differences; but there is also a massive amount of good feeling, good intention, genuine dialogue and true caring, that transcend any ideological borders. But we do not hear this, because the media, for reasons known only to them, choose to accentuate the negative rather to promote the positive.

I am not living in a fool's paradise. I do not delude myself into thinking that everything is rosy in Israel. We do have serious challenges, including the challenge of mending the bridge between the religious and the secular communities. Israel needs much healing and coming together, a process that was definitely accelerated following the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. There is much that has to be done. But there is an overwhelming amount of goodwill, and a sincere desire to come together.

Religious and secular have gotten together for soul searching, for study sessions and for dialogue. People who are in the field of education in Israel are sensitive to the need for coming together and are working to address this issue. There are many forces for reconciliation and for coming together. Given the opportunity, Israel will overcome this great challenge to its internal vibrancy.

And there is also a recognition that we are in this together, that we must together to work our way out of the quagmire. Yes, there are extremists on both sides of the spectrum. But in reality, they represent a very small percentage of Israeli society and a very large percentage of the news copy. They make the loudest noises; they do things that make the news and sell the news; but they do not represent the country.

In the broad base between the extremes, there is a solid consensus on many things, including the march toward peace with the Palestinians and the march towards harmony with fellow Jews.

We dare not let this march be impeded by an irresponsible media that desires to paint a negative picture because it suits their needs. And we dare not let the extremists on either side steal the agenda and be allowed to foist their nonsense on a country and a people that genuinely yearn for peace and harmony.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

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New Baycrest program offers short-term hospital stay for frail elderly

TORONTO — A new program at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, the Geriatric Assessment and Treatment Unit (GATU), offers help to the frail elderly who find it difficult to live on their own.

The program offers a short-term stay in hospital where patients have access to a variety of medical, rehabilitative and social services. It is also accessible to those in long-term care institutions.

"Sometimes after receiving previous treatment for an acute incident, elderly people experience a noticeable decline, instead of steady improvement," says Dr. Shelley Sternberg, GTAU's interim coordinator. "The person may have trouble with dressing or bathing, may not be eating as well as normally or may appear depressed. The goal of our program is to determine the reasons for the decline and to help the client achieve a higher level of functioning."

GATU is designed for those who may have non-acute, complex medical problems or mild to moderate cognitive impairment. The unit offers two features — a team approach and an in-hospital stay — which are particularly helpful to the elderly in this situation.

"Clients in our unit are assessed and treated by a number of health care professionals, each with a special area of expertise," says Sternberg.

The in-hospital stay of up to four weeks is also of benefit to elderly people who are too frail to make several trips to hospital for assessment and treatment.

Following their stay, most return to the community, with the appropriate support services in place. Patients who need more care can be admitted to the unit's reactivation program which offers the same type of treatment over a longer time period.

People interested in applying for admission to GATU, either for themselves or a family member, should talk first to their family physician. They may also contact Baycrest's Community Outreach Team at 416-785-2488, whose staff of professionals visit older people in their homes to conduct initial assessments.

Women of distinction award goes to two Weizmann Institute scientists

REHOVOT – Two researchers from Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science have been honored for their work that led to the development of a new drug to help people with multiple sclerosis (MS).

Prof. Ruth Arnon and Dr. Dvora Teitelbaum received the first Women of Distinction Awards from Hadassah-WIZO.

The honor was bestowed upon them and on four other outstanding Israeli women at a ceremony in the Knesset on Jan. 26.

Arnon and Teitelbaum were recognized for synthesizing and developing — together with former president of the Weizmann Institute, Prof. Michael Sela — the MS drug called copolymer-1 (Copaxone(r)).

In December 1996, the drug received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. It is manufactured and marketed by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., which further developed the drug with the participation of physicians and researchers from Israel and other countries.

The scientific work that resulted in the development of copolymer-1 began with a disappointment. In trying to produce an MS-like disease in laboratory animals, the scientists synthesized several protein-like molecules called copolymers that mimicked a natural substance believed to trigger MS. But despite repeated efforts, the new molecules failed to produce the disease.

The scientists persisted, and in studying the properties of their copolymers, they stumbled upon an amazing discovery. Rather than triggering MS-like symptoms, the molecules actually blocked them. The researchers realized that they were seeing the potential for a new drug.

Years of research and several clinical trials later, one of the molecules, copolymer-1, indeed proved effective in alleviating the symptoms of relapsing-remitting MS in human patients. MS, which affects at least one million people worldwide, is an auto-immune disorder in which the immune system mistakenly attacks and destroys the protective coating of nerves, leading to symptoms ranging from numbness to paralysis.

"By talking to patients and their physicians, we knew long before the large clinical trials had been completed that we were on the right track," says Teitelbaum.

"It's hard to describe the wonderful feeling of satisfaction that comes from the realization that our work is bringing someone relief," adds Arnon.

But she and her colleagues are not about to rest on their laurels, she says, adding that they hope to apply what they learned from their research on copolymer-1 to finding remedies for other auto-immune disorders.

"And meanwhile, as an Israeli," she says, "I am really proud that Copaxone, which will bring relief to MS sufferers all over the world, is a true 'sabra,'a born-in-Israel product."

The Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel has 2,400 scientists, students and support staff engaged in more than 850 research projects across the spectrum of contemporary science.

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When the nuclear reactor in Chernobyl, a city in Ukraine, exploded in April 1986, the radiation that leaked out made many people sick and contaminated food sources for miles around. People were especially worried about their children, who, because they are smaller, are more likely to be harmed by the radiation.

Chabad's Children of Chernobyl project has been taking children from that area by plane to Israel ever since the explosion. The children have received medical treatment, psychological care and a change of scene from the troubles at home. Many now live in Israel.

This picture shows some children arriving in Israel on the Children of Chernobyl's latest rescue mission. They are accompanied by Yossie Raichik, director of the program, who flew with the children from Kiev in Ukraine.

So far, over 1,400 children have come to Israel with the organization's help. Chabad hopes to evacuate another 150 children by this spring. [Mickey Freiden photo]

STRETCHED TRICYCLE

Seen here are three little boys riding on a small tandem tricycle in the Mahane Yehuda neighborhood of Jerusalem.

[ISRANET photo]

KIDS CONGRATS

The CJN enjoyed all of the **"ON THE SLOPES"** cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Malka Douglas, Hannah Firsten-Kaufman and Arlee Stern.

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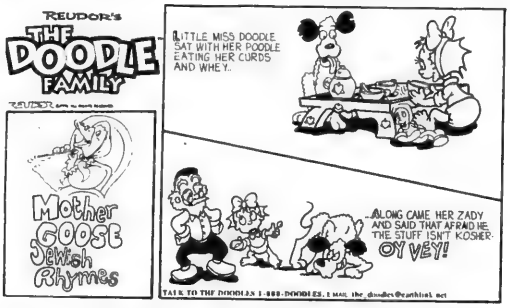
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CJ Kids

Book Review & cartoon too

Bat Mitzvah important milestone for girls

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Until very recently, Jewish families seemed to make a big fuss about boys becoming bar mitzvah. Boys had the ceremony at shul, the big party and lots of presents.

People seemed to forget that the bar mitzvah had a very important meaning — that the boy had reached the age where he was expected to assume all the responsibilities of a grown-up Jew.

What they also forgot was that Jewish girls reached that same stage, and that the age of bat mitzvah was just as important a milestone for them as it was for boys.

Barbara Diamond Goldin has written a very interesting book about this, called *Bat Mitzvah; a Jewish Girl's Coming of Age* (Viking, 1995).

The first girl to formally celebrate her bat mitzvah was Judith Kaplan, whose father, Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan, founded the Reconstructionist movement. Since then, girls belonging to the Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist branches of Judaism have begun to read from the Torah and have much the same kind of celebration as their brothers do.

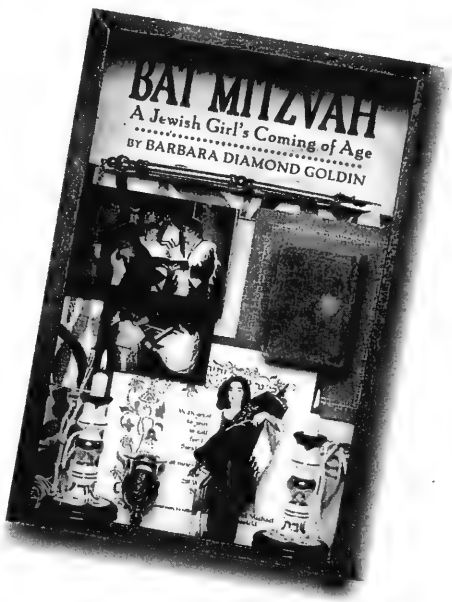
While Orthodox girls do not have the same kind of ceremony, in the last few years they too have begun to mark the occasion in very special ways. If they daven in a women's minyan, as Goldin explains, they may also read from the Torah and lead services.

Bat Mitzvah has several chapters giving suggestions for ways different girls have marked their coming of age, such as giving some of their gifts to tzedakah, making a tallit, or painting a picture representing part of the Torah portion. Some go to Israel. One girl had her bat mitzvah in Kai-Feng, in China, in what used to be a Jewish community.

The first part of the book is a fascinating history of Jewish women, including those in the Bible, what things were like in the Middle Ages, and the changing role in women in religious and communal life in North America.

For girls (and their parents) who don't spend much time ordinarily in the synagogue, Goldin explains clearly just what will happen during the bat mitzvah service.

Bat Mitzvah, a Jewish Girl's Coming of Age not only gives the facts about bat mitzvah, but also gives those celebrating a bat mitzvah inspiration and encouragement.



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New diet program helps the overweight

People battling the bulge are getting help from a new diet program available through a network of well-established physicians practicing in the Greater Toronto Area. Med Weight Control Systems (Med Weight) officially launched in four medical offices last week.

Med Weight is based on a program out of Florida's University Medical Center, run by Dr. Larry Gilderman. One of its specialties is the care and treatment of overeating. Says Dr. Gilderman, "In my 23 years of medical practice, I looked at many weight loss programs. This one works. There are minimal, if any, side effects. The success rate, based on reaching goal weight, is high — about 75% — providing the patient keeps on the program."

General Manager for Med Weight, Neil Lang, says, "Our program was adapted for Canadians by Canadians. For example, we hired nutritionists to modify the reduced-calorie menus, including vegetarian and *Kosher*, to meet Health Canada's Recommended Daily Intake and follow Canada's Food Guide."

Lang adds, "Med Weight is grounded on an overall philosophy of medical supervision, nutrition counselling, lifestyle management and moderate exercise."

The 15-week program uses the new diet drugs everyone's talking about, in combination with a 3-day (1,000-calorie) restricted diet, and a 4-day (1,200-calorie) "free" diet you design yourself, according to your food preferences, with nutritionists. Most importantly, Med Weight offers personalized guidance and ongoing care, especially where the medications and lifestyle changes are concerned.

Dr. Gilderman emphasizes, "But let me make one thing clear ... this is not a weight loss program for everybody. Because prescription medications are used, this is not a vanity program. It is recommended for people ≥30% overweight, or ≥20% if they have risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol or arthritis. We do not want people self-medicating themselves. Initially, a full work-up is done on a patient to determine if they are candidates for it, then the patient's condition is continually assessed while on the medications."

It is important to help people with not only the "what" to eat, but "how" to eat. Lang says, "People need help with motivation. That's where we come in — providing private, individual support during weight loss and management."

Lang concludes , "We feel good about our future. We're associating with the best physicians, the brightest staff, and multiple professional service offerings ... with plans for many more. For our patients, it's a "win" on the way to weight loss."

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Singles Registry Has Moved To New Headquarters

After 4 1/2 years in the B'nai Brith Building, the Jewish Singles Registry (Toronto's largest Jewish dating service) is happy to announce that it has expanded its operations, and moved into new headquarters at **55 Eglinton Ave. E., Ste. #405** on February 2, 1997. The J.S.R. office is situated 1 block east of Yonge St. and is easily accessible by subway, with public parking just walking distance away.

MEMBERS BENEFIT

Members will immediately notice many changes from the moment they walk through the door. The new office is virtually **triple the size**, offering a much larger waiting area, individual offices for Registry staff, and private viewing rooms for members, when they come in to select or view other registrants.

NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM

Finishing touches are now underway as the J.S.R. is proud to unveil its new "member operated" computer system. Beginning this month members will receive a 4-digit private security pass-code, which along with their membership number, will allow them easy access from the new office, into the J.S.R. data base of members. Members profiles and photographs have already been entered and are now ready for view.

VOICE PERSONAL MESSAGES

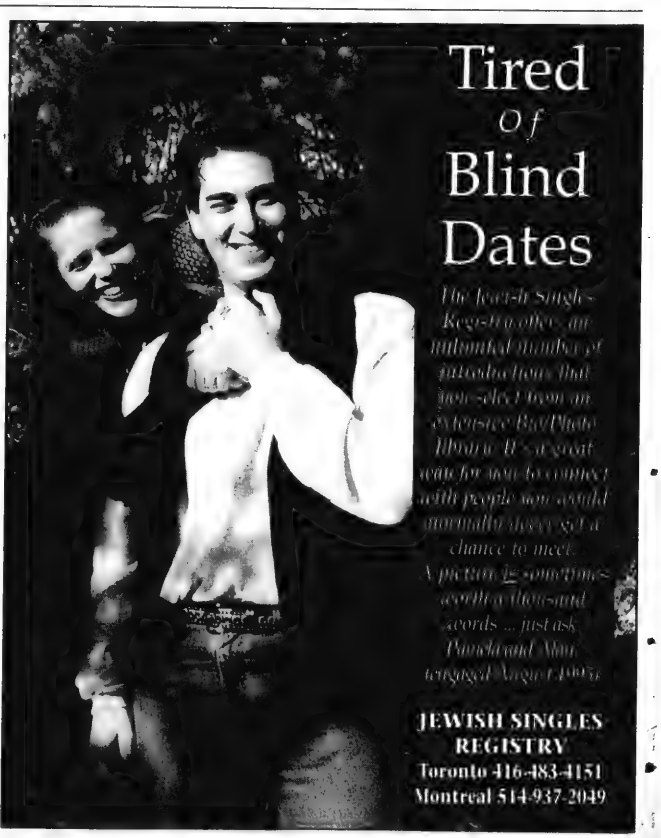
Perhaps the most exciting feature to be added to the system is voice personal messages. Not only will J.S.R. members be able to view someone's profile and see their photograph, but now at a touch of a button, **they will be able to hear a 30 second voice personal message.**

ADVERTISEMENTS/CLASSIFIEDS

Another feature that members can take advantage of is viewing or placing advertisements and/or classified ads for all other J.S.R. members to see. Whether one is selling an item or promoting a business or service here is a chance to let everybody know. Each classified ad or advertisement, allows one to write a brief description of the item or service for members to read, place a photograph or business card for members to see, and have up to 30 seconds to record a voice message for members to hear. While there is no charge for J.S.R. members to access the ads there is a nominal fee to place an ad. **ANYONE IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT WISHES TO PLACE AN AD, MAY DO SO AS WELL FOR A NOMINAL FEE.** With over 1,250 members registered there is no better way to reach such a dynamic market of Jewish singles than through the J.S.R. Ad System. For more information please contact the J.S.R. office.

ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT

The J.S.R. is happy to report that still another couple has recently announced their engagement. Both working professionals, they met almost a year ago and connected immediately. In fact the J.S.R. concept has been so successful that the service is averaging an engagement every 6 weeks. Hundreds of dates are arranged monthly, with thousands of selections made each year. So whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a long term relationship, or something in between, the **Jewish Singles Registry** has someone right for you. Come in and see for yourself. Call us today at **416-483-4151.** E-Mail at **jsreg@accent.net.**



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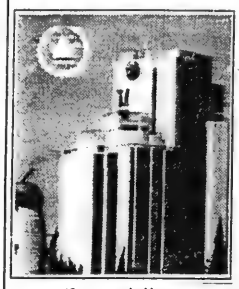

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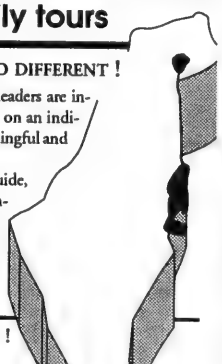

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Telrad sells 20 percent stake

CJN Staff and Wire Services

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (right) holds a gift from Jean Monty, president of Nortel which purchased 20 percent of Israel's Telrad Telecommunications and Electronic Industries recently. [RNS/Reuters photo]

TEL AVIV — Northern Telecom, based in Brampton, Ont., last week acquired 20 percent of Telrad Telecommunications and Electronics Ltd., Israel's largest telecommunications equipment maker. The purchase price was $45 million (US).

Telrad, which is majority-owned by Koors Industries Ltd., said the deal will strengthen its growth and development, and enhance its ability to supply world-class telecommunications systems to its customers.

Telrad will launch a public equity offering in the near future, said Koors president and CEO Benjamin Gaon.

Founded in 1951, Telrad employs 2,600 workers and had a $400 million profit last year.

Northern Telecom employs some 68,000 people worldwide and posted $12 billion in revenues last year.

Speaking at the official signing here last week, Nortel president and CEO Jean Monty said Telrad's engineering and research capabilities were major factors in his company's decision to enter the deal.

Monty added that the recent accord on Hebron sealed the agreement.

He said the telecommunications system market is estimated at $200 billion worldwide, and is growing at 10 to 12 percent a year. "We want to globalize and expand," he said.

The deal, which covers five major areas, is the latest in joint Israeli-Canadian ventures in the hi-tech and telecommunications fields.

1947 film gets special screening

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Gentleman's Agreement caused quite a sensation when it was released in 1947. Elia Kazan's Academy Award-winning film about anti-Semitism in America, based on Laura Hobson's novel, pulled no punches, jolting unsuspecting viewers with its candor.

The movie, featuring an all-star cast headed by Gregory Peck and a compelling script by Moss Hart, will be screened by the Jewish Film Society on Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m., at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Surprisingly enough, *Gentleman's Agreement* is not dated. Anti-Semitism in the United States today is not as crassly obtrusive as it was in the 1940s, but it is still as insidious.

The fast-talking editor of a national magazine assigns topnotch journalist Skyler (Phil) Green to write a series of articles about the persistence of anti-Semitism. He (Albert Dekker) wants Green (Peck) "to break it wide open."

At first, Green is unenthusiastic since it's really an old story and he can't think of a fresh angle. And one of the editor's Jewish friends tries to talk him out of it, claiming that anti-Semitism can't be written out of existence.

Green is on the verge of giving up when he is inspired by a brainwave. He'll pose as a Jew and expose "that awful thing," as his well-bred girlfriend, Kathy (Dorothy McGuire), indignantly describes anti-Semitism.

In short order, in a succession of well-crafted scenes, Green discovers that it is deep-seated and pervasive.

Green learns that his secretary (June Havoc) anglicized her Jewish-sounding name to avoid the sting of anti-Semitism; that his doctor is prejudiced; that Kathy herself is ambivalent about Jews; that the magazine's personnel manager discriminates against minorities; and that his own son's friends dislike Jews.

Green, a guileless exemplar of decency, is disgusted when his boyhood friend (John Garfield), an army officer, is insulted in a restaurant and rejected by an anti-Jewish landlord. Green broadens his education when he discovers that a posh resort he plans to check into is restrictive. Virtually the only person who's not anti-Semitic, overtly or subliminally, is the magazine's fashion editor (Celeste Holm, who won the Oscar for best supporting actress).

Ever didactic, *Gentleman's Agreement* invokes several themes. Anti-Semitism is tolerated by too many "nice people." Anti-Semitism is a festering sore on the body of American democracy. People should learn to live together. There is no such thing as a "Jewish type."

Fifty years on, these admonitions ring true. To a large degree, *Gentleman's Agreement* is as relevant in 1997 as it was in 1947.

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Travel, Arts & Business

New book chronicles Reichmann family, fortune

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — As Brooklyn-based author Anthony Bianco chronicles in his new 800-page biography *The Reichmanns: Family, Faith, Fortune and The Empire of Olympia & York* (Random House, $39.95), the spectacular rise and fall of the Reichmanns' $10-billion business dynasty within a single generation seem not to have fundamentally changed this "family of elect destiny" — at least not outwardly.

"Albert, Paul and Ralph and their wives continue to reside in the same houses in which they have lived since the 1960s," Bianco writes, "and to practise their faith in the same synagogues as do humble rank-and-file members of the ultra-Orthodox community that once revolved around them. In most families, the loss of a $10 billion fortune might have been expected to raise an embarrassing ruckus of accusation and recrimination, but the Reichmanns have all maintained a decorous silence, nursing their grievances privately while continuing to honor the requirements of family as conscientiously as they practise their religion."

Having attained unprecedented access to family members — including the highly reclusive Paul, who rightfully emerges as "one of the most resilient and tenacious entrepreneurs of the 20th century" — Bianco's work is unmatched in its level of detail of both business and family matters. Encyclopedically researched, it is a sparkling, privileged account by a writer capable of assessing situations and personalities with a keen and judicious eye.

A staff writer at *Business Week* magazine, the fiduciarily-astute Bianco took a four-year sabbatical in order to write the book. A Catholic, he displays a thorough knowledge of the principles of Jewish Orthodoxy that have governed the conduct of his subjects, even as they ventured ever further into the material world. He also relates much important (and hitherto untold) history concerning Toronto's Orthodox community, which, in large part due to the Reichmanns' munificence, waxed ever bigger along with its generous benefactors.

In the mid-1950s, brothers Edward and Louis and their families settled in Montreal and Paul, Albert and Ralph and families came to Toronto. In 1958, after they had jointly established a constellation of companies, Paul forayed into real estate development, almost by accident. In seeking to build a new warehouse for Olympia Floor & Wall Tile, the family rejected the top bid of $125,000 as exorbitant; Paul, acting as his own contractor, did the job for $70,000.

It was Paul's uncanny business acumen, tempered by the cautious wisdom of Albert, Ralph and their father Samuel, that propelled Olympia and York's (O&Y)early successes with a series of Toronto properties, including the Toronto-Dominion Centre, The Toronto Star Building and First Canadian Place. What undoubtedly made them moguls on a world scale was their acquisition in 1977 of a $313-million package of eight office towers at bargain-basement prices at a time when New York City seemed to be sliding into insolvency. Hailed as the real estate "deal of the century," the purchase netted an estimated tenfold profit or more within only two years.

Thereafter they built many huge towers in many cities, always to the best standards, on time and within budget. In the early 1990s, Canary Wharf, the mega-development of 24 office buildings in a remote section of London's docklands, proved O&Y's undoing. As Bianco puts it, Paul was a gambler by nature who seemed almost convinced of his own infallibility, and let his ambition run unchecked, even as the company was on the brink of receivership, into which it ultimately fell.

"They never drew a line on their own ambitions," Bianco told *The CJN* during a recent interview here. "It would have been impossible for Paul to build a complex big enough or great enough that would have caused him to retire. I shudder to think what he would have done if Canary Wharf had succeeded right away. I guarantee he would have tried something on an even more massive scale; he would have been compelled to."

$102-million libel suit

Bianco won early support for the biography from Edward Reichmann, the older brother who had long wanted to see the family saga in print. "I spent countless hours with him in Toronto, New York and Jerusalem. He gave me all sorts of important family documents, but after a while I was also coming up with documents that he didn't have; I was generating things that he really wanted to see. We were doing the same thing, in a way. There was an overlap of interests.

"I also made it clear to Edward that I was going to put him back into the family story, whereas in previous accounts it has always been the story of three brothers. Louis, the second brother, also had an interest in getting the story told right."

Bianco wrote to Paul, Albert and Ralph, asking for their co-operation, but got no reply. Then Paul's wife, Lea Reichmann, telephoned. "She said the letter convinced her that Paul should talk to me; the problem was getting his attention. Appointing herself my covert ally, she gave me his private number at home and convinced me to pester him at my end and she would pester him at her end."

Eventually Paul gave Bianco five interviews, each four to six hours long. "Once you get to him, if he wants to talk about something, he talks about it fully without any prompting. If he doesn't want to talk, he won't." Taking notes by hand, Bianco filled up an entire legal pad in the first interview alone.

Bianco devotes considerable space to the $102-million libel suit the family launched against *Toronto Life* magazine after a lengthy 1987 article gratuitously cast aspersions on the family's philanthropic activities in wartime Tangiers. The suit sent a chill through the Canadian media establishment and threatened to bankrupt the magazine until the parties reached an out-of- court settlement in 1991 that involved a $1-million charitable donation and the publication of a full-page apology.

Was Bianco affected by this libel chill? "It was something I certainly thought about," he admits. "I started with confidence in my ability to set a standard for research and writing that would keep me out of libel. It concentrates your mind to know that there has been a libel suit and you're going over the same ground again: you pay attention." (*The Toronto Life* lawsuit produced an unexpected bonus for Bianco, he says, since it compelled the Reich-

[Cont'd. on page 40]

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As our Winter-break tour of 1996 was such an outstanding success, we are repeating this program for departure on December 17-31, 1997. If your name is not on our list yet, please call now. Brochures will be available in February for mailing.
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MUSEUM CONTROVERSY IN JERUSALEM

The Shock Value of Art

Among the new exhibitions at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem is the installation Within the Lines, by 27-year-old Israeli artist **Ram Katzir**. The display features a children's classroom with coloring books on the desks. The pictures seem innocent enough. One, for example, shows a person's hand feeding a doe.

After participants color them in, they learn that the pictures are not so childish and innocent after all: the hand feeding the doe, for example, belongs to Hitler. Other pictures are revealed as Hitler youth, Nazi soldiers cutting off Jewish sidelocks, Jewish children being herded to their deaths — in short, the unspeakable obscenities of the Holocaust.

If the idea is to contrast innocence and horror, or to show how art can manipulate, the exhibit works. It works so well, in fact, that it has shocked and enraged many Holocaust survivors, who find no particular solace in the fact that the artist is the grandson of survivors.

John Lemberger, executive director of AMCHA, an Israeli organization for survivors and their children, complains that the museum betrayed a deep insensitivity to the feelings of survivors. He claims the museum has received many protests from supporters around the world. AMCHA refused the museum's request to participate in a symposium on the issues raised by the exhibit.

Theatre Events

• Between Stages, a playwright's reading workshop at the Bloor JCC, features **Sean Reycraft's** *Einstein And The Relativity of Dreams*, Feb. 17, 8 p.m. Presented by the Bloor JCC Cultural Arts Group.

• The Yiddish Theatre and Its Influence On The Broadway Musical (Broadway's Jewish Roots), a program by singer and musical historian **Faye Kellerstein**, takes place at The Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St., Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. Free admission.

• Theatre Columbus remounts *The Attic, the Pearls and 3 Fine Girls*, the quirky collective creation starring **Leah Cherniak**, **Martha Ross** and **Ann-Marie MacDonald**, at Buddies In Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St., March 4 to 30. Tickets $14 to $17, Sunday PWYC. 416-975- 8555.

Musical Events

• Two international virtuosi, bass oboist **Lawrence Cherney** and bass clarinetist **Henri Bok**, have combined to form the duo **Bass Instincts**, which makes its Toronto debut at Glenn Gould Studio, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. $10 & $15. 416-205-5555.

• The Lafayette Quartet — violinists **Ann Elliott-Goldschmidt** and **Sharon Stanis**, violist **Joanna Hood** and cellist **Pamela Highbaugh Aloni** — performs in the St. Lawrence Centre's Jane Mallett Theatre, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. $39 & $35. 416-214-1660.

In The Spotlight

Lawrence Weschler, staff writer for *The New Yorker*, dropped into town the other week to give an intriguing slideshow and lecture at the Art Gallery of Ontario related to his 1995 book, *Mr. Wilson's Cabinet Of Wonders* (Pantheon, $28.95).

Both book and lecture focus on the Museum of Jurassic Technology (MJT), a highly eccentric private institution in Los Angeles crammed full of incredible marvels of the ages — *incredible* because the items on display are not fully authentic and, in some instances, seem entirely invented by the fecund imagination of curator **David Wilson**.

Although the MJT documents its possessions with the usual display cards and recorded narratives featuring an institutional voice of authority, the museum ultimately tells visitors more about the nature of tricks, illusions and the structure of information than about any genuine curios or marvels that it allegedly contains.

Weschler's lecture, like his book, maintains Wilson's high level of play, with the effect of showing listeners (and readers) a bizarre peephole into a deeper reality. Unlike Wilson, however, Weschler ultimately "breaks irony" and lets his audience in on the game; yet he does so without deflating the museum. "I had to find some type of language that shelters him and honors him," Weschler explained.

Because the book may still "puncture the suspension of disbelief" that visitors must bring to the museum, it is not freely available in the MJT's gift shop. "Apparently it's only available under the counter and you have to ask for it specifically," Wechsler said. "It comes in a brown paper wrapper."

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Reichmanns chronicled

[Cont'd. from page 39]

manns to put much original family material onto the public record.)

He also chronicles the great eruv controversy that threatened to split Toronto's Orthodox community in 1986. The conflict erupted after a zealous rabbi whom the Reichmanns had imported from Israel attacked the validity of the existing eruv, the fenced-in area within which it is halachically permitted to carry on the Sabbath and religious holidays.

While admitting some of his mistakes regarding Canary Wharf, Paul has always maintained that the project was a viable one, and time is proving him right. In contrast to the bleak vacancy rates of earlier days, the development's 12 completed buildings are now about 84 per cent leased. This past year, Paul has invested $100 million— a sliver of his former personal wealth — for a five percent share of the project. He explained to Bianco that he intends to see Canary Wharf, the largest project he has ever undertaken, through to completion.

"I think he's in the early stages of a significant comeback as a developer," Bianco says. "I expect him to be really successful at it because for the first time, he is constrained by the fact that he's beholden to his financial partners in a way he never was before."

A masterpiece of biography, Bianco's definitive study ends with the very credible suggestion that the Reichmanns' achievements may not be over. "The family may never be as rich or as revered as they were but history suggests that the final chapter of the Book of Reichmann has not yet been written."

Business Profile

Paper biz 'chose' prominent publisher

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Paul Godfrey, president and CEO of Sun Media Corp., the third-largest newspaper group in Canada, oversees 10 daily newspapers, 61 weeklies and shopping guides, and 11 magazines and specialty publications.

Six months ago, Godfrey, 58, successfully led a $411-million management buyout of the former Sun Publishing Corp. (now called Sun Media), and became a co-owner of the giant media company he has headed since 1992.

Although he holds one of the most powerful positions in the Canadian newspaper industry, the former chairman of Metropolitan Toronto, is quick to admit that the newspaper business was not his "chosen" field. "I didn't choose it. It chose me."

In a recent interview at Sun Media's headquarters on King Street, Godfrey said that when Toronto *Sun* co-founder J. Douglas Creighton asked him to be publisher he tried to get Creighton to reconsider his offer.

"I spent an hour telling him what a bad idea I thought it was. Doug seemed to have confidence that I could do the job. He said, 'I can surround you with enough people who can teach you the newspaper business. You have something that I can't get in a lot of places... You know how to get along with people,'" Godfrey said.

Godfrey, who left city politics in 1984 to take the job, said he will always be grateful to Creighton for giving him the opportunity. "It was the best move I ever made."

Ironically, in 1992, when the board of directors fired head of Toronto Sun Publishing Creighton, the former chief Godfrey was appointed his successor. He declined to give details of the controversial dismissal which he described as "heartbreaking."

He acknowledges that the public exposure in the political arena landed him the top job at the *Sun*. "If I was still a chemical engineer, I would have never have been offered the job."

His career as a chemical engineer spanned 11 years, overlapping his early political life.

After graduating from the University of Toronto in 1962, Godfrey was hired by Canadian Industries Limited (CIL), where he worked as a technical sales development engineer until 1970. He did consulting work until he became a full-time politician in 1973.

It was his mother, Bess Godfrey, a political campaign manager, who launched Godfrey's political career. When she was asked to run for North York councillor in 1964 she promoted her son as the candidate. He first took municipal office in 1965 at the age of 25. By 1970, when he became a controller in North York, Godfrey said he knew he "had hit the crossroads." He left CIL. In 1973, he became Metro chairman, a position he held for 11 years.

Paul Godfrey relaxes with his favorite newspaper. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

"It was the most exciting wonderful experience anyone could have," he said. "It was an opportunity to take a young dynamic city and have a say in its future." He's particularly proud of his role in spearheading the construction of the Metro Convention Centre and the SkyDome and bringing professional baseball to Toronto, he said.

While the Blues Jays have become a Toronto institution, Godfrey is not one to rest on the laurels of success: He's now trying to bring the National Football League (NFL) to Toronto. A die-hard NFL fan, he attends the Super Bowl every year with his wife Gina and their three sons, Rob, Noah and Jay.

He said he's in the midst of forming an ownership group for an NFL team, which he can be part of now that he's out of public life.

Godfrey said he enjoyed politics "as much the last day as he did the first," but "it was time to give someone else a chance."

Describing himself as a "very hands-on guy," Godfrey said he learned every aspect of the newspaper business from editorial to distribution by spending time in each department: he watched the front page get put together, rode the delivery trucks and even made calls to advertisers.

As publisher he read the *Sun*'s editorial page every day to make sure it reflected the official position of the newspaper, which he described as "small-C conservative" in that it espouses small government and promotes private enterprise. It is also pro-Israel.

He stressed that the *Sun's* philosophy was established at its inception in 1971, when the founders set out to create a paper that would be distinctly different from the other Toronto dailies.

A tabloid rather than a broadsheet, the *Sun* was designed to be both user-friendly and entertaining, Godfrey said, noting that along with the "controversial Sunshine Girl," there were plenty of pictures, entertainment and sports stories and opinionated columnists to maintain reader interest.

Sun Publishing expanded from 1978 through 1991, spawning the *Calgary Sun*, *Edmonton Sun* and *Ottawa Sun*, acquiring the majority interest in the *Financial Post* and gaining 10 more dailies and 50 weeklies through its acquisition of Bowes Publishers.

Today Sun Media employs 3,000 people and controls 82 publications. Godfrey especially touted the new media division established to explore opportunities on the Internet. In 1998, the company, in partnership with City TV, will be launching Pulse 24, a 24-hour local news station, which he calls the "CNN of Toronto."

Last summer, a 12-member Sun management group led by Godfrey saw an opportunity to gain ownership of the company when Rogers Communications put its majority interest in Sun Publishing up for sale, he said.

The managers did not want "the *Sun* to be a division of another company," and were willing to put their jobs on the line to battle their main contender, Quebecor Communications, Godfrey said.

If they had lost the bidding war, the managers would probably have been axed for forcing their future boss to spend more money to acquire the company, Godfrey said. "We decided in June that we would roll the dice. Either own the company or be out of work."

In August, they became co-owners with financial backing from the Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan Board and CIBC Wood Gundy. Trimark Financial Corporation and BCE Media Investments are more recent investors.

The manager-owners have a two percent share of the company, now privately-held, with an option to increase their shares based on the company's performance; employees will be able to buy up to $25,000 worth of shares in March, Godfrey said.

The fallout from the buyout was the highly-publicized layoffs of some 100 employees last fall. The layoffs, which were "difficult and gut-wrenching at times," were necessary for the company to meet its $250-million debt load, he said.

He declined to give income figures, but he said Sun Media is "doing extremely well. We're all walking around here beaming."

Godfrey did not rule out a fourth career. "There's great speculation here that if the [NFL] football team comes, I'm going to go run the team." But he'll have to take a pass at football if the NFL comes before he's fulfilled his obligations at Sun Media, he said.

"Life's full of funny twists and turns. I love the job here. But I also loved the job in politics. I've been very fortunate in life to date. All the jobs I've worked at I've loved to do. Most people dread Monday morning."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
President

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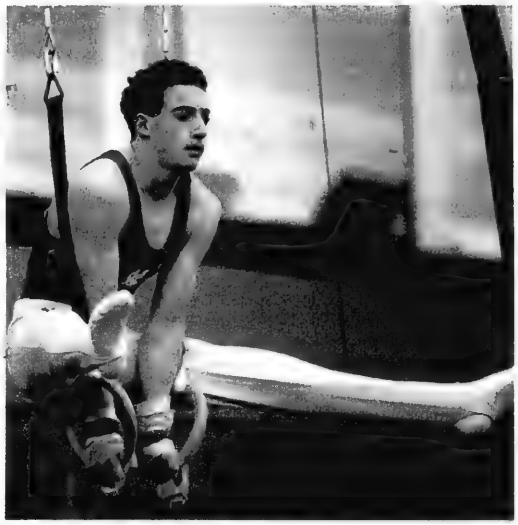


Justin Gerson shows the strength needed to execute difficult routines on rings.

CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our third annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings about Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different students in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* on March 20. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a cheque for $25.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be too small. Please paint, draw, or color bright, bold, colorful pictures. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.

Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ontario M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 1997.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication as "winners." The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing and the way it tells an aspect of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, March 7, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The "winning" pictures will be published in *The CJN* of March 20, 1997. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Gymnast wins Pan Am medal

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — No pain, no gain.

It's an aphorism athletes like to cite to push themselves to greater efforts when they're going through their often excruciating workouts.

For Justin Gerson, that approach has paid off in recent years as the 18-year-old athlete has vaulted into the elite of Canadian gymnastics with top performances in a variety of meets. The 1996 junior national champion, Gerson can no doubt attribute much of his success to the gruelling training regimen that sees him in the gym six days a week for four hours at a time.

Since the new year, he's added to that back-breaking routine with two additional two-hour sessions every week, beginning at 6 a.m. at Vaughan Gymnastics Club. After that, he gathers his books together and heads to Thornhill Secondary School for his last year in the OAC program.

If you want the glory, you've got to pay the price and Gerson has his eyes set on world championships and the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

To get there from here he's had to compete in a number of regional, national and international events and recently was a member of the Canadian team that finished second, behind only Cuba, at the Junior Pan American Games. What made the silver place finish particularly satisfying was that the Canadians edged the United States by two points and exacted a measure of revenge over a summertime loss to the Yanks at a meet in Colorado.

Gerson finished sixth overall at the Pan Am Games, with a fourth in rings and a seventh in parallel bars, his best showings. The Canadian team was led by Sasha Jeltkov, a Russian Jew who now trains in Montreal. Jeltkov, who was already a developed gymnast when he immigrated three or four years ago, was first in rings, first in vault and third in high bar.

Gerson was satisfied with his showing, especially considering he was the first competitor in two events and judges often base subsequent scores on that performance.

Gerson was first in pommel going into the final round, but a fall while attempting a "EE combination," one of the most difficult in gymnastics, lowered his score. The EE is a quadruple/quadruple combination, with four turns on one pommel followed by four turns on the other. The fall eliminated him from medal contention, he says.

He was happy with his rings routine. "I can't say I had a bad routine. I had a good routine, but the other guys were just [better]."

Gerson's progress up the gymnastics ladder will see him compete in Montreal as a senior in the Elite Canada competition in March. From there, he'll prepare for the National Championships in Ottawa, slated for May.

As a former junior now competing against the big boys, Gerson can expect to have a tough time getting the judges on his side. "I'm going to have to be consistent because the senior judges don't know me or respect me," he said. "I have to hit all my events."

Thirty percent of his ranking will come from his score at Elite Canada, while 70 per cent is derived from his showing at the Nationals.

In addition to those events, Gerson has a trip to Israel planned for this summer, where he'll compete in the quadrennial Maccabiah Games. As a 15-year-old junior in 1993, he finished seventh overall, helped by a gold medal performance in vault and a silver in rings.

Gerson should have some confidence going into the upcoming events. Late last year, prior to the Pan Am Games, he finished first in a national qualifying meet held in Burlington. And he's been putting in the hours, working on his routine and holding down a four-course load in school.

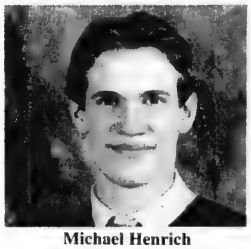
With all that pain, there's sure to be some gain.

Winger scores big at tournament

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a rookie winger with the Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), Michael Henrich doesn't get all that much ice time. But as a member of the Ontario team at the recent Under-17 World Hockey Challenge in Red Deer, Alta., Henrich was a key player as Ontario went on to win the tournament, beating teams from other regions of Canada, plus hockey powerhouses like Sweden, Russia and the United States.

In eight games patrolling the right wing, Henrich scored five goals and added five helpers for 10 points, putting him in the top three for the winning side. Reunited with his old linemate, David Inman, who played minor pee wee hockey with him, and Adam Campbell of Owen Sound Platers, the line was a force to be reckoned with as Ontario showed once again that Canadians play some of the best hockey anywhere.



Michael Henrich

The victory of the under-17 players came around the same time as the older juniors won the World Junior Championship for the fifth year in a row.

In the under 17 event, Henrich, 16, was given a simple task: score goals. "I'd always be out there on the first power play," he said.

For Henrich, the championship was his most satisfying moment as a hockey player. "It was a great experience. It was a world tournament, with the best players in the world. It showed me how I could play with them. It was like a dream. I was pretty happy."

A first round draft pick of the Colts last summer (fifth overall in the OHL), Henrich has quite a different role on that team. "It's more of a learning and developing year," he said. "I'm one of the younger guys. It's tough to work against players two or three years older."

Although he doesn't have a specified role with the Colts or even regular linemates, coach Bert Templeton has made it clear he expects a full effort from him. "He looks at you and says, 'work your hardest, get your nose dirty," Henrich says.

So far this season, he's gotten spot duty against tougher opponents and more ice time against weaker squads. Occasionally he sits out. His stats reflect his limited ice time. In his first 31 games of the season, Henrich scored four times and added 12 assists. He was also plus six.

Despite those numbers, Henrich sees improvement in his game. He believes he's become more aggressive as the season progressed and improved his quickness and his shot.

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375 CLEANING

RUSSELL'S CLEANING
Complete Janitorial Services
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Carrocel Restorations
Antique and Fine Furniture Gallery
• TABLES • CHAIRS • OCCASIONAL TABLES
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• REFINISHING • REUPHOLSTERY
WE CUSTOM BUILD
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Furniture restoration and refinishing. Touch-ups & small jobs done on your premises. Free estimates. 416-654-2430.

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Psychotherapist, specializing in car accidents, eating disorders, sex therapy, stress mgmt. & Holocaust. Call 416-256-4048.

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415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS

FOREST HILL MARBLE
Professional Installations of
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Perry's Handyman Service. All types of repairs,reas. (416) 429-2728, pgr. (416) 374-5718.

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Renovation Work, framing, drywall, plastering, cement work, stucco, ceramic tiles. Call 905-737-5504.

ZIGGY'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS. A complete renovation. Ask for Ziggy, 905-458-4207. **FREE** Estimates.

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for information on rates

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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4 bdrm bung., 3 bths., fin. w/out bsmnt., gar.

FINCH WILMINGTON
5 bdrms, 4 bths, good size liv & din, fin. bsmnt, extras.

BATHURST SHEPPARD
Greatly reduced, 2+ bdrms, rec. rm, gar, lge lot, A-1 buy!.

BATHURST WILSON
Ideal starter, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, 50'x120' lot, steps to all.

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BATHURST/RIDGEGATE
Reduced to $259,000. Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,440 SF. Come & view.

BATHURST/FINCH
$299,000. Great investment property. 60'x140' lot, 3 bedroom bungalow, finished basement, 2 car garage. Zoned commercial.

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Thornhill. 4 bd. detached., dble. gar., private drive.
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Real Estate Inc. Realtor
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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

1ST AD! LOWER VILLAGE $930,000
A-1 location! Fam. home!! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

FABULOUS RENOVATION ON HILLHURST
50'x133' 5 bdrm, 3 bath. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

LYTTON PARK - UPDATED CLASSIC 1ST AD
Gorgeous 3 storey 5 bedroom, family room. Landscaped garden. $719,000. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

CEDARVALE! HUGE LOT - UNIQUE 5 BDRM
70' frtg! grt price $599,000! R. Fitzerman* 226-1987

JUST LISTED EGLINTON/ROSEWELL $579K
SOLD
Gorgeous 6 yr new home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON JUST $509,000
SOLD
Magnificent custom built home. Faithe Sversky**488-2875

1ST AD! PRIME LOWER CEDARVALE!!
$649,000. Fab. home & lot! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

U.C.C. AREA $369,000
Detached 3 bdrm, 2 baths w/mn flr. fam. rm. D. Wagman* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON $344K
Lovely 3 bdrm, 2 storey home, 2 baths. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

ALLEN/EGLINTON JUST REDUCED!
SOLD
Adorable renovated bungalow. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS – $979,000
Spectacular home & lot. Must see. L. Richman* 226-1987

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Presents 6 cstm blt homes in North York. C. Jong* F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Elegant & spacious 4 bdrm home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS FABULOUS $579K
SOLD
Det. 2 sty just listed! Ann Bookman* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS REDUCED!
Residential lot for sale 110 x 200 ft. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16 - 5500 SQ. FT LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky**488-2875

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ARNOLD & YONGE TO BE CUSTOMIZED
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BATHURST/ELGIN MILLS "MODEL HOME"
Gorgeous 3530 sq. ft. home, 2 yrs. new. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

41 ABRAHAM AVE.
4+2 bdrm, ravine on quiet cul-de-sac, finished basement. S. Pupkin* 488-2875

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NORTH

EXCLUSIVE LISTING — $1,395,000.
Gracious fully reno'd. home w/all the bells & whistles. 3 car gar., det. guest house, 1/2 acre. **Cheryl Graff***.

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LOTTERY WINNER! — GOT YOUR ATTENTION?
Bayview/York Mills area. 4+1 bdrm, pool, nanny's quarters. **Shelly Teichberg****.

1ST AD! GREAT RENO BUNGALOW
$699,000. Bayview/York Mills. On quiet crescent, huge new kitchen & family room. **M. Alberga*/S. Stern***.

JUST LISTED — DENLOW ST. — $599,000.
Exceptional custom 4000 sq. ft. 2 stry. – 4+1 bdrm., dble. garage, fin. bsmt., fab. crescent. ++. **Frances Novack***.

1ST AD! — GRNLANE/HUNTINGTON
$299,000. Fully det., dble. gar., neutral decor, modern kit., excellent location. This is a 10+++. **Samantha Graff***.

1ST AD! — GRNLANE/HUNTINGTON
Den & fam. atrium kit., marble ensuite, neutral decor, 4+1 bdrms., dble. garage, all new windows. **Cheryl Graff***.

BATHURST/CLARK — 1 OF A KIND
A picture perfect home, over $100,000. in upgrades, 3 large bdrms., mn. fam., prof. lower level. WOW! **C. Lazer***.

JUST REDUCED! NOW $283,000.
Meticulous home on best part of street. Neutral decor, fin. bsmt. dble. gar. 131 ft. deep. **Cheryl Graff***.

1ST AD — SUPER STARTER
$225,900. Thornhill, 3 bdrms., shows to perfection. Huge gourmet kit., must see! **M. Alberga*/S. Stern***.

CENTRAL

STONE UPPER VILLAGE BEAUTY!
Loaded! Modern kit., fam. rm., pool, fireplaces, fin. bsmt., exclusively with **Shelly Teichberg****.
SOLD

GORGEOUS 3600 SQ. FT. FREEHOLD TH.
$550,000. St. Clair/Casa Loma. About 8 yrs. new. Totally upgraded. Dble. gar. & priv. dr. Value! **Arlette Carmona***.

$499,000. OFF YONGE/LAWRENCE
Walk to trendy shopping! About 2400 sq. ft., 3 bdrms., 4 baths, fin. w/o l.level., fam. rm., 35x150'. **A. Carmona***.

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN., V.P.**
45 Riderwood Dr. $448K, listed and sold for 99% of price! Buying or selling? Call Sandon today!

YONGE/SUMMERHILL NOW $409,000
Architecturally unique 3 bdrm., 3 baths + fam. rm. open plan, skylights, nanny suite, 2 car pkg. **J. Zinman***.

BATHURST MANOR — RARE FIND!
Fabulous sidesplit on prestigious crt., 4 bdrms. on 1 level., reno'd. white kit., south bkyard! **Carole Lazer***.

1ST AD! $319,000! FABULOUS!
Eglinton/Mt. Pleasant detached 3 bdrm. reno., 2 baths, fin. bsmt., C.A.C., parking! Call today! **Michele Rosen***.

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
142 Joicey Blvd. $227K! Listed & sold w/multiple offers for 100% of price! WOW! Call Sandon today!

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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Bathurst Manor Triplex - $279,000. Just listed! 2x3 bd., 1x1bd. Good income.
Oakwood-Eglinton - $159,900. Power of Sale. Renovator's Special, 3 kit., 5 bdrms. Won't last!

Century 21

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Brand new superior quality home, approx. 4,000 sq. ft. of luxurious living space, 5 + 1 bdrms, magnificent kitchen, 5 baths, finished bsmt. w/sep. entrance & R/I additional kitchen & laundry. Please call Connie Adam, Century 21, New Concept Ltd. (416) 449-7600.

AVENUE ROAD/WILSON
Stunning Reno - Detached 3 bdrm. bung. Hrdwd flrs. Walk-out bsmt!

BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY
Lovely 2 bdrm + den, 1400', 2 parking.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Exec. carriage house in Ridgegate, Bath./Steeles, immac. cond., 5 appls., CAC, CVAC, dble. gar., fin. bsmnt. Must be seen.$265,900. Please call 661-2430. No Agents

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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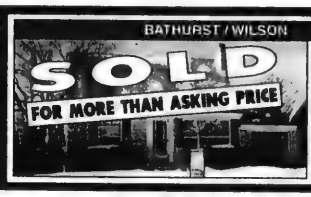
BATHURST / WILSON



Detached 3 bdrm., 50 foot lot, shows well! New furnace, new CAC SOLD w ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS: TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A SELLER'S MARKET!
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THORNHILL GEM

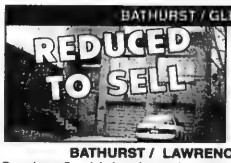
Bright & spacious, steps to syn., shows beautifully. Dream family room, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $369,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK – NEW LISTING
Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $669,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE
51 foot frontage, rare opportunity! Mostly land value, presently rented. Only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Custom built executive home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge family room with fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded with upgrades, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, only $369,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Fabulous executive 4 bedroom, 4 baths, family room, library, dream kitchen, shows to perfection! Only $539,000. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD — PRESTIGE!
Prestigious exec. home! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge fam. room, library. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, only $369,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS
Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!!

Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRIMROSE / BATHURST-STEELES CONDO — REDUCED
Penthouse. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, asking $189,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

CHARLES & THORNRIDGE
Stunning 5,000' custom home, 5 bdrms, 3 car garage, built-in appliances, hardwood, premium lot. *Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST & CLARK
Large 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt with nanny's quarters, all large principle rooms, extras galore! Call *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST & STEELES – 1ST AD!
Custom built brick/stone 4 bdrm, hardwood, ceramics, come pick your colours! Call *Carey Rosenzweig

• • •

SPRING GATE – ABSOLUTELY IMMACULATE!
4 + 1 bdrm, prof. finished bsmt, beautiful private lot overlooking park! Call *Sarah Tamin

• • •

NEW WESTMINSTER & CLARK – PRICED TO SELL!
About 3,000', 4 bdrms, neutral decor, quiet cres. *Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST & CENTRE "ROSEDALE NORTH"
1st Ad! Stunning 4 bdrm, prof. finished bsmt, bright kitchen, close to everything! Must see! *Carey Rosenzweig

• • •

CONDOMINIUMS

CONDOS - HILDA-CLARK & RIDELLE-EGLINTON
Fabulous 2 bdrms & parking, indoor pools! *Helen Winer

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

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FOR RENT
Bathurst/Wilson • 3 bdrm. condo, 2 baths, gorgeous. $1250.
• 3 bdrm. bung. immaculate. $1150.
(416) 704-1471

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Primrose II, 2 bdrms., 2 full baths, corner, hrdwd. flrs., balc., approx. 1400' sq. ft. No agents. $219,000. 416-736-8407 days, 739-1449, after 6pm.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

FOREST HILL VILLAGE - condo.- lge. 2 bdrm., sw exposure, amen. incl. indr. pool, rooftop grdn., 24 hr. sec., 2 car pkg., next to park & St. Clair W. subway, short walk to Village, ideal for elderly couple. Occup. Sept.'97, $295K. No Agents Please; 653-3879.

10 TRUE AVE.
New Listing - The only suite available in this exclusive building. Stunning open plan, liv. & din. rm., cornice mouldings, marble flrs, oak panelled library, lg. bright family kit. Approx. 1700 sq.ft. Luxury details, 2 pkng.
For a private viewing call:
Rosalie White, *Sales Rep.*
Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.
487-4311.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Antibes, lux. 3 bdrm., sol., 2 bths., 6 mjr. appls., cable, 2 car gar., hrdwd. flrs., eat-in kit., $1395.,refs.,March 1. 663-6198.

Bath./Neptune,elegant 3 bdrm. 2 bath, reno'd, close to TTC, $1200./mo., reliable. 783-6796.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Allen/Egl., 2 bdrms., $400./mo. nr. subway & shops. 787-1663.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Egl. area, bach. avail., + pkg., ground flr.,$569.69. Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm, Call 485-1193.

Bath./Egl.,lge. bsmnt. apt., sep. entr., kit., lndry., pkg. 787-1365.

Bath./Glencairn, lge. bright bsmnt. apt., priv. entr.,fireplace, avail. immed. $550. 787-1521.

Duff./Steeles, bach. bsmnt. apt.sep.entr.$490/mo. 665-8586

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Thornhill, furn. lux. home, ensuite bath, own fridge, TV, pkg, laundry/kit. facil., pool, n/smkr. $485./mo. 905-881-5919.

Thornhill, lge. room in a house, share kit./bath. 905-660-5160.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Beautiful new fully winterized Muskoka cottage, 1 3/4 hrs. from T.O. for reading wk.,wknds & summer escape. 782-4530.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

No. Miami Beach, Aventura, lux. 2 bdr., 2 bath condo., corner suite, secur., 2 pools, tennis, etc., indr. pkg. $69,900. US/Best Offer.Private.445-3317

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Delray Beach, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, close to shul. immed. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 163rd & Collins, opposite beach, tennis, secur., nr. Rascal House, $65. U.S. daily, from Mar. 1 - min. 1 mo. Mark, 631-9994.

North Miami Beach, lovely 1 bdrm. penthouse, Coastal Towers, beautiful view, $1,000./mo. U.S., avail. Feb. 19, Mar., Apr. 305-945-2386 or 493-7782.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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(LOCAL MOVING)
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

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Female roommate wanted, at Kosher Crown Hotel, Miami, to share upgraded room at standard rate with 73 yr. old widow. From Feb. 12-Mar. 16.Call 416-665-5813.

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Principal-Administrator, for well established Schecter Jewish Day School, west coast of Florida, competitive salary & benefits, send résumé to: 5720 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33707 or call (813) 344-1111 or fax: (813) 344-1117.

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THE OFFICIAL BOOK OF LISTS

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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PRIVATE JEWISH SCHOOL HAS POSITION AVAILABLE FOR PART-TIME JUNIOR HIGH
IVRIT TEACHER
PLEASE FAX RESUME TO PRINCIPAL
905 - 771-1807

246 VOLUNTEERS

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247 DAY CARE

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American attractive widow in her 50's who lives in the States would like to meet a Widower, 60-70, for marriage.Reply to PO Box 1364, Amherst, NY 14226.

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I have a beautiful brother, attr., gentle, 41, who has a slight disability & dreams of meeting a caring,sensitive woman for long term relationship. 691-6270.

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Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

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Male, 34, health prof., 5'8", trim & fit, enjoys outdoors, adventure travel, family & spirituality, maintains a healthy body & mind, would like to meet fit, JF, 22-30, with sweet soul to uncover life's mysteries & beauty. Have never put an ad in before, let's try! Please send letter & photo to CJN Box 6880.

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330 OBITUARIES

ELKIND, Sarah - on January 13, 1997, late of 343 Hillhurst Blvd.

COHEN, Sydney - on January 15, 1997, late of 44 Saranac Blvd.,#4.

AMRAM, Lucien - on January 16, 1997, late of 342 Spadina Rd., #403.

FRIENDLY, Max - on January 16, 1997, late of 183 Dewbourne Ave.

ROSS, Rose - on January 16, 1997, late of 29 Vinci Cres.

KADIS, Shirley - on January 17, 1997, late of 2851 N.E. 183rd St., #1503.

ROSEN, Sam - on January 17, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

COOPER, Clara - on January 18, 1997, late of 123 Charlton Blvd.

LINDSAY, Sam - on January 18, 1997, late of 65 Prince Charles Dr.

ROITER, Michael - on January 19, 1997, late of 1323 Steeles Ave. W.

MANACE, Rosetta - on January 20, 1997, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #1508.

ROSEN, Himey - on January 20, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

DRUTZ, Martin - on January 21, 1997, late of 100 Canyon Ave., #402.

FREEMAN, Ray - on January 21, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.

KAFRI, Dora - on January 21, 1997, late of 333 Clark Ave.

BEREZIN, Joe - on January 22, 1997, late of 3 Rollscourt Dr.

COHEN, Ruth - on January 22, 1997, late of 2100 Bloor St. W.

COLE, Jack - on January 22, 1997, late of 33 Jackes Ave., #403.

TENSER, Ruth - on January 22, 1997, late of 61 Inverlochy Blvd., #2.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

ALBERT, Phillip - on January 23, 1997, late of 119 Burbank Dr.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Renee Grunfeld passed away in Toronto, Mt. Sinai Hospital on January 3, 1997. Beloved wife of Zoltan, loving mother of Ari & daughter-in-law Lia, and proud grandmother of Avi. Survived by sisters Sofi & Magda. Dear Aunt to Zvi, Tammy & children. Loved sister-in-law of Mike. Her memory will always be remembered by her loved ones.

331 IN MEMORIAM

SHUKEN, Bessie. In loving memory of a wonderful wife & mother who passed away January 31, 1995. Is still lived in the hearts & minds of the loving family you left behind. Sadly missed by husband Ben, and family.

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330 OBITUARIES

SNIDER, Rose - on January 19, 1997, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W.

LOVER, Mary - on January 20, 1997, late of 1 Zaharias Crt.

PENZNER, Albert - on January 20, 1997, late of 9 Romar Cres.

RUDERMAN, Safron - on January 20, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr.

GERSH, Gersh - on January 22, 1997, late of 5430 Yonge St.

NUSINOFF, Helen Sandra - on January 22, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Dr.

SOBEL, Belle - on January 22, 1997, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.

LINDSAY, Sally - on January 23, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

GOLDLIST, Baruch Benjamin - on January 24, 1997.

GOLDSCHMID, Joseph - on January 24, 1997, late of 3636 Bathurst St.

JANOWER, Malka - on January 24, 1997.

MASHCOVICH, Jakov - on January 24, 1997, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd.

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This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

The resort town of Eilat on the Red Sea. [Josie Newman photo]

Exploring the underwater scenery of the Red Sea

By JOSIE NEWMAN
Special to The CJN

EILAT — Our Israeli Snuba diving leader finned his way through caves past large schools of yellow steepheaded parrotfish, blue fusilier and green moonwrasses. A particularly bold green and navy broomtail wrasse flirted with me as I swam behind the instructor, coming up close and darting away when I reached my hand out to him.

We were sampling the underwater scenery of the Red Sea near Eilat. There were three of us including the instructor, shackled to the line that linked us and our mouthpieces to the oxygen tanks resting in the overhead raft. Snuba diving is a modified form of scuba diving for beginning divers, who do 15 to 20 feet below the surface and are attached to the instructor and the line of the oxygen tank at all times.

Our 45-minute dive took us through fields of disc coral, hump coral, red sponge and numerous breeds of fish. The Red Sea is warm all year round, with temperatures of 18 to 25C, and caters to a variety of water sports including scuba diving, snorkelling, sailing, windsurfing and swimming with dolphins.

One of the best in the world

Our instructor was from Snuba Plus, one of a handful of dive schools that offer snuba diving and one of several which cater to experienced scuba divers. The underwater Coral Beach Nature Reserve which covers most of the waters around Eilat, is reputed to be one of the best in the world, with experts coming from Europe and North America to dive.

Snorkelling with four bottlenose dolphins at the Dolphin Reef was an adventure not to be missed, either. Our group of six was escorted by a guide who led us through the murky water that is home to Sindy, a hulking, friendly male, and his three female mates. The females were more elusive than Sindy, who allowed us to pat the soft, pliable skin on his head and side and rolled over to show us his belly.

The less physically active can find underwater adventure at Coral World in Eilat. They can take a submarine ride in "Jacqueline," the yellow submarine, to a depth of 60 metres past the "coral wall" with its underwater flora, fauna and school upon school of brilliant fish. The 40-minute ride includes a look at the Eilat fishing boat, a ship deliberately sunk by marine biologists for the benefit of marine life and tourists. When the ride is over, guests can peruse the underwater observatory which is like an underwater zoo complete with giant turtles and sharks.

Eilat became a modern resort town in the mid-1970s around the time the Sinai Desert was returned to the Egyptians. Of the one million visitors who came here annually, many came for sports adventures. More than half — 600,000 are Israeli while the other 400,000 are foreign tourists.

Every region of Israel, from the hiking trails of Galilee's forested mountains in the north to scuba and snuba diving in Eilat, has something to offer the adventure sports enthusiast.

Adventure travel and sports became popular with Israelis about 15 years ago and have since become popular with foreign tourists, particularly those returning for the second or third time, said Stanley Morais, of the Israel Government Tourist Office here in Toronto.

Information about tours conducted by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel can be obtained by writing 13 Heleni Hamalka St., Room, Jerusalem or t 3 Hashfela St., Tel Aviv.

To obtain information about Snuba Plus, write Snuba Shallow Water Diving Tours Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Eilat, 88100, Israel or call 07-63 72 722.

Dolphin Reef Eilat offers a six-day diving program with the dolphins for U.S. $159 including two dives per day, tanks, weights, air or Nitrox refills, transportation and guide. More information can be obtained by writing Dolphin Reef Eilat, Southern Beach P.O.B., 104, Eilat 88100, Israel or calling 972-7-371846.

The Inside Back

About families

Dear Susan,

I am planning my son's bar mitzvah and I am beginning to find the whole exercise very nerve-racking, given family and community expectations. What should be a joyous occasion seems to be getting out of hand and I find myself growing increasingly anxious every day. Help!

Dear Reader,

It sounds like you are feeling pressured to aim for a style and standard with which you do not feel comfortable. Slow things down in order to give yourself a chance to gain some perspective. What type of bar mitzvah do you and your husband really want? How do your objectives reflect your family values as well as your budget?

When all is said and done, it is your son's day and your primary objective should be to provide an experience that will be most meaningful to him.

I think people lose their perspective when they feel obliged to keep up with the Joneses or cave into family pressures. Do what feels right for you and your son. Pick a venue that suits his needs and your family's values and capabilities. Do not give in to the temptation to overextend – in the end, your entire family will suffer if you do.

Many people use the bar mitzvah ceremony as a means to more immediate, temporal ends. It is a way to impress friends, family and business associates; it is used as a high card in the game of family politics; it is a signal to all and sundry of wealth, status and success. In the end, though, the bar mitzvah is a deeply significant religious event; it should be a rite of passage that is an important milestone in a man's life.

Right now, the planning process is a pressure-filled chore, but if you prepare intelligently and carefully, your planning will result in a truly meaningful event, a moment in time that will set your son on the path to adulthood and live in your family's memory.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
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EGGPLANT CHEESE PIE WITH ZUCCHINI CRUST

- 1 1/2 tblsp butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lb. eggplant, unpeeled, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 3/4 tsp oregano
- 3/4 tsp basil, dried
- 2 dashes cayenne
- 1 small zucchini, unpeeled, sliced
- 2/3 cup evaporated skim milk
- 1 egg
- 2 cups mozzarella, part-skim, grated

Preheat oven to 375°F. Melt butter or margarine. Saute onion, garlic and eggplant in large skillet for 2 minutes. Cover. Continue cooking about 5 minutes or until eggplant is soft, stirring a few times. Add salt, oregano, basil and cayenne. Stir well.

Line the bottom and sides of a greased 10" pie plate with the zucchini slices. Carefully spoon the eggplant mixture over them. Combine the evaporated milk, egg and cheese in a bowl. Pour over the vegetables. Bake for 30 minutes. Serve hot. Yield: 6 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

New York threatens boycott of Switzerland

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Swiss banks have responded to a threatened boycott by New York politicians with assurances that Switzerland already is working fast to set up a fund for Holocaust victims.

The New York state assembly and City of New York threatened last week to pull the rug out from under three Swiss banks operating in Manhattan if Switzerland does not make good on its promise to set up the fund.

The Swiss government announced last month that it would work with Swiss banks and insurance companies to establish a fund to begin compensating Holocaust victims and their heirs who might be entitled to assets deposited in Swiss banks during the World War II era.

The Swiss, however, have yet to provide specifics on the fund, and sources close to the issue say several pressing issues are unresolved.

Jewish officials have indicated that they will not wait long for Switzerland to turn its words into deeds, and the move by New York politicians adds another pressure point.

Swiss banking officials reportedly said that they are taking the boycott threat seriously, but expressed bewilderment at the timing of the New York proposals.

"This is hard to understand if you look exactly at what has been done already," Swiss Bankers Association spokesperson Silvia Matile was quoted as saying.

"I don't believe it was necessary to create extra pressure because the pace is already very fast," she added. "The concept for the fund will be worked out in the coming weeks."

New York state Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver said the assembly's banking committee would hold hearings Feb. 13, to examine ways to help Holocaust victims and their heirs reclaim their wealth.

In a statement, Silver said the committee would also review New York state's relationship with Swiss banks and examine how a foreign bank's licence or certification can be revoked.

"Swiss bankers must provide a full and honest accounting concerning these unclaimed funds and return these assets to their rightful owners," Silver said.

"Our obligation clearly extends to ensuring that all banking institutions operate in New York according to the highest ethical standards."

At the same time, the president of the New York City Council introduced a bill to prevent city funds from being deposited in Swiss banks until the compensation fund is established.

The actions mark the first time state and local governments have entered into the controversy surrounding the search for missing Jewish assets.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, welcomed the New York proposals as further help in "advancing the cause of justice and morality."

The Clinton administration, however, criticized the proposed moves.

"At this point, it is important that we cooperate and not front each other with threats that will lead to a retarding of the very real progress that we have made," said Undersecretary of Commerce Stuart Eizenstat, the administration's point man on the issue of missing Jewish assets and Switzerland's wartime role.

At least one Jewish group also said it believed that the threatened boycott is "premature."

"This comes at the very time when more hopeful signs are emerging from the Swiss banking community," said Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League. But he added that such measures could become necessary if the Swiss fail to take action.

Eizenstat also toned down U.S. criticism of a Swiss diplomatic cable that led to the resignation of Switzerland's ambassador to the United States.

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

מ"המאהב" עד "לב תל-אביב"

לאחרונה, בביקורי בארץ, קראתי את ספרו החדש של נתן שחם, "לב תל-אביב". מי שייחל לחווייה הספרותית שידענו מ"ברבעיית רוזנדורף", יתאכזב. ובכל זאת מן הראוי לעמוד על מהות ספרו החדש של שחם בטל היותו ממשיך סגנון חשוב בסיפורת העברית, סגנון הסיפור האישי, השזור בסיפור הישראלי. גיבורו של שחם איננו הגיבור של הסיפורת העברית העכשווית שכמעט אין לו מאומה עם ההווייה הישראלית. גיבורו של שחם גם איננו אליק או אורי של תש"ח שרק נושם את הצברית ואת המולדת, אלא 'אבנר עינב של "לב תל-אביב" משנת 1996 מזכיר ברצף ההיסטוריה הספרותית את "המאהב" של א.ב. יהושע משנת 1977. סיפורים על גיבורים השקועים אמנם בעולם האני, לבדי, אך בד בבד, מתייחסים לרובד החברתי-מדיני ומודעים לעובדת קיומם כחלק מהותי "במצב הישראלי".

"המאהב" של א.ב. יהושע משמש מאז פירסומו כעדות למורכבות תופעת הנגדת תכנים ארציים עם תכנים רוחניים, חיפוש אחר זהות עצמית, אל מול זהות המדינה.

בשעתו, הפתיע "המאהב" את הקורא הישראלי גם במורכבותו הטכנית. סיפור שבנגה בקפדנות ממונולוגים של שישה גיבורים. כל דמות וקיומה הבודד שלה, אט, אט, עם ההתפתחות העלילתית, יצירת קשר רופף ולקראת סיום הנובלה, הדוק יותר, בין הדמויות. "המאהב" נכתב בעידן מלחמת יום הכיפורים וערער הבטחון בחלקה של המדינה בהבטחת קיומה האידיאליסטי של האומה. מוטיב זה נחשף ברומאנים של תמוז ואפלפלד אך יותר מכל, לדעתי, בספרו של א.ב. יהושע.

אדם, גיבורו הראשי של "המאהב", איש אמיד, מנהל מוסך למכוניות. והוא המנוכר מכולם. הוא תוהה האם אפשר עדיין להתאהב באשתו, אסיה, ומייחל ל"מיטהו שחיה מתאהב בה בשבילי". אדם הוא אב לבן חרש; "זה מוצא חן בעיני, היכולת לנתק מגע עם העולם", אומר האב שאף מחליט לשכלל את חרשותו של בנו, בהתקנת מכשיר שמיעה משוכלל ובכך מביא אסון על המשפחה. (הילד נדרס) לכאורה, אדם הוא המפעיל הראשי, אך לאמיתו של דבר הפועל הערבי, הנער נעים, שאוהב את דאפי, בתם של אדם ואסיה, יהפוך לגורם המניע את מערכת היחסים בקרב בני המשפחה היהודית. הסיטואציה הקומית של ציטוט שירתו הלאומית של ח.נ. ביאליק, במלוא הפאתוס, מפי הנער הערבי, הפכה לאחת הידועות בספרותנו. הן אשתו של אדם, אסיה, והן בתו, דאפי, מרדניות. דאפי מייצגת, מבחינות רבות, את מוטיב השיקום בספר ושיבה אל החלום האידיאליסטי של 1948. גם ודוציה הזקנה מהווה חוט מקשר לציונות. במצב של חוסר הכרה ובדידות מוחלטת, ודוציה עושה דין וחשבון היסטורי-ציוני שהחל לנגיה בשנת 1881. בדידותה של הזקנה, הרי זו בדידותה של המדינה הציונית. "אסור היה לעזוב את ירושלים." (את היהדות).

בסופו של דבר, לקראת סוף הנובלה, רוב הגיבורים, אלה שהיו שקועים בבדידותם עד כמעט שיענון, יוצרים מגע ומפתחים קשר ולא מעט בזכות הדור הצעיר, דאפי היהודיה ונעים הערבי.

כעשרים שנה לאחר הופעת "המאהב" אנו קוראים את "לב תל-אביב" מאת שחם. סיפור על בן דור תש"ח, שהיה לוחם במחתרת וב'הגנה', ידע תשוקות ואהבות והוא אב לבנים חורגים ולא חורגים. אבנר עינב אינו שונה מדור של ישראלים שלחמו בפלמ"ח, במלחמת השחרור והלאה ורק משהגיעו לימי מלחמת יום הכיפורים, התעוררה אצלם המבוכה האישית-כללית-מדינית.

אחת מנקודות הוועזות שמביאה לשינוי ערכים כללי ב"המאהב" היא גילוי אהבתם של דאפי ונעים. ב"לב תל-אביב", נקודת הוועזות היא מותו של אנוש, חבן החורג, בשבי חסורים. עם הזעזוע בא המהפך ונפתח אשנב התקווה. ב"המאהב", כאשר מתחיל הטיפול במכונית המוריס 48, שהיא בבחינת סמל לשיקום ציוני, וב"לב תל-אביב" השיקום הערכי-ציוני מתחיל בהחלטתו של הגיבור להנציח את זכרו של אביו הצייר.

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AA/AAA Grades Beef
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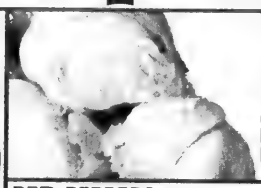
8.80 kg



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79 EA

RED PEPPERS
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PUNCH
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Frozen
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PERL'S
SALADS
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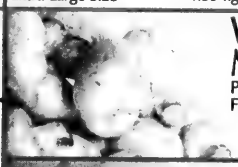

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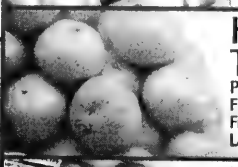

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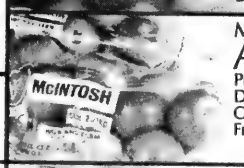

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48 Pages Thursday, February 13, 1997 1 Adar 6, 5757 75c

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Former *CJN* arts reporter Gerry Morris dead at 73. *Obituary.* **Page 7**

Son of survivors discusses *60 Minutes* episode on Nazis in Canada. *Guest Voices.* **Page18**

Coast to Coast

National campaign will raise funds for new Holocaust Gallery in Ottawa. **Page 29**

International

Israeli government adjusting to reality of a Palestinian state.*Analysis.* **Page 35**

Arts

Lost in Yonkers: Al Waxman delivers his third hit in as many years. **Page 38**

Travel

Barbados synagogue is woven into the very texture of the country's history. **Page 42**

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Havdalah: 6:31

Lebanon pullout debated

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The long-standing debate about Israel's military presence in southern Lebanon is being renewed.

In an effort to arrive at a consensus, conservative and liberal Knesset members joined former senior security members for a meeting last weekend at the house of Gideon Ezra, a Likud Knesset member and former deputy director of the Shin Bet, to discuss options for Israeli policy in Lebanon.

These options included calling for a unilateral Israeli troop withdrawal not connected to a peace agreement with Syria or Lebanon, according to some of the meeting's participants.

The meeting came days after 73 Israeli soldiers and crew died in a crash of two helicopters that were transporting troops to southern Lebanon.

But Labor Knesset member Yossi Beilin, one of the organizers, stressed after the three-hour brainstorming session that the meeting had been scheduled about a week prior to the Feb. 4 mid-air helicopter collision over northern Israel.

Israel has maintained troops in the nine-mile wide security zone since 1985 to serve as a buffer for northern communities against attacks by Hezbollah and other groups.

Unilateral withdrawal an option

But a number of politicians have long argued that the zone does not fulfil this defensive objective.

At the same time, they add, the Israel Defence Force (IDF) is sustaining mounting casualties in the ongoing hostilities with Hezbollah gunmen operating in southern Lebanon.

On Sunday, seven Israeli soldiers were wounded in the security zone in a clash with Hezbollah militants. In retaliation, Israeli jets attacked suspected Hezbollah targets.

More than 200 IDF soldiers have reportedly been killed since 1985 in southern Lebanon.

Beilin, along with co-organizer Gideon Ezra, have previously called for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

They maintain that the current strategy has not significantly improved security for Israel's northern settlements, which have come under repeated Hezbollah rocket assaults.

Last week, as Israel was burying the dead from the worst military air disaster in the country's history, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would continue the Israeli presence in Lebanon.

His public security minister, Avigdor Kahalani, recently drew sharp criticism for calling Israeli troops serving there "sitting ducks."

Kahalani, a member of the Third Way Party, proposed a phased Israeli troop withdrawal, on condition that some international force replace them in the security zone.

Other Knesset members who attended the gathering included Yehuda Harel of the Third Way, Yitzhak Cohen of the Shas party and Michael Eitan of Likud.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bows his head in grief at the funeral of Yonatan Amedi last week on Mount Herzl. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Israel mourns

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Funerals were held last week throughout Israel to bury the 73 soldiers who died the evening of Feb. 4, when the two Yasur helicopters in which they were travelling collided over Shaar Yashuv in northern Israel.

An official national day of mourning was declared commencing on Feb. 5 with the first funeral and lasting until the evening of Feb. 6.

Each funeral was attended by at least one member of the Knesset or minister. President Ezer Weizman, who promised to meet every bereaved family, began the first of 73 condolence calls in Kfar Yona, at the home of Sgt. Maj. Saguy Arazi, 22.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attended the funeral at Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem of St.-Sgt. Yonatan Amedi, 20, who was named after his brother killed in the 1976 Entebbe rescue the week Amedi was born.

Continued on page 34

INSIDE

Introducing *The CJN's* new Dining Guide advertising feature.
See pages 24 to 26.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News

Cause of collision may never be kno

The News in Brief

CANADA

Condolences Sent

MONTREAL — In a letter to Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, Canadian Jewish Congress has expressed its deepest condolences to the government and people of Israel following the tragic helicopter collision which killed at least 70 soldiers.

At Ontario region, chair Moshe Ronen requested that, for the duration of the week of shivah, flags be flown at half-mast and that a moment of silence be maintained preceding any meetings and K'El Maleh Rachamim be recited at the appropriate times.

Condolences were also sent by B'nai Brith Canada.

Hecht Appointed

TORONTO — Thomas Hecht has been named by B'nai Brith Canada as head of a special commission on Nazi war criminals .

The commission will devise a strategy to urge the federal government to pursue Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

A Secular Name Change

TORONTO — After almost 30 years of serving the Toronto Jewish community, the Secular Jewish Association is celebrating a new beginning with its recent decision to change its name.

Members recently voted to rename the group Oraynu: Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism.

Swiss Accounts

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress' National Holocaust Remembrance Committee is advising members of the community seeking information on dormant accounts in Swiss banks belonging to Holocaust victims or their heirs to obtain a questionnaire to lodge a claim.

Individuals who fall under this category should write to Swiss Banking Ombudsman, Seestrasse 7 — Postfach 519, 8027 Zurich, Switzerland. A copy of the completed questionnaire should be forwarded to the World Jewish Congress/World Jewish Restitution Organization, 501 Madison Ave. New York, NY. 10022-5602.

ISRAEL

Sabbath Flights Opposed

JERUSALEM — The Knesset voted down a bill calling for El Al to fly on Shabbat and Jewish holidays.

Arab Candidates For PM

JERUSALEM — A controversial proposal to bar Israeli Arabs from running for prime minister has been thrown out of the Knesset.

Knesset speaker Dan Tichon of the Likud and five of the seven deputy speakers ruled that the proposed bill would violate laws against racist legislation and therefore will not be brought before the plenum for a vote.

Pope Invited

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met last week at the Vatican with Pope John Paul II and invited the pontiff to come to Israel.

The Pope expressed interest in visiting Israel before the year 2000, but said he would first like to see more progress in the peace process.

WORLD

Ohio Man Denaturalized

NEW YORK — An Ohio man who had assisted in the persecution of Jews during World War II has been stripped of his U.S. citizenship by a federal judge in Cleveland.

Algimantis Dailide, 75, had served in the Vilnius Saugumas, the Lithuanian security service whose responsibilities paralleled those of the Gestapo, and had concealed his wartime past when entering the United States in 1949, Judge Paul Matia said.

Dailide, a Cleveland-area real estate agent, served in the Saugumas from 1941 to 1944 and "assisted in persecution of civilian populations," the judge said, making him ineligible for U.S. citizenship.

UJA In The U.S.

NEW YORK — United Jewish Appeal Federation annual campaign has reported a total of $336 million for 1996.

U.S. Claims Against Nazis

NEW YORK — Less than a month remains for U.S. survivors of Nazi persecution to file a claim for reparations from the German government under the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno announced the Feb. 23 deadline.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Feb.11, 1972

ABSORPTION STRAINS RESOURCES OF ISRAEL

While the struggle for free exit of Jews from the U.S.S.R. continues throughout the world, in Israel the focus has shifted from immigration to absorption. Israelis are now primarily concerned with the problem of providing Soviet Jews, arriving by the thousands every month, with the knowledge of Hebrew, the jobs and the housing that will enable them to become productive citizens.

It is expected that 70,000 immigrants — half from the U.S.S.R. — will arrive in 1972. Jewish Agency officials say it costs about $25,000 to bring in and absorb each immigrant, which means that $175 million will be required this year.

HEBREW COURSE LAUDED

The public school system has discarded its "WASP traditions" by announcing that languages other than those already recognized will be eligible for high school graduation, Saul Cowan, North York's school trustee said. Five North York secondary schools will offer Hebrew next September, following the announcement of the Ontario Department of Education's permitting an expansion of language subjects.

JIAS TORONTO

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Jewish Immigrant Aid Services - Toronto Office is looking for volunteers to help prepare annual Income Tax returns.

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War of words erupts over war crimes case

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress has gone on the offensive in a war of words with Michael Code, the lawyer representing alleged Nazi war criminal Helmut Oberlander, calling his allegations of contempt of court unfounded and demanding a retraction.

Congress has merely advocated justice for Nazi war criminals and the suggestion that it exercised undue influence in the laying of charges against Oberlander "is absolutely odious," said Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber. He denied suggestions that Congress provided material that was used by the CBC in a documentary titled *The Oberlander File*, although Congress spokespersons were interviewed for the piece.

Farber acknowledged Code's suggestion that Congress representatives have met with the minister of justice, but they did so only to discuss policy issues on the war crimes portfolio. A letter by Code "leaves the innuendo that there was something adverse happening here," Farber said.

Farber was responding to a Feb. 4 letter from Code to Christopher Amerasinghe, a lawyer for the Justice Department's war crimes unit.

In the letter, Code suggests *The Oberlander File* was in contempt of court because it dealt with the merits of the case against his client. He also suggests that "special interest groups" interviewed in the piece were also in contempt. The letter, released to *The CJN* and other media by Code, goes on to suggest that "interest groups" interviewed for the program met with the minister of justice and "are clearly orchestrating a lot of adverse pre-trial publicity in order to apply 'pressure.'"

Later, Code criticizes the federal authorities for initiating the Oberlander case "with a barrage of media publicity... Conducting litigation by way of press release ...casts grave doubt on the attorney general's ability to carry out his duties with the historic neutrality... The appearance given by this press release was of a minister who was catering to the very interest groups who are now participating in contempt of court, together with a publicly funded broadcasting network."

Although Congress was not mentioned by name in Code's letter, it was the only Jewish organization interviewed in the CBC documentary. Keith Landy, Congress' honorary legal counsel, has written to Code "demanding a retraction in regards to his suggestion that Congress has in any way participated in contempt of court. It could do damage to the reputation of Congress because the statements are unfounded and especially in light of the fact that he's distributing the letter to many large media outlets in Canada," Farber said.

Code's letter also prompted a heated response from Irving Abella, the head of Congress' war crimes committee. "I think Mr. Code is running off at the mouth again. He's pulling out all the stops to defend his client... He's attempting to put up a smokescreen to deflect attention from his client."

Abella denied a suggestion in the letter that the CBC may have obtained information on the Oberlander case from Congress, saying "nothing in the Oberlander [documentary] came from us."

Dan Henry, senior legal counsel for the CBC, said "our story was based on documents available publicly." He denied suggestions the documentary was in contempt of court, saying "I don't believe reporting on the case in the way we did at this stage is in any way a concern for the fair adjudication of the issues before the [court]."

A subsequent letter by Code, responding to Congress' critiques, attempted to explain his position: "I am a great admirer of the work that Congress and others have done in insisting that alleged war criminals be brought to justice. Nothing in my letter suggests there could ever be anything improper about that work."

However, Code goes on to say that "once a case is before the

[Cont'd. on page 18]

ISRAEL ISSUES NEW STAMPS
The Israel Postal Authority this week released three new stamps depicting traditional ethnic dress in the Diaspora: Ethiopia (upper left), Salonica (upper right) and Kurdistan (lower left), and one (lower right) paying tribute to Cervantes, author of Don Quixote, on the 450th anniversary of his birth.

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Israelis not alone in sadness and grief

The news was bitter and terrible. It stunned me into silence, as it did most of us in our community.

"More than 70 Israeli soldiers are dead as a result of a collision in the skies above northern Israel between two helicopters loaded with troops headed into south Lebanon. It is believed to be the worst military accident in Israel's history." Those were the words the newscaster read seriously but casually, in the late afternoon of Feb. 4.

He then went on to read the next item which dealt with O.J. Simpson's civil trial. His tone was the same: serious but casual. He didn't differentiate between the items. He didn't pause, clear his throat or feign even a slight, faint sigh. One story bled into the other.

So often, alas, we receive bitter and terrible news of war or terror or tragedy or loss in Israel.

But it never hurts less.

There is always the inner turmoil, the overwhelming physical sensation of sadness that rises in a wave of near nausea deep from within.

We think of our families and our friends in Israel.

We think of how young most of the 73 soldiers were, of how their lives ended so early and so terribly. From lullaby to hit parade to K'El Maleh Rachamim in so cruelly short a time. Their parents did not know to say goodbye.

That evening I told my children to make sure that they knew what had happened in Israel. I could not convey an understanding of what had happened. That was impossible because I too could not fully and in total truth understand what had happened.

I can imagine, but cannot understand the frantic fear and panic at hearing the awful, terrible, forever life-altering news that a son, or a father or a loved one had been killed in a frightful way and is never, ever coming home again.

Stunned thus by the news, I retreated into silence, to deal privately with the aching sadness that I knew so many people also felt.

Two days later, I received a phone call from a good friend, an Israeli on assignment, as it were, in Toronto.

We exchanged greetings as befitting our friendship and concern for one another, but in light of the week's news, there were no "pleasantries." And then, again befitting our friendship and concern for one another, and in the direct manner characteristic of most Israelis, he asked me plaintively not angrily, why he hadn't heard from anyone after the news of the crash.

Why were there so few personal contacts, so few expressions of empathy and support? He and his wife were left to wonder where were their friends, where was the much-vaunted community of Jewish brotherhood and family and unity?

They felt hurt and so alone.

I stumbled for reasons, for excuses, but in truth, there were none, at least none that could explain. And I felt embarrassed and ashamed.

My silence had contributed to their feeling of "abandonment." I had assumed that because we all "grieved," we all sought retreat, if not comfort, in the privacy of silence. But I was very wrong.

It is certainly true that no words can abate an unabatable loss. But it is equally true that there are indeed words of support that reach out to a friend and say "You are not alone in your sadness and your grief."

Among the many wise and instructive proverbs our sages recorded for us is one that teaches us: "A word fittingly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver."

In times of personal and national mourning, how much more fitting than a word to a friend of comfort and support?

One people

* * *

After he heard the news of the helicopter collision, Ya'acov Erez, editorial writer for *Ma'ariv* wrote the following: "Just as it was with the Rabin murder, Beit Lid, the Dizengoff Centre explosion, the initial report was low key...It later became clear that two Yasur helicopters were involved, and reports spoke of twenty casualties. Then 30. And 50. And 70 and more.

"And you then try to turn that horrible number into something comprehensible, tangible. You search for a name, a face, perhaps an acquaintance. You search for all those things you do not want to find...And you always do.

"Because all those who are called the best of our boys are the best of our children. This night you searched for them. First, your own children. Afterwards your friends, and then their friends, and their children, and the friends of their children, an entire nation trembling by the phone. These are the moments when Israel is not a nation. It is a shared home.

"During this bleak night, between the thunder and lightning and snow storms, during this foggy night in which we skipped a number of heartbeats, during this morose and bitter night, in which all has been forgotten and in which we returned, for a single moment, to that which we truly are:one people."

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Greater Toronto Area

Hadassah-WIZO president focuses on group's future

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Like many Hadassah-WIZO members, Patricia Joy Alpert joined the organization as a young bride seeking a social outlet. Four decades later the Carmel chapter member feels the Zionist group has enriched her life in many ways.

Now Hadassah-WIZO's national president, Pat Alpert succeeded Judy Mandleman of Vancouver for a three-year term last November. The second member of her chapter to serve as national president (Esther Matlow was the first), she is focusing on ways to take the organization into the 21st century.

"We have made a tremendous effort to adapt our way of business to the new lifestyles," she said during a recent interview, citing increased efficiency in response to increased time constraints. While evening meetings have accommodated working women for years, Alpert has noted a recent trend among younger members to bring their babies to meetings.

No stranger to the demands of combining work and parenthood, Alpert was a working mother before it became common. An artist who has exhibited here and in several large American cities, Alpert is also a teacher and worked for the North York Board of Education for 11 years.

Pat Alpert

Her two daughters, now grown, have their own children. Pictures of the four grandchildren are displayed in the Alperts' condo, where a toy-filled plastic laundry basket sits under a wall of art in the elegant living room.

Alpert's resume, like her home, reflects a variety of interests. Her professional background includes a stint as a designer at Simpson's and another as a researcher at a film company. In the volunteer sector, she has held dozens of positions at both Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, and in 1995 received community volunteer recognition awards from both the Jewish National Fund and Hadassah-WIZO in Toronto.

Alpert sees her active community involvement as a way of paying her dues, she said. In the Jewish arena, "it's our responsibility as committed Jews to ensure there is an Israel, and my vehicle is Hadassah-WIZO."

Having just returned from the world WIZO plenary in Israel, Alpert was particularly enthused about recently established WIZO presences in countries like Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia and Hungary. "The needs are tremendous there. I was extremely proud to be part of an organization that had such broad outreach."

For Alpert, part of Hadassah-WIZO's appeal is the range of causes it supports. Its double-barreled name is unique to Canada, stemming from a decision by local community leaders early in the century to support both international Zionist organizations. Their projects include several university chairs, two hospitals and assistance for needy children and abused women.

"We use Hadassah-WIZO as a learning vehicle, to educate, to raise funds for specific projects in Israel. If there is a problem, we try very hard to find a way to embrace it. I love to think we are so open and ready to change."

The organization offers leadership training to younger members, and there is a concerted effort to "have a very good representation of young women on the executive board," said Alpert, herself a second-generation member of the 15,000-strong organization.

Younger members "are the future," she said. "We want them to give us their input. We want to know what they want and expect as volunteers. We want to give them responsibility so they will be good leaders, and we want them to feel very valued, which they certainly are."

CLARIFICATION

The article "Jewish law students gather in Toronto" (*CJN*, Feb. 6) did not clarify that Ari Kaplan, outgoing CJLSA president, also organized the conference, which was hailed by participants as an unprecedented success.

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Greater Toronto Area

Relations with Jordan expected to improve

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's strained relations with Jordan are likely to improve when Benjamin Netanyahu visits Amman later this year, predicts an Israeli scholar.

Netanyahu was scheduled to fly to Jordan last week, but cancelled the trip when the nation was plunged into mourning following the deaths of 73 Israeli soldiers and airmen in the mid-air collision of two helicopters in northern Israel.

Joseph Nevo, a Haifa University historian, said Netanyahu's forthcoming visit is expected to put Israel's relations with Jordan back on an even keel now that Israel and the PLO have signed the Hebron accord.

The relationship deteriorated after widespread Arab-Israeli violence in the territories last September in the wake of Israel's decision to open an entrance to an archeological tunnel in east Jerusalem.

"King Hussein believes that the interests of his Hashemite kingdom and of his people require an improvement in relations with Israel," said Nevo, a specialist in Jordan who was here on the last leg of a North American lecture tour at the invitation of the Israeli government.

"The king genuinely believes that Jordan can benefit economically from the peace process," explained Nevo, now dean of students at Haifa University. "Jordan is in desperate need of job-creation projects."

Jordan's official unemployment rate stands at 20 percent and its external debt has ballooned to $7 billion (US).

Nevo, the author of several books about Jordan, claimed that it will be the first Arab country to reap the tangible fruits of peaceful coexistence should the peace process continue on all fronts.

Jordan's business elite strongly supports efforts to normalize ties with Israel, realizing that Jordan could become a bridge between the Jewish state and the rest of the Arab world.

But normalization is adamantly opposed by intellectuals, professional associations, Islamic fundamentalists, neo-Nasserites and pan-Arabists, he stated in an interview.

In general, they regard Israel as an alien element in the Middle East and fear that Jordan — the second Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel — will be dominated by Israel.

However, they "play by the rules of the game," voicing opposition to normalization without resorting to outright violence.

In Nevo's estimation, at least half of Jordan's population is passive toward normalization. "They are basically neither for or against it."

King Hussein remains popular and can effectively deal with unrest, said Nevo, who holds a PhD in Middle Eastern history from Tel Aviv University.

A frequent lecturer on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Nevo suggested that Israel cannot hope to sign a peace treaty with Syria unless it is prepared to vacate the bulk of the Golan Heights.

He said the Syrians will not accept anything less than a full withdrawal to the internationally recognized border.

Turning to Egypt, Nevo said that the objective of its diplomacy is to push back Israel to the pre-1967 lines.

"Egypt wants a small, weak Israel, dependent on the goodwill of the Arabs. Egypt wants to abolish Israel's qualitative military advantage," he said, referring to Israel's nuclear arsenal.

Egypt's cold peace with Israel is also a function of domestic constraints, Nevo noted. To appease Islamic fundamentalists and neo-Nasserites, the Egyptian government keeps Israel at arm's length.

Nevo, who has closely studied Israeli Arabs, said that they harbor three basic grievances. They feel like second-class citizens in terms of local budget allocations. They believe they should be officially recognized as a "national minority." They demand equal treatment with respect to employment opportunities.

Arab militants, he added, want Israel to be defined as a state of all its inhabitants rather than as a purely Jewish state. No Israeli government will accede to that demand, he observed.

According to Nevo, Israeli Arabs have been influenced by two contradictory trends since the Six Day War: Palestinization and Israelization.

"The majority, however, consider themselves loyal citizens and wish to be integrated into Israeli society."

Main Israeli parties similar and centrist, professor says

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Despite increasing polarization in Israel, there is still a strong group at the centre that leans neither left nor right, says a professor of political geography at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

"Extremists seem to have taken over the streets, but the reality is that the last election campaign was fought [with people] always conscious of the fact that something has to be compromised," said David Newman, who spoke at the first of a recent two-part lecture series sponsored by the Canada-Israel Committee and Holy Blossom Temple.

In the last election, the Labor party emphasized the concept of security and peace, said Newman. "Likud spoke about security as well, but it had to convince Israelis that in principle, the party was in favor of the peace process, depending on the process."

The campaigns of Yitzhak Rabin and Benjamin Netanyahu competed for the political centre, not the extremes, Newman said.

"The groups on the right and left are clear for whom they will vote. The centre always tends to be won by someone who can create the security profile. It goes for the security discourse. The two messages put out by the parties, then, were similar and centrist, not polarized. Both parties said they wanted peace and security."

For Newman, it's not difficult to see which group in Israel is most vociferous in exercising its democratic rights: "I believe the right wing has demonstrated most effectively. It is usually that group that we see out on the streets. The right wing always acts as if it is in the opposition, whether it is in power or not. It has not gone home because it is in power. It acts as the watchdog to ensure that its party does not give in to the centre.

"We do not find the same form of day to day commitment on the other side. It is not as good in getting its act out on the street. [That may be] because the argument for the right is clearly defined. The left argument has more questions — there is more diversity of opinion," Newman said.

Exhibit explores influence of science on society

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Entitled, simply, A Question of Truth, a thought-provoking new exhibit at the Ontario Science Centre asks some hard questions of science, among them: How was it possible that doctors murdered people during the Third Reich?

Over four years in the making, the exhibit, consisting of 40 interactive displays, examines and challenges the shibboleths of western science and the "truths" it supposedly imparts. One of the exhibit's points is that beliefs about differences between people have often been incorporated into the practice of science, even if those beliefs are obviously biased.

It's the first time the Science Centre, so long at the forefront of teaching science, has looked critically at the influence of science and technology on society – an influence that has often caused pain and misery.

A recent lecture at the centre by three noted authorities looked at one of those areas: medicine, specifically, how doctors in Nazi Germany paved the way for the gas chambers and crematoria of the death camps.

Dr. William Seidelman, an AIDS expert at Toronto's Wellesley Hospital and who's spearheading an effort to establish the Centre for the Study of Medicine and the Holocaust at the University of Toronto's medical school, noted the irony of Germany being the birthplace of modern medical science.

During the Third Reich, he said, it was doctors – supposedly compassionate and educated professionals – who did the state's evil bidding when it came to propagating bizarre theories of race, hygiene and eugenics.

But more alarming was the fact that doctors helped the state forcibly sterilize over 400,000 "defectives," and quietly gas over 2,000 physically and mentally handicapped in the so-called T-4 euthanasia program, carried out at six killing centres inside the Reich.

Apart from one on Nazi science, exhibits discuss racism, genetics, sexism and other controversial areas, all challenging conventional truths.

The exhibit is a permanent addition to the centre. Related lectures, films, workshops and seminars continue until June 22.

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Greater Toronto Area

Morris chatted with some of Broadway's greats

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Gerry Morris, syndicated New York Broadway critic, chronicler of some of theatre's greatest personalities and featured drama critic for *The Canadian Jewish News* for more than a decade, died Feb. 2 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., at the age of 73.

A sensitive and articulate individual, he was known as Broadway Gerry to his friends. Business failures and the subsequent rebuilding of his life led him to have a set of values based on friendship and loyalty. He had a joie de vivre and recognized the importance of living every day to its fullest. He became a vegetarian and developed a physical fitness regime.

Born in Woolwich, a poor working class area of London, Morris came to Canada as a young boy. After dropping out of high school, he became a wonder in the real estate business. He and his friend Riley Brethour founded Brethour and Morris Real Estate, a company that became one of the top three in Canadian real estate in the 1950s.

The crash for Brethour and Morris came in 1959, when the company ventured into the construction business. In 1987, in an interview with *The CJN*, Morris said that at this low ebb in his life, he realized that "my life had been hollow and emotionally unrewarding. I learned to appreciate and nurture good friendships and I began by making friends with myself." He successfully re-entered the realty finance business.

Because of Morris' love of music and show business, he had involved Brethour and Morris in the production of plays and the sponsorship of free concerts. After his corporate comeback, what he called his "shameless love affair with Broadway" took a turn when he was in Florida spending time with close friends Harry and Arlene Rasky and he met legendary lyricist Irving Caesar, who wrote such favorites as *Swanee* and *Tea for Two*.

Morris impressed Caesar, as he did all who knew him, with his encyclopedic memory of composers and the words to songs he was always ready to sing, whether dining in a restaurant or at a ball game.

Caesar sponsored Morris' membership in the prestigious New York Friars Club, a show business organization that became his home away from home on his frequent trips to New York.

His writing career began at *The CJN* when his longtime friend, H. Max Swarz, encouraged him to contact *CJN* editor Maurice Lucow and offer to write New York theatre reviews and profile the stars.

He became a regular feature writer for the Friars Club's publication, *Ye Epistle*, profiling George Burns, Sid Caesar, Jackie Mason, Red Buttons, Dinah Shore, Liza Minelli, Frank Sinatra and numerous other luminaries in the entertainment world.

Few people can live out their fantasies. Morris was a remarkable individual who followed his dream and created warm relationships with each person he interviewed.

But above all, Morris will be remembered for his dedication to family and friends.

His longtime friend, psychiatrist Dr. Stanley Greben, summed up the feelings of his numerous friends: "Gerry understood more about friendship than anyone I have met. His friendships were very reciprocal. He was tremendously loyal when he found people who deserved loyalty and who gave it in return. What counted with Gerry was people's character, lack of pretensions and true values."

"Gerry Morris admired people of achievement. If he had respect for what you did, he would do anything humanly possible to give you the utmost support, respect and dignity," said community leader Judy Feld Carr.

This writer was privileged to be Gerry Morris' friend and grateful that he brought his love of life and humanity to her world.

He is mourned by his parents, Fay and Harvie Morris, and leaves a sister, Helen Pearl (Keshen).

Gerry Morris (left) is seen with comedian Red Buttons.

Congress hears report on Israel

TORONTO —The general consensus in Israel is that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has accepted the principle of a Palestinian state, Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen said here Jan. 23.

On a private visit to Israel, Ronen said he found that Israelis, whether of the left or right, are united behind the government.

"Netanyahu said he was forced to deal with reality in the midnight signing of the deal wth Arafat on Hebron," Ronen told the region executive, "but the prime minister said he extracted from theAmericans a promise that Israel would determine its own boundaries."

Some Israelis say the Hebron deal will not work out, he said. "It is a question of time. The next few months will determine it.

The mood in Israel was "quite flat" after the Hebron signing compared to other historic moments, Ronen said. "The reaction was serious in Hebron from Jews within the community, but fortunately it was a restrained reaction. The settlers kept their word."

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Dark labyrinth

The sight of the emotional devastation in Israel as a result of the mishap over Shaar Yashuv must have inspired within the murderous plotters of Hezbollah a desire to see more blood. For, barely more than 24 hours after the last of the 73 soldiers was buried, Hezbollah launched yet another attack against the IDF and seven Israeli soldiers were wounded.

This was the backdrop for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as he was set to travel to Washington to meet with President Bill Clinton. The key subject on their agenda is the reinvigorated peace process and in particular, the possibility of renewed negotiations with Syria.

But entering negotiations with Syria is like entering a labyrinth. There is never a direct path to the final point. It conceals a number of false entries, trap doors and murky precincts in whose dark chambers lurk deadly surrogates and anti-peace fanatics.

Despite the frustration and the disappointment, the government of Israel presses forward seeking a path to peace. Foreign Minister David Levy revealed to the media he has proposed that talks with Syria restart on the basis of the 1991 Madrid framework and UN resolutions 242 and 338. The United States wishes to pursue the proposal. There is even a hint that Syria may want to pursue it as well. In conversation with Miguel Angel Moratinos, the European Union (EU) envoy to the Middle East, Syrian president Hafez al-Assad reportedly said that Israel "was entitled to full security". But even as he talked smoothly to the EU, Assad continued to pave the labyrinth's precincts with more deceit and intended death.

It was also revealed by Levy that since Operation Grapes of Wrath in April, Hezbollah has received some 30 Iranian planeloads of weapons.

The entry of these weapons into south Lebanon requires that they arrive first at the airport in Damascus.

Special athletes

The Special Olympics World Winter Games concluded last week with a heartwarming, inspirational ceremony at Ontario Place in Toronto. For six days, more than 2,000 mentally disabled athletes from all over the world assembled in southern Ontario and competed in spirited, friendly competition in a range of winter sports.

The message to the athletes from Tim Shriver, president of the Special Olympics, at the triumphant closing ceremony is one we should all take to heart: "Go home and tell people the stories of this place and the Special Olympics, where everyone can make a difference...Tell everyone you have seen the power of the human spirit here in Canada."

The power and the force of that human spirit were so clearly on display throughout the six days of competition. We saw them in the myriad poignant expressions of physical assertion, of victory and of defeat. And as was evident to anyone who caught even the merest glimpse of these expressions, the competitions liberated the young men and women athletes from the constraints and the confinements of blinkered stereotypes and diminished expectations.

In doing so, they also liberated us, helping us move closer to a better, more inclusive society, nearer to that faintly flickering human point of enlightenment and love from which radiates at least the appreciation, if not the total understanding, of the mystery that lives in us all.

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"Zionism is a homecoming to the Jewish fold even before it becomes a homecoming to the Jewish land. We, the children who have returned, find much redress under the ancestral roof, for some of our brothers have sunk deep into misery."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 13, 1778 Reverend Jacob Cohen was the first person elected minister of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation in Montreal. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Objects to Himel's first column

Your introduction of Martin Himel as your new monthly columnist from Israel is puzzling. I do not remember an article more full of sarcasm, defeatism and defamation.

Let me remind Himel that the concept of *ein brera* (no choice), is not one which Israelis have voluntarily adopted. Instead, it was a necessary reaction to the onslaught of their enemies, and the determination of Jews to survive.

He again sarcastically states: "We have chosen to fight, chosen to live in the Jewish Mideast ghetto." Is he really suggesting that somehow Israel's behavior is the cause of Arab hostility towards the Jewish state, and that if only Israel changes its way the Arab world would embrace her? Is it really so difficult or frightening for Himel to confront the reality that the hostility which others feel towards Israel or Jews has nothing to do with our behavior?

If Israel does resemble a Jewish Mideast ghetto, it is only because of the unrelenting terror of its hostile enemies.

Ramy Dishy
Toronto

Trials of war criminals back on track

It is gratifying and reassuring that the Federal Court of Appeal has set back on course the proceedings against Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck, and has acknowledged that the meeting between Assistant Deputy Attorney General Ted Thompson and Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac simply addressed expediting these cases and not, as Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen had ruled, that there was a breach of judicial independence and intervention by the government necessitating a stay of the three proceedings so that they would never be tried on their merits.

Perhaps, when the actual evidence is finally heard and considered, Cullen will realize that he was not staying a traffic ticket because of a wrong address or a typographical error. Plain and simply, Associate Chief Justice James Jerome failed to deal with the cases expeditiously and that was the basis of the Justice Department's concern.

In his letter praising Arnold Fradkin for his articles detailing the Canadian government's dismal record in dealing with Nazi war criminals in Canada, Irving Abella refers to former solicitor general Robert Kaplan's vain attempt to convince his cabinet colleagues to move against Canada's Nazi war criminals. If memory serves me correctly, both James Jerome and Bud Cullen were members of Pierre Trudeau's cabinet.

Bert Raphael
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Objects to snake as metaphor

I feel that your use of a non-human animal, the snake, as a metaphor for terrorism, in your Jan. 16 editorial, is unfortunate. There is no need for any newspaper to contribute to the tragic stereotyping of our fellow creatures, a factor which has contributed to the massive onslaught against the non-human world.

I believe *The CJN* could make a contribution to nature education. It could highlight Jewish involvement in this very important work and could carry critical pieces on how life here and in Israel relates to nature conservation, the positive and the negative.

Shloime Perel
Montreal

Five per cent are not lesser Jews

I am a member of the Jewish community in Toronto. In *The CJN*, Jan. 23, you published a chart which enclosed statistical information regarding world Jewry for 1996. While it is essential for such figures to be published, I was extremely disappointed to find out that so many countries, including India, were not among the national breakdown.

I refuse to be viewed as a lesser Jew. Indian men and women have fought for the causes of Israel and the Jewish name. Indian men and women have contributed in the past and still continue to contribute to the world of the Jewish people in terms of literature, the arts and politics. My late grandfathers were both influential writers within the Indo-Jewish community.

It seems that a certain percentage of the Jewish population is extremely ignorant about people of Sephardi origin. It is high time to educate the world, and yes, our people, about the diversity of this religion. We were, and still continue to be, target victims of many racist/anti-Semitic and ignorant events.

I am appalled at the level of ignorance displayed in leaving out the "other" five percent. There are Jews in such countries as Ethiopia, Egypt, Iraq, Yemen, Morocco, Germany and Poland who have been ignored.

In order to keep our faith alive, we must not ignore our people. We are all Jews. We are all God's children.

Galit Solomon
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Mourning an immeasurable loss

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St. Sgt Micha Gotlieb, 20, Tel Aviv
Maj. Ronen Halfon, 35, Tiberias
Sgt. Alejander Hoffman, 19, Misgav Am
Maj. Yisrael Hushni, 34, Tel Aviv
St. Sgt. Michael Katz, 20, Mitzpe Natufa
Sgt. Fadi Kazamel, 19, Beit Jann
Sgt. Tomer Keidar, 21, Negba
St. Sgt. Shahar Kasus, 20, Alfei Menashe
St. Sgt. Tom Kita'in, 20, Neveh Shalom
St. Sgt. Ilan Lanchitski, 20, Haifa
Lt. Dvir Lanir, 21, Moledet
Capt. Avishai Levy, 27, Tel Aviv
St. Sgt. Shilo Levy, 21, Karnei Shomron
St. Sgt. Nadav Lishinksi, 20, Sde Avraham
Sgt. Maj. Eitan Maman, 25, Beersheba
Sgt. Vladislav Michaelov, 22, Tel Aviv
Sgt. Maj. Gal Meisels, 24, Kiryat Ata
Sgt. Ya'acov Melamed, 20, Petah Tikva
Capt. Vadim Melnick, 34, Safed
Sgt. Idan Minker, 20, Nir Yitzhak
St. Sgt. Gilad Mishaiker, 20, Jerusalem
St. Sgt. Gilad Moshel, 20, Tel Aviv
Lt. Col. Moshe Mualem, 31, Beersheba
St. Sgt. Heran Parnas, 20, Herzliya
Sgt. Vitali Pashov, 19, Acre
Lt. Eren Hai Peretz, 21, Deganya Alef
Cpl. Shlomo Pizualti, 19, Tiberias
Sgt Gidon Posner, 22, Tel Aviv
Hassin Rahal, 28, Zarzir
Capt. Vitaly Radinsky, 33, Or Akiva
Sgt. Shahar Rosenberg, 19, Ness Ziona
St. Sgt. Assaf Rotenberg, 20, Tel Aviv
Sgt Moshe Sabban, 19, Hod Hasharon
St. Sgt. Omer Shalit, 19, Jerusalem
Lt. Erez Schtark, 21, Kiryat Ata
Sgt Yiftah Shalpuvorski, 20, Hod Hasharon
St. Sgt. Itamar Shai, 20, Jerusalem
St. Sgt. Gil Sharabi, 20, Rehovot
St. Sgt. Tsafrir Sharoni, 22, Netanya
St. Sgt Tsafrir Shoval, 22, Bar'am
Lt. Nir Shribman, 20, Kfar Sava
St. Sgt Assaf Siboni, 20, Nir Am
Sgt. Yaron Tsofiof, 20, Tel Aviv
Sgt. Dani Zahavi, 19, Haifa

These photos attempt to express what is essentially inexpressable: the human reaction to deep personal and national grief. Clockwise from upper left: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu embraces the father of Kobi Ben-Shem; The Knesset observing a moment of silence the day following the crash; Rivka Tsofiof, mother of Yaron, rending her garments at her son's graveside; soldiers looking for life amid the wreckage.

[Reuter/RNS photo]

Opinions

Ideological realignment in Israel

Something is happening to the ideological divide between right and left in Israeli politics. With the signing of Hebron agreement of the Oslo accords, and the subsequent vote of 87 Knesset members in its favor, a new Israeli consensus for peace involving territorial compromise has clearly emerged. When Israeli troops redeployed in Hebron, the Israeli political right cracked, and a new divide was created. The mainstream Likud and some of the religious parties acknowledged the inevitability of the Oslo process. The opposition on the right now includes minority voices in the Likud (represented ably by Benny Begin who resigned), the National Religious Party (with whom many in the settler movement are affiliated), and small factions such as Rehavam Ze'evi's Moledet.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Three recent events illustrate the new reality in the Likud. For the last several months, a group of Likud MKs led by Michael Eitan has been working on a joint proposal for a permanent agreement on the territories with a group of Labor MKs led by Yossi Beilin, a key architect of the Oslo accords. The joint statement, which was published late last month, parallels an agreement reached in late 1995 by Beilin and Abu-Mazen, a key figure in the Palestinian leadership. In both documents, Jerusalem remains the undivided capital of Israel, and most of the Israeli settlements in the territories remain intact.

Beilin has described the Labor-Likud report as a watershed: "The Likud now understands that the Oslo process leads to separation between Palestinians and Israelis within the Land of Israel, and Labor understands that the big blocs of settlements will determine the final-status map."

Eitan says, "In the Likud faction...there is an absolute majority in favor of my position. They just haven't come out of the closet yet."

In a recent interview, Ronni Milo, the mayor of Tel Aviv and chair of World Likud, spoke openly of the realism that has crept into the Likud position over time, and of his own political odyssey from being a "superhawk" to an outspoken supporter of the Oslo accords. He described the critical moment in his own thinking as the Lebanon War, when he realized the complexities of Israel's predicament and the dangers of seeing it in black and white terms. "History will judge," he says, "if Benny Begin and Yitzhak Shamir were right, or if Menachem Begin was right in signing the Camp David accords and the peace agreements will win. I hope they will, and that I am right and Benny Begin is wrong, because if there is no hope for peace, the future will be bleak."

Milo spoke openly of the demise of the dream of a Greater Israel. "There is no doubt...even if some of the settlements stay under our control, it is clear that Gaza and large areas of Judea and Samaria will be part of a demilitarized Palestinian state. If a poll were taken in the Likud, I am convinced that many would agree with me." Milo has been touted by some as Netanyahu's successor — perhaps in the year 2004, or as the leader of a new centrist party along with Haim Ramon, which may run as early as the elections in 2000.

In a recent column, Meir Sheetrit, a Likud MK, called upon Netanyahu to put his own, activist stamp on the peace process, precisely because he is a Likud prime minister. He challenged Netanyahu to make his own personal choice for peace, and to take advantage of the broad support for the process that only he can deliver.

Some political analysts have already speculated about the potential "big bang" in Israeli politics — a serious realignment of the political map. According to this theory, Labor and Likud of the future may look very different than they do today. With a consensus on a relationship with the Palestinians that crosses party lines, the two parties will find themselves competing for the votes of the centre, unless they break off from their extremes on the left and right, and...amalgamate.

It seems unlikely in the near future, but young politicians like Milo and Ramon recognize that the issues of tomorrow will be about quality of life and relations between Israelis. The battleground on these issues will be a reshaped political arena, where former political foes may find themselves on the same side.

Aboriginal and Jewish continuity

I recently attended two conferences on the same day held at McGill University. The first was sponsored by the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, devoted to analysing the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. The second was sponsored by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, dealing with Jewish continuity. The juxtaposition provoked several reflections.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The Aboriginal conference was far larger, and drew participants from all over Canada, a liberal mix of academics, students and Aboriginals. The Jewish continuity conference drew participants from Montreal, mainly Jewish communal activists, professionals and a few concerned citizens and students.

First some similarities. Both groups — or rather communal leaders from both groups — are obsessed with survival, primarily cultural survival. For both, the fear of assimilation is palpable. Both feel their cultures are under attack: their languages, their traditional religious ways, their basic values. And both are right, though now the dangers are those of seduction whereas in the past they have been those of coercion.

Both have severe problems with intermarriage, with generational continuity affected differently by gender. Children of Aboriginal women who marry out have historically *lost* their Aboriginal status; not so for the men. Children of Jewish women who marry out have *retained* their halachic status as Jews; not so for the men. In both cases, one of the consequent problems is an ongoing debate as to "Who is a Jew?" or "Who is an Aboriginal?"

Both groups have a sense of themselves as groups — as nations — with very old histories. For Jews, one can speak of a coherent group history of at least 4,000 years; Aboriginals claim an even longer history in North America. The concept of an authentic tradition rests heavily on both. And both have long traditions of self-government and communal decision-making.

Both groups have had a long history of severe victimization. Jews, depending on their preferred historical time frame, can trace their victimization to the destruction of the First or Second Temple, or in the more recent period, from the Crusades or the Inquisition.

Similarly, for most Aboriginals in North America, the past five centuries since the arrival of the European colonizers has often been seen as the beginning of an unbroken record of suffering and dispossession. While the Holocaust is more clearly a case of deliberate overt extermination, there is no doubt that the fate of Aboriginals in the New World can also be described by the term genocide, both deliberate and systemic, both physical and cultural.

Both groups also have a dualistic diaspora tension. For Jews, it is between Israel and the Golah/Diaspora. For Aboriginals, their Zion is the reserve or territory, their exile is the city.

Both conferences were exercises in "process" and not solution finding. The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which met over several years, involved thousands of Aboriginal Canadians in a process of reflection. Conferences on the crisis of Jewish continuity have proliferated over the past several years. Few innovative, concrete solutions come from such conferences. But they do have an important role, as both group therapy and as a forum for disseminating ideas.

Now two differences between the groups: For all the dire gloom and doom predictions emanating from Jewish quarters, the plight of Aboriginal Canadians is many times greater than anything real or imagined facing Canadian Jews. The much higher levels of Jewish attainment in terms of education, occupation and income give to the Jewish community an economic base for communal development. The tradition of Jewish philanthropy and the existence of key "big givers" committed to Judaism have made Jews less dependent on government support.

In tradition, Jews were lucky enough to have had an early literate tradition. This enabled them to shift from being a nomadic and then agricultural people to one with a portable culture which could fit in a suitcase holding a Tanach and a siddur and several key religious artifacts. Aboriginal peoples possess a profoundly spiritual culture which remains land-based and largely oral. A common bible and a common prayer book were crucial tools that helped Jews to survive. They may serve a similar purpose for Aboriginal peoples, if or when they are created.

Kissinger vs. Brzezinski

Some weeks ago, a letter authored by a group of former American government officials was printed in major newspapers. Addressed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, it asked him to forsake his present territorial policies, abide by the Oslo agreement and cease enlarging Jewish settlements in the territories and building new ones. The letter received vigorous support from the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* as well as from Labor circles in Israel.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

But not everyone agreed, and some prominent Americans, led by former secretary of state Henry Kissinger, refused to sign.

All of this evoked relatively little attention, until a public debate was held between Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski at the end of December on public television.

Brzezinski's point was this: all American governments for the last three decades — ever since Israel gained possession of the West Bank in 1967 — have opposed the building and enlargement of Jewish settlements and have considered them as counterproductive to any peace process and to settling the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. At this time, he said, the issue of settlements is especially sensitive and makes a final agreement between Israel and the Palestinians more difficult. Just imagine, he said, what would happen if Palestinians in East Jerusalem would greatly enlarge their numbers and state that this was merely normal accretion.

Kissinger explained why he had chosen to stand aside from his former colleagues. His main point was this: the letter unfairly singles out Israel as the guilty party in stalling the peace process. It fails to acknowledge the part that Yasser Arafat has played in violating the accord. Taking sides in this fashion, he averred, robs the United States of its potential as a peacemaker and deals a blow to the whole process from which it may not recover.

When I read excerpts from the daily Hebrew press, I am convinced that the positions put forth by these two men fairly reflect what is said in Israel itself. What is at the base of it? It is an assessment of who the Arabs are and what their real purpose is. The right wing believes that any agreements with the Arabs that will give them added territory and independence will produce a base from which to attack Israel in the future. For, so goes the argument, the majority of Arabs have never abandoned their hope of destroying Israel, and Arafat has said repeatedly that all agreements into which he would enter would only be stages preparing for the final battle.

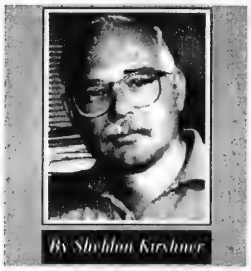
Those who continue to support the peace process deny such conclusions. Rather, they believe that a gradual process of living together will in the end lead to increasing Arab-Israeli trust and cooperation. The readiness of so many Arab states to join trade and diplomatic relations with Israel, is a sign that they had been waiting for some gesture of conciliation.

Being an optimist, I have always felt that most people do *not* want war. I also believe that most Arabs and Israelis want to live in peace.

The Kirshner File

Jewish life stirring again in eastern Germany

After decades of silence, Jewish life is stirring once again in eastern Germany. Due to an influx of Jews from



By Sheldon Kirshner

the former Soviet Union, communities that had been eradicated by the Nazis are re-emerging.

Michel Friedman, a Frankfurt-based member of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, believes that about 5,000 Soviet Jews have settled in Germany's eastern states, known as the German Democratic Republic or East Germany, until reunification in 1990.

Since 1989, upwards of 50,000 Jews, or persons of partial Jewish ancestry, have arrived in Germany.

This infusion has more than doubled the size of Germany's Jewish community, making it the third largest in Western Europe after that of France and Britain. By all accounts, Germany will be home to 100,000 Jews in the year 2000.

Recently, I spent nine days in Germany as a guest of the German National Tourist Office and Lufthansa Airlines, and during the course of my travels, I visited several Jewish communities in the eastern sector of the country. In this column, I will write about two of them, Potsdam and Halle.

Potsdam, southwest of Berlin, is an industrial centre on the Havel River, with a population of 140,000. Formerly a symbol of Prussian militarism, Potsdam today is the site of one of the greatest attractions in Germany, Sanssouci, the expansive estate of Prussian royalty.

The manicured grounds are dotted with grand palaces, Roman baths, a Chinese teahouse and a half-timbered country manor house, Schloss Cecilienhof, the venue of the 1945 Potsdam Conference, the purpose of which was to determine the fate of Germany.

Potsdam is linked to western Germany by the Glienicke bridge, where East-West spy exchanges took place during the Cold War. On this stolid bridge, in 1986, Natan Scharansky walked to his freedom from a Soviet gulag.

At Schloss Cecilienhof, now an elegant hotel, I met the leader of Potsdam's Jewish community, Alexander Kogan, a diffident 41-year-old medical doctor from Ukraine who hails from a traditional Jewish family.

According to Kogan, the community had dwindled to all but two souls when he and his family set down roots in 1990. Before the Nazi era, some 430 Jews lived in Potsdam, which was razed by Allied air raids in the final weeks of World War II.

With 250 Jews today, the community has bounced back. Kogan expects several hundred more Jews to come here in the next few years, given the significant number of Jewish citizens from the former Soviet Union who've applied for German visas.

Optimistic about the future, Kogan spoke of plans to build a community centre and a synagogue on land donated by the city. The old shul, devastated by the Nazis and bombarded by the Allies, was demolished in 1957.

Potsdam's Jewish cemetery, though damaged by the Nazis on Kristallnacht, is the only functioning one in the state of Brandenburg. It adjoins the Russian Colony, a rustic neighborhood crowned by an Orthodox church on a bluff.

The gravestones reflect the phenomenon of assimilation, a hallmark of German Jewry. The oldest ones are engraved solely in Hebrew. The newer ones bear German and Hebrew inscriptions. One of the headstones bears the name of Hollander, a family which found refuge in Canada in the wake of Hitler's accession to power.

As might be expected, the community is not without its problems. Although most of its members have university degrees and are professionals, virtually all of them are unemployed and subsist on social security. Kogan, however, is self-employed, and his new BMW sedan attests to his prosperity.

The German economy, the powerhouse of Europe, is in the doldrums these days. But this isn't the only reason for the catastrophic joblessness. "Their skills don't fit the market," explained Stefan Szajak, the director of Frankfurt's Jewish community, who is quite familiar with the issue. The mayor of Potsdam, Horst Gramlich, proffered another theory. Too few of the immigrants, he observed, have bothered to master the German language.

* * *

Halle, the birthplace of Georg Friedrich Handel, lies northwest of Leipzig, in the state of Saxony-Anhalt. The city, with a population of 290,000, grew fat on its famous salt springs, which have since run dry.

The *Hallmarkt,* Halle's imposing market square, is dominated by five steepled towers, the most notable being the medieval Red Tower, which houses what is possibly the world's biggest carillon. By foot, the Red Tower is minutes away from the Handel House, a museum, concert hall and research centre which celebrates the genius of the composer.

Halle's other claim to fame is the late-Gothic Moritzburg castle, which, since 1897, has been a museum and art gallery. During the Third Reich, German expressionist paintings decried as "degenerate" were removed from the premises, but have since been restored to their place of honor.

When the Nazis cracked down on "degenerate" art in 1937, the Jewish community in Halle consisted of several hundred persons. Scores had already left , driven out by persecution.

The synagogue was destroyed on Kristallnacht. In its place now is a yellow brick Holocaust monument. It was erected by the East German government in 1988, on the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht, at Jerusalmer Platz.

Having been reduced to a remnant of some 50 Jews by 1966, the community has grown to 250 persons today, all but one of whom are from former Soviet republics.

The sole exception, Eli Gampel, is the community's blustery leader. He was born in Stuttgart 36 years ago, the son of Polish Jews. A real estate developer, he settled in Halle in 1989 for business reasons. He met his wife — a Ukrainian Jew — here, and they have two children.

Despite its size, the community lacks little, being served by an Orthodox synagogue, a cemetery, a kosher restaurant and a butcher. Its permanent rabbi was recruited from Israel, with which Gampel has close ties. He served in the Israeli army, and in 1982, he was wounded during the war in Lebanon.

As in Potsdam, the unemployment rate in Halle is disastrously high, with at least one-third of the Jewish newcomers being idle. Nevertheless, 100 new Soviet immigrants are expected to arrive within six months.

Gampel has nothing but disdain for the Reform-oriented community which sprang up in Halle after the war. As he put it, "I have nothing against liberal Judaism, so long as it's not here." With indignation, Gampel claims that the former chair of the community, Karin Mylius, was the daughter of a Nazi official. The story, though bizarre, appears to be true.

Neo-Nazism has reared its ugly head in Halle. In 1992, the cemetery was vandalized, and two years ago, Gampel was shot at by a skinhead. But these events have not inhibited the growth of a new Jewish community.

IN MEMORY

TO THE IDF SOLDIERS צ"ל
IN THEIR SELFLESSNESS AND
UNCONDITIONAL COMMITMENT
TO THE DEFENSE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

EL AL

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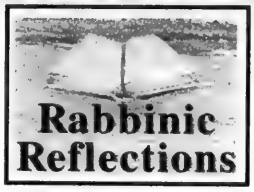


Organizing shul life

By RABBI WAYNE ALLEN

There are two assumptions with which I begin. First, trends in the United States are not only instructive in themselves but harbingers of Canadian trends. Second, what is true about the majority of churchgoers is equally true of the majority of synagogue worshippers given a similar cultural background and spiritual grounding.

With these two assumptions in mind, I contend that the important analysis in Charles Trueheart's report on what is called "The Next Church" (*Atlantic Monthly*, 1996) should have a profound influence on the way we organize synagogue life for the foreseeable future.

The Next Church, as the independent and entrepreneurial congregations adopting new contemporary forms of worship and belonging might be called, has become an amazing American phenomenon. There are only 400 such churches in total, but they are the fastest growing type of churches in the United States. At a time when half of American Protestant churches have fewer than 75 congregants, these mega-churches number their members in the thousands.

What makes them successful is their market-driven approach to membership. They offer social services as much as religious services. A sampling of one particular congregation's morning programs includes, a seminar on effective single-parenting, 12-step recovery programs by category, a parents of adolescents meeting, a class for engaged couples, a seniors meeting, a women in the workplace branch, women's Bible study, a baseball league, grief support, music and dance workshops, and a belonging class for new members. The wide range of activities reflects the Next Church's desire to capture a market share in its nets of activities. In one church, the three questions that the leaders continually ask are: What is our business? Who is our customer? What does the customer consider value?

The large size and budgets of these churches allow them to provide the kinds of programs and services that smaller churches simply cannot offer. The ultimate question that these huge enterprises face is how to keep up this torrid pace of growth and tremendous expansion without running the risk of alienation and depersonalization that comes with size.

One pastor, understanding the problem well, responded that churches can get bigger and bigger as long as they keep getting smaller and smaller. He goes on to say that "people come to church to be touched, to belong...we form local congregations as if they were clubs and we behave as if they were clubs."

One way the Next Church achieves this goal is by insisting that all the small group services being provided *for* people who attend are provided *by* the people who attend. In other words, membership involvement is critical.

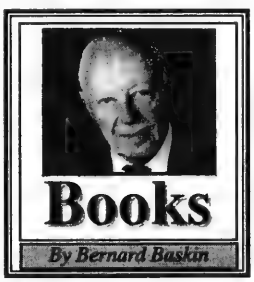
Membership involvement is important from another perspective too. The Next Church has concluded that Americans attend church for different reasons than they did a generation or two ago. Then, attendance was determined by habit and heritage. Now, however, attendance is determined by commitment to what is meaningful. People — especially the young — won't attend out of conformity. They will only attend when they feel a commitment and commitment comes from meaningfulness.

By enlisting members in the service of other members and the community, the church leaders endow people with responsibility and the feeling that they are needed. The feeling they contribute builds commitment, and commitment spells attendance.

There is one final element that is worth considering. The Next Church begins with the premise that you give the customer what he or she wants. But it doesn't end there. Giving them what they want is only the bait to give them what they need and what they didn't think they wanted. And that still remains the spiritual and religious objective.

Rather than find reasons why this prescription of building bigger and better religious institutions cannot and does not apply to the Jewish community, it would be far better to extract those ideas that make good sense and adapt them to the synagogue. There is something here worth learning.

Rabbi Allen is the spiritual leader of Beth Tikvah Synagogue and past president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis.



An amusing tale

Birth, Death and Other Trivialities **by Marcel Strigberger (Three Beans Press, California, $14.95).**

What makes us laugh? It's a puzzle. Even the philosophers and psychologists don't know. In any case, we all insist that we have a sense of humor. An unknown realist wrote, "Men will confess to treason, murder, arson, false teeth or a wig. How many of them will own up to a lack of humor?" Mark Twain remarked that humor is often the best way to have people take things seriously and that everything is funny as long as it happens to somebody else.

Mel Brooks found a Jewish answer to the meaning of humor. He wrote, "Look at Jewish history; unrelieved lamenting would be intolerable, so for every 10 Jews beating their breasts, God designated one to be crazy and amuse the breast-beaters. By the time I was five, I knew that I was that one." For some perceptive observers, humor is to be found everywhere. Art Buchwald wrote, "Just when you think there's nothing to write about, Nixon says, 'I am not a crook.' Jimmy Carter says, 'I have lusted after women in my heart.' President Reagan says, 'I have just taken a urinalysis test, and I am not on dope.'"

Marcel Strigberger, a practising Toronto lawyer, is a "whimsical humorist" who has performed as a stand-up comic. He has also written humorous articles for national newspapers and legal magazines, and contributed to radio and television comedy.

Birth, Death, and Other Trivialities deals in an amusing and quasi-philosophical fashion with a variety of topics: sex, the meaning of life, the quest for happiness, Bible and religion, lawyers and doctors — and many others. His method is not the crushing one-liner, or biting satire, but brief, discerning essays that reveal the absurdities and paradoxes of everyday life.

Commenting on a widespread human failing, he suggests, "If you want to make your friends happy, put yourself into the hospital with some illness. Show them you're down and out. If, however, you're down and out on your luck and you want to depress your friends, throw a lavish party. Bring on a great show of opulence. This will upset them royally. Notwithstanding the Ninth Commandment, the tendency of human nature is still to covet one's neighbor's wife, husband, manservant, maidservant, donkey, ass and Cadillac. Conversely, the tendency is to feel better if one hears the neighbor has had a setback or two."

On the victory of David over Goliath, Strigberger has his own commentary. "What impresses me the most about the duel was not that little David won...the big trick here was that once Goliath came crashing down with a headache, the Philistines, who vastly outnumbered the Hebrews, kept their part of the bargain and said, 'Okay, we're out of here. Fair is fair. It's cricket.' The number two man could just as well have said, 'Hey, wait a minute. There's nothing in writing confirming this deal.' Lucky thing for the Hebrews there were not lawyers around, yet."

BOBOVER REBBE HONORED

Rabbi Shlomo Halberstam, the Bobover Rebbe (centre) is shown at a dinner in his honor with his son Rabbi Ben Zion Halberstam (left), and his secretary, Rabbi Beigel, at the North York home of Alan Seidenfeld, during a recent fundraising visit to Toronto. The rebbe is the leader of the Bobover Chassidim and has followers all over the world, including in Israel, Belgium, England, the United States and Canada. In Toronto, Bobov Torah Institutions include a shul, an elementary school, a kollel, a yeshivah for Russian boys and a newly founded high school. There is also a Bobov shul in Montreal. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

More music on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

In the last column of the Jewish Highway, we began our look at Jewish music on the Internet. Today, we continue by looking at music from Israel with everything from classical to the latest popular groups to Jewish rock.

The Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs has prepared a very good overview about the importance that music has played in the history of Israel **[http://www.israelmfa.gov.il/facts/culture/fcult4.html].**

For the past 60 years, the "Palestine Orchestra" and then the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra **[http://www.icl.co.il/p/pilarmon/hisen.htm]** has woven itself into the fabric of Israel. From Arturo Toscanini to Leonard Bernstein to Zubin Mehta, the Philharmonic has played under the baton of some of this century's best conductors.

Although it is not as well known as the Philharmonic, the New Israeli Opera has already made a somewhat controversial mark on the country's music. According to its own candid Website **[http://www.israelopera.co.il/profile.htm#his]** the Opera opened to much local criticism over acoustic problems and questions about its very existence. Apparently the Opera has acted on those complaints and things have calmed down.

If you'd rather listen to some music than read about it, then go to the Israeli-Jewish-Yiddish-Hebrew-Folk-Cultural Music Midi Free Library **[http://members.aol.com/israelmidi/index.html]**. OK, the name is a bit of a mouthful, but this is a superb library of over 100 popular tunes. You'll find an eclectic assortment of tunes ranging from *Erev Shel Shoshanim* and Arik Einstein's *Uf Gozal* to *Exodus* and four versions of Hatikvah. Speaking of which, you can find sheet music and lyrics to the National Anthem at the Jewish Swedish site appropriately named Hatikva **[http://www.algonet.se/~hatikva/anthem.html]**.

And if you're up for it, take a listen to the very energetic Lenny Solomon, the self-proclaimed "King of Shlock Rock" at J-Rock **[http://www.virtual.co.il/music/jrock/]**. Lenny plays Jewish tunes like *Shalom Aleichem* and *Emunah* (faith) set to upbeat, rock beats. You'll need RealAudio **[http://www.realaudio.com/products/player/download.html]** to listen to J-Rock.

If you've been inspired by all this music and want to play some of your own, you may want to strum a few notes on a replica of David's Harp **[http://www.virtual.co.il/arts/harrari/kinnor.htm]**. Micah and Shoshanna Harrari have crafted a harp or 10-string Kinnor based on the kind played in the time of King David.

Harps and inspirational tunes certainly have their place, but they are not what you will normally hear if you turn on the radio in Israel today. To find out about that kind of music, go to Radio Hazak: Israeli Music on the Web **[http://www.well.com/user/yudel/f-rwelc.html]**. This large site has many interactive areas where you can discuss and debate the best and worst that Israel's pop artists have to offer.

Also worth a visit is Israel Music Online **[http://www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Alley/5895/]**. Despite its name, you won't find any online music here, but you will find links to hit artists Achinoam Nini (Noa), Ethnix and Mashina (mostly in Hebrew.) The SABRA Music Centre **[http://www.sabranet.com/sabramusic.html]** offers short excerpts of some popular groups. (You'll need the free Internet Wave player **[http://www.vocaltec.com/iwave.htm]** to hear these music files.)

And if you still are looking for more links about Israeli and Jewish music, then check out both the Jewish/Israel Culture-Link Launcher **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/culture.html#music]** and the Maven Music page **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx196.htm].**

Oh yes... it would be derelict of me to conclude the column without mentioning the one song most identified with both the State of Israel and hockey game organists — *Hava Nagilah* **[http://members.aol.com/israelmidi/havanagi.mid]**. For a history of the song many people love and many others love to ignore, take a look at **[http://www.well.com/user/yudel/Havahist.html].**

Forget *Hava Nagilah*? Hora of horas!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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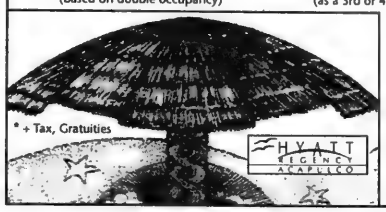

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PRESENTS

Quebec Nationalism: What Does It Mean for the Future of 'Ethnics and Money'?

Sunday, February 23 at 7pm

After former Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau blamed 'Ethnics and Money' for the Yes side defeat in the October 1995 referendum, the question for the almost 100,000 Quebec Jews still remains an urgent one. Should they start packing their suitcases and abandoning their homes? Should Toronto prepare for a new onslaught of Montrealers?
Our panel of high profile and outspoken Montreal "movers and shakers" share their insights on this vital issue.

Speakers:

Marcel Coté-Economist and co-founder of SECOR Consulting, and an outspoken federalist.

Michael Goldbloom-President and Publisher of The Gazette. Montreal's last remaining anglophone newspaper.

Robert Vineberg-Senior partner national law firm of Goodman Phillips & Vineberg.

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STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Blaming today's kids should be resisted

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

The Torah relates that one of Noah's first activities in the aftermath of the Flood is to plant a vineyard and drink wine; he then falls into a state of intoxication. Shortly thereafter, we are told that Noah has shed his clothing in the midst of his bout of drunkenness and that his son Ham looks at the "nakedness of his father."

This brief episode characterizes an essential human tension that is particularly reflective of the fundamental dilemma of contemporary Jews.

Our century has also experienced a cataclysmic destruction — of Jewish millions, at the savage hands of Nazism. One could argue that post-war Jewry is still trying to recover from the effects of the immense devastation wrought between 1933 and 1945. Looking to erect a new existence out of the ashes of the Holocaust, Jews have become successful in many areas of business and professional life; we have planted "vineyards" in an attempt to obtain relief from the awful past and move towards a better future. However, as the great 11th-century commentator Rashi points out, Noah "should have occupied himself first with planting something *different*."

The result of Noah's action, his lack of discerning analysis about precisely what his first priority should be when forging a new life for himself and his family, is that he is left exposed to the wanton gaze of his son. This is an act that metaphorically conveys a rebellion not just against his father, but also against the idea of his father as an authority, as a guide or a teacher of life. Ham's lack of filial piety may be understandable; he desires to look freely at or into anything. But the price paid for his shameless curiosity is that he can no longer uphold reverence for his father, and for this he encounters the Torah's condemnation.

The choice for Jews today is a difficult one, and in many respects is akin to the position of Ham. As the noted American physician/philosopher Leon Kass has noted, in our generation we have seen how Judaism, too, has been symbolically "uncovered," as many Jews struggle to maintain respect for or pay any heed at all to the tradition of their fathers and mothers. We desire to have little restraint placed upon us, and as fully integrated members of Western liberal democracy we are by now used to questioning and challenging any claim to hierarchy, authority, traditional wisdom. "Uncovering the father" (whether in the sense of our families or other authorities) is almost a natural legacy for us. Respect, honor, awe — the building blocks of religious fidelity — have become increasingly archaic terms in modern life.

In my time as an educator, I have watched as parents consistently bemoan the decline in the values of today's young people and nostalgically point to an earlier time when children knew right from wrong." But blaming today's kids is a temptation that should be resisted; in truth, matters are far more complex.

As parents it is we who often find ourselves choosing the vineyards of Western culture — sports and entertainment; secular schools; professional achievement as the ultimate priority — and it is we who must therefore reckon with the fruit of that vine. Can we allow children to indiscriminately "gaze at everything" around them and at the same time expect them to see as their *chief priority* — informing and underlying all of their other pursuits — the maintenance of religious values? That is the crucial question we must ask as we step into the next century, and our answers will tell a lot about what kind of Judaism our sons and daughters will plant in the years to come.

Teen years time of great change, Parent Fair told

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *Get Out of My Life But First Take Me to the Mall*. According to child psychologist Dr. Gerard Klein, this current book title sums up teenagers' attitudes toward their parents.

Klein spoke on The Terrible Teens at Aish HaTorah's recent Parenting Fair, held at the organization's Thornhill facility.

"They want to be separate from you, but they want you to be there for them," Klein explained.

The teenage years, he said, are a time of great change, not just physiological and hormonal, but in terms of sensory and perceptual function.

The rapid mood swings reflect those tremendous changes, when, for instance, even the senses of smell and sight are heightened and can change from minute to minute.

They are also developing the ability to think and argue logically, and practise this new skill on you. "And they are better at it than you are — if they want to argue something with you, just sit down, because they will be better at it than you are."

It is possible to survive teenage children, Klein promised, by following guidelines he summed up as "support, communication, trust and being positive."

Don't always try for the last word, he advised. Decide what is important, and make your stands on those issues. "In my view, if it is not life-threatening, it's not important."

Be open to your teens' concerns, he said. Don't brush them off by saying they shouldn't worry.

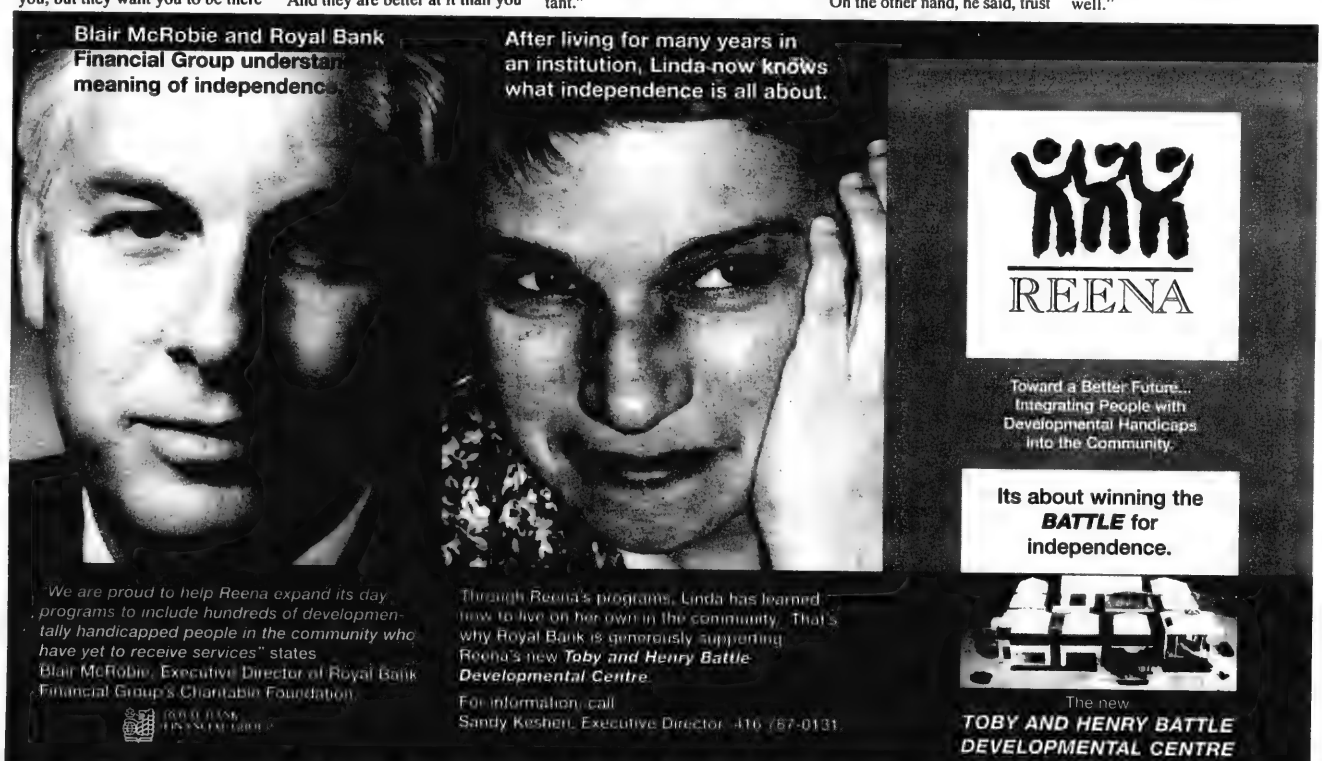
As well, be ready and open for those times they want to talk to you, even if it isn't at a convenient time. "They are immediate thinkers," he said, and it is important for parents to be there when they are needed.

Trust your kids, he said. "If they have been taught good family values and there are good family dynamics, they will do the right thing."

On the other hand, he said, trust your instincts. If, after careful observation, you seriously suspect your teenagers are involved in drugs, for instance, take action.

Make sure there is positive interaction between the teenager and the rest of the family, whether it be in the context of the Shabbat table or family meetings, he advised. This should not be a time for putting the teenager down.

Remember, he said, "your teenager will grow out of this [stage]. Ninety per cent of them do well."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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 13, is deadline for Feb. 27 issue and Thursday, Feb. 20, is deadline for March 6. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Feb. 15

MELAVA MALKA

Tzivos HaShem Canada Melava Malka Coffee House to welcome Mashiach featuring chassidic recording artist **Moshe Yess**, 8:30 p.m., Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. $15/person, $25/couple. 450-7815.

Sunday, Feb. 16

WHO NEEDS WRITERS?

Temple Sinai adult education committee presentation, Who Needs Writers? with lawyer/author **Morley Torgov**, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

ABOUT PURIM

Learn about Purim with **Elliott Malamet**, teacher of ethics and rabbinics, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bloor JCC. Sponsored by Bloor JCC and Downtown Jewish Community School. 924-6211.

GAY MARRIAGES

Under the Chupah — The Issue of Gay Marriages, a series of films presented by Congregation Keshet Shalom in association with the Jewish Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Archives, 3 p.m., Bloor JCC. Films include recent NBC program *Turning Point*. Suggested donation $3. 925-1408.

SJA ADULT EDUCATION

Secular Jewish Association adult education series, Humanism in the Talmud, pot-luck dessert, 7:30 p.m., Goldfinger's, 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill. Non-members $8. RSVP 364-7002.

A TOUCH OF KLEZ

A Touch of Klez featuring klezmer and Yiddish swing songs with the Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band and vocalist **Faye Kellerstein,** at the North York Winter Carnival, 12:30 p.m., Memorial Hall stage, Mel Lastman Square.

Monday, Feb. 17

YAD BEYAD

Yad Beyad is an adult volunteer program in Israel. Teach conversational English to new immigrants during the month of July. Training provided prior to departure. Orientation 8 p.m. at 3 Pearwood Cres. RSVP **Katy** 221-7384 or **Sheila** 445-4554.

JWI TIKVAH CHAPTER

Jewish Women International Tikvah chapter program, Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom, with registered massage therapist presentation and on-site massage demonstration, 8 p.m. **Sharyn** 631-7585.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

BETWEEN STAGES

Between Stages, Playwrights Reading Workshop, **Sean Reycraft's** *Einstein and the Relativity of Dreams*, 8 p.m., Bloor JCC.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

HEALTH CARE

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood series on Women's Health Issues presents Alternate Approaches to Health Care, with **Dr. Jacques Bradwejn**, Clark Institute of Psychiatry; **Rabbi John Moscowitz**, Holy Blossom, and **Ruth Ann Baron**, Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, 8 p.m. at the temple.

THE JEWISH SOUL

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda continuing education presents The Battle for the Jewish Soul with **Julius Ciss**, founder of Jews for Judaism, who will explain how to be aware of tactics employed by missionary groups. 8 p.m.

WELLNESS EDUCATION

Wagman Centre Wellness Education Group presents Skin Care and Changes As We Age with **Dr. Michael G. Davis**, consultant, Mount Sinai and Branson hospitals, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Register by Feb, 18. $2 for guests. 785-2500, ext. 2267.

FILM SERIES

Holy Blossom Temple's annual

[Cont'd on page 17]

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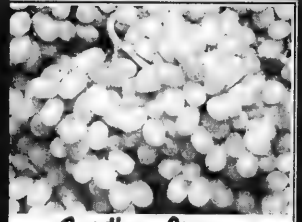

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4.49 lb.

Seedless Cucumbers
Product of Ontario, Canada No. 1, Greenhouses
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Whole Tilapia
Fresh!
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5.99 lb.

Kedem Grape Juice
Concord or White
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What's New

[Cont'd from page 16]

Winter Film Series features *Singing in the Dark* (1954) starring **Moishe Oysher**, commentary before the film by film critic/historian **Richard Rotman**, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Women's Institute of Torah Study series, Feminine Images of the Bible with **Rochie Wagner** continues with Enlightening the Soul, 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Drive. $4. 881-2012.

And What Else Is New

JEWISH TORONTO 1900-1930

Temple Sinai adult education committee Sunday morning presentation Feb. 23, features **Harold Troper**, professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, speaking on Portrait of Village Images of Jewish Toronto 1900-1930. 10 a.m. 487-4161.

MACCABI MASTERS

Victor Salem, national chair in Montreal of Maccabi Canada's Master's program for athletes aged 35 and up, announces prospective athletes have until Feb. 15 to make arrangements if they hope to find a place on the plane. Master's events include golf, squash, swimming, tennis, track and field. 514-334-7533.

FRIEDMAN IN CONCERT

United Jewish People's Order presents **Michael Friedman** in concert, in a program of Yiddish and international folksongs and contemporary music, Saturday, 8 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Co-sponsored by Morris Winchevsky Community School. $10 in advance (reservations), $12 at door. 789-5502.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel, Mississauga, events: Saturday, Feb. 15, Grade 1 family program; Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, Feb. 23, learn about mitzvah of acting as hagbah or gabbai; book review Monday, Feb. 24, *The Sacrifice*; Friday, Feb. 28, new members Oneg Shabbat; Seniors Group is planning a bus trip to Casino Rama in Orillia, $20 including lunch, **Gert Lutsky**, 905-858-8726; ACPR course offered in the Spring, $33. Family services Fridays Feb. 14 and 28, 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.; Regular services Friday, Feb. 21, 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 22. 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan 7 a.m. followed by breakfast. 905-820-5915.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818;

Parenting Series, Are Your Children Stressed Out? with **Sarah Chana Radcliffe**, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 8:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 9499 Clark Ave. $40/couples, $30/person. Pre-register.

Exploring the Two Tablets That Changed the World: The Meaning and Relevance of the Ten Commandments — From Belief in G-d to Honoring Thy parents, from Jealousy to Murder, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel**, 8 p.m.

AT BETH TZEDEC

Beth Tzedec Men's Club breakfast Sunday, Feb. 23, features a musicale in celebration of Jewish Music Month with **Cantor Paul Kowarsky** and the Beth Tzedec Choir under the direction of **Gordon Kushner** in a program of compositions rarely sung during services. Services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30 and program at 10.

Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library presents The Yiddish Theatre and Its Influence on the Broadway Musical with singer/musicologist **Faye Kellerstein** accompanied by **Jordan Klapman**, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m.

TEMPLE SINAI SINGLES

Temple Sinai Singles evening of wine tasting for singles 30-45, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 8 p.m. $10. Reserve. Temple 487-4161.

BOOK REVIEW CLUB

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood and the Smuschkowitz Library committee Book Review Club with literary agent **Helen Heller,** 11 a.m.Sundays: Feb. 23, *Alias Grace* by **Margaret Atwood**; April 6, *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels**; May 25. *You Went Away* by **Timothy Findley**. $18 per series for members, $24 per series for non-members.

CAREGIVERS WORKSHOPS

Senior Care hosts three workshops dealing with issues facing caregivers, Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m. at Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave., 4th floor. $25 . 635-2860, ext. 460:

Feb. 19, Wills, Powers of Attorney and Tax Planning, accountants **Lori Shapiro** and **David Fabian** and lawyer **Lawrence Shapiro**.

March 5, Ethical Concerns That Arise When Caring for the Elderly, nurse/ethicist **Kathy Carlin.**

March 19, Accessing Community Services and Resources, social worker **Jackie Fabian**.

DEALING WITH ANGER

Dealing With Anger: For Men group to explore anger and help men better understand their feelings of anger, begins Feb. 27. **Gail Gould**, Jewish Family & Child Service 638-7800, ext 241.

THE LAW AND YOU

Na'amat Canada-Toronto offers four seminars, The Law and You, Tuesdays 7:45 p.m. at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. $36 four sessions, $10 single session. Proceeds toward the care of children and women in distress. **Lorraine Levine** 636-5425.

Feb. 18, Consumers Protection, presented by CLASP, legal aid clinic at Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

March 18, Surviving Separation, family lawyer **Lauren Stringer.**

April 15, The Young Offenders Act: Who is the Victim? lawyer **Mary Birdsell.**

May 6, Plan for Tomorrow Today, estate planning lawyer **Victoria Winter.**

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, begins Feb. 19; The Self-Confident Woman, begins Feb. 25; Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together, begins March 26. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext 215.

ONEG SHABBAT

Beach Hebrew Institute pot-luck dinner, Oneg Shabbat service and entertainment, Friday, Feb. 21, 6 p.m., 109 Kenilworth Ave. Please bring vegetarian dish or dessert. 694-7942.

LONDON NEWS

London Community Hebrew Day School 30th anniversary celebration and fundraiser with silent auction and the comedy show *A Guilt-Free Night of Jewish Humor* with **Larry Horowitz** and **Lou Eisen** from Yuk Yuk's, Saturday, March 1, 7:30 p.m., London Jewish Community Centre. $25/person. **Bev** 519-858-0311.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m.Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 20 program is the movie *Mogambo* starring **Clark Gable** and **Ava Gardner. Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip, all inclusive, March 5-26. The musical *Dames at Sea* in Buffalo June 1, and *Camelot* at Stratford Sept. 17. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Tuesday, March 4, blood pressure clinic, noon to 2 p.m., members only: Sunday, March 23, dance to music of live band; March 31-April 1, Atlantic City; Thursday, April 3,pre-Passover shopping in Buffalo; Sunday, May 4, bazaar, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; May 13-15 Ottawa Tulip Festival. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler** Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Feb. 19 program is bingo. **Anna.**

The movie *Holiday in Mexico*, Sunday, Feb. 16, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday social Feb. 19 features songs in many languages with **Marat Maksutov** 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880:

Senior Adult Services introduction to A Driver's Refresher Course for Mature Drivers, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1 p.m., **Teme** ext. 364.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance for Seniors in cooperation with Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario. Income guidelines $15,000 no dependents, $22,500 with dependents. By appointment only, Tuesdays March 4-April 1. **Teme.**

Arts Plus, professional training in dance, visual art, music, drama for children ages 8-14 during the summer 1997 through the Koffler Centre of the Arts. ext. 378.

Fun Centre, art, sports and pool birthday parties bookings for March and April. ext. 248.

Limited Toddler Daycare spaces (18 months to 2½). ext. 248.

BLOOR JCC

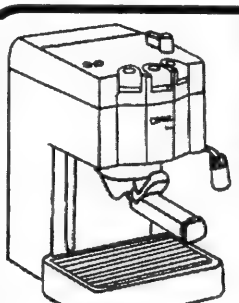
Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211

Sex and Deception in the Bible —Tamar, David, Yael, Ruth — did our models of righteous behavior use sexuality to deceive and manipulate others to achieve their goals? Downtown Jewish Learning Council presents **Adele Reinhartz**, associate professor of Bible Studies, McMaster University, Thursday, Feb. 13, 8-9:30 p.m. Reserve.

Senior's Club meetings, Thursdays 2 p.m.: Feb 13 **Rabbi Irwin Beigel** speaks on Reflections on Jewish Prayer; Feb. 20, afternoon tea party and birthday party for winter birthdays. **Judy.**

ALPHA OMEGA-TEL AVIV U CAMPAIGN

At the reception to kick off the new Alpha Omega-Tel Aviv University Focus on the Future Campaign are (from left) Dr. Ira Schecter, Canadian Campaign chair; Dr. Ben Williamowsky, co-chair, International Campaign; Dr. Iliana Eli of Tel Aviv University's Dental School; and Ralph Rothstein, co-chair, International Campaign.



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Greater Toronto Area

Where is the anger over war-time atrocities?

By MICHAEL LEBOVIC

I was just one of many Canadian Jews, I suspect, who tuned in to watch *60 Minutes on* Feb. 2. The press had been talking about a special segment dealing with Nazis in Canada. Not that I really expected to learn anything new. I was quite certain I knew it all. I was wrong.

Guest Voices

Wrong about what I knew, and very wrong about what I would feel. I thought I would sit in while Mike Wallace exposed "Canada's shame." I wanted to see what the rest of the world would see. Somehow this exposure would satisfy me. The government would get its comeuppance. The wheels of justice would be jarred loose, to perhaps finally turn towards long-delayed retribution.

Comparatively speaking, this was pretty light Holocaust material, but it left me more shaken than I have been for a long time. This is surprising, since on the face of it, the program didn't tell us anything new. I've always known of the Nazis in our midst; yet inexplicably, I've never looked too closely. These are not the "real" Nazis I told myself. I mean they are, but they aren't....They're probably card-carrying, tattooed flacks. Not actual killers, just haters.

Not so, says Steve Rambam, a brave young man who actually shook off the cobwebs of complacency and went looking for justice on his own. These men, he explains, are murderers whose hands are covered with blood. They stabbed, shot and beat to death countless victims. Why, I am so outraged, I actually move to the edge of my sofa. Someone will pay for this. Something will be done. But I sit back as I am overtaken with a feeling of helplessness.

The most chilling moment in the segment was when Wallace played back a tape of an interview Rambam had with one of Canada's "old men" in British Columbia. The man and his wife calmly related how they organized the shooting of thousands of victims in Latvia. He finished his tale by stating quite matter of factly: "On Nov. 9 at 1 p.m., no more Jews."

This old man died in his own bed last week at the age of 90. He had a full, comfortable peaceful life. According to the Wiesenthal Centre, there are approximately 1,800 of these animals living in Canada. Were each one brought to justice tomorrow, all would have lived the same full life the old man in British Columbia did.

Am I not somehow responsible, I wonder. Why haven't I mounted unceasing protests? Why haven't I wailed and screamed in a most uncivilized manner, until the government said, "Enough, we'll finally do what's right"? Why haven't we all? The Mishnah tells us that a Jew needs "the chutzpah of a leopard." Where is our chutzpah, our anger, our righteous indignation? I'm not talking about organizations now. I'm not referring to committees and commissions. I mean all of us ordinary members of the Jewish community. What makes us tick that it allows us to be so incredibly creative and ambitious in other areas, yet so complacent in this one? Are we so law abiding, do we depend that much upon the system, are we so religious that we look only to G-d for vengeance?

I recognize how busy we all are. There is work, and car pool, shul and shopping, meetings to attend, papers that have to be read, news stations that have to be watched. And then, of course, there are the deadlines. Whether its a job, on a shul committee, taxes, RRSPs, the list goes on and on. Could it be that with all this activity, we've left ourselves no time to think, to analyse, to react? Is this why we're immobile against our sworn openly unrepentant enemies?

Irving Abella recounted Pierre Trudeau's response to his query on government inactivity in this area. According to Abella, Trudeau was quite frank about his unwillingness to take action. He would not risk open conflict, he said, between the Jewish community and other ethnic groups.

Good enough, but why couldn't an effort be made to enlist the help of those very ethnic communities, Ukrainian, Latvian, Lithuanian, among whom these murderers have chosen to hide? Clearly, we are not tarring them all with the same brush. There is no need for hostility when fellow Canadians work together to bring recognized perpetrators of genocide to justice. Somehow I cannot imagine another community being this tolerant.

Only G-d knows why there was a Holocaust. The human mind can barely comprehend those horrors that have been documented. Still, those who perpetrated these acts must pay. There will be a heavenly reckoning of course, but what of the children of Israel and their families whose paths these devils cross. Are we to ignore them?

Every day the newspapers carry another story of national opportunism and wartime theft, of the Swiss, the French, the Americans who "accidentally" bought victims' art. Then there's the German government, which has renounced Nazism forever and has paid out millions of dollars in reparations, yet still pays its aging murderers military benefits.

Here and there is a voice in the wilderness, a Beate Klarsfeld, a Simon Wiesenthal, plus a few other lonely voices straining to be heard. The rest seem to have put it behind them.

I'm not suggesting we don't care. We need only look at all the causes supported by the Jewish community: the Yom Hashoah events, the memorials and the museums. I'm just puzzled by the lack of human response.

I'm not promoting lawlessness, you understand, although an attack on a creature like this would be easily understood. We are a practical people who must weigh the present and future good against an act of revenge for the past. Still, I have to ask, where is the anger? If we can't get angry, how can anyone else?

Michael Lebovic, a child of Holocaust survivors, lives in Toronto.

War of words erupts

[Cont'd. from page 3]

courts, strict rules apply" with a strong tradition "concerning limits on pre-trial publicity...media and groups seeking to influence government and public opinion should not comment on the merits of cases before the courts."

Code's second letter did not satisfy Farber or Abella. Code did not retract his suggestions that Congress was involved in contempt of court or in orchestrating the prosecution of Oberlander, they said. "These are totally ridiculous charges and he doesn't deal with them in his letter," Abella said.

In other developments, Federal Court Justice Paul Rouleau has withdrawn from the case involving Oberlander and two other alleged war criminals after he contacted Amerasinghe to discuss scheduling matters.

"I think this is Alice in Blunderland," Abella stated. "Anything that could go wrong in the courts will go wrong."

Last March, a senior Justice Department official corresponded on scheduling matters with the chief justice of the Federal Court. Federal Court Justice Bud Cullen granted a request to stay the proceedings on the grounds of interference in judicial independence, but that decision was recently overturned by the Federal Court of Appeal. Code's letter to Amerasinghe suggested Rouleau's call may be new evidence that he will seek to advance when appealing to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Meanwhile, a report compiled by a special unit of the Immigration Department found that Canada is a haven for at least 250 modern-day war criminals from countries like Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia. Many have found a home in Canada despite being refused refugee status and despite an attempted government crackdown, the *Sunday Sun* reported.

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CHAT students bring moderation message to peers

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's cool to say no. Taking just one drink – or no drink – is OK, even if you're a teenager.

That is the message students from the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) brought to children from its feeder schools last fall.

Working in teams of four, 28 youngsters in grades 10 and 11 went to grade seven and eight classes at the Bathurst and Bayview branches of United Synagogue Day School (USDS) and Bialik with a program of discussion groups, role playing, a video and games.

The message was moderation, and being able to make sensible choices, explained CHAT guidance counsellor Joy Cohen.

The CHAT students were taught by Gail Diamond of Parents Against Drugs (PAD), using material from the organization's Challenges, Beliefs and Changes peer education program.

The youngsters made a sizable investment of time, Cohen said, explaining that the training session lasted two full days, and was followed by planning sessions, and then the three one-hour sessions with grade seven and eight students.

The USDS and Bialik students were very responsive, Cohen said, partly, according to reaction reports, because the presenters were close to their age, and partly because they were a link to the schools the younger students would probably be attending.

Also, because teachers were not present during the presentation, "the kids felt freer to talk about their own experiences," Cohen said.

Cohen said CHAT hopes to train another 28 students next year, and send them out to the feeder schools which have expressed an interest in the PAD program. As well, those of the original group who wish to repeat their experience can do so.

CHAT students who took part in an anti-drinking, anti-drug program: [From left, back row] Marilyn Bromberg, Neil Joseph, Mark Joffe, Jeffrey Silver, Josh Freeman, Jonathan Shapero, Evan Zaretsky, Eric Stutz, Hillel Maresky. [Middle row] Mark Ross, Ayala Berman, Laura Godfrey, Jennifer Schacter, Adena Scheer. [Front row] Hyla Robicsek, Elana Weintraub, Shauna Waltman, Leanne Campbell, Julie Weill, Lisa Ain.

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THE BORINS BEAT

It was through **Issy** (congrats on receiving the R. M. Taylor Award for your long-term support in the fight against cancer) & **Rosalie Sharp** and **Heather Hoffman** (co-chair of the festival's Gala) that I got to know about **ASHKENAZ '97** and its energetic Fundraising Director **Judy Litwack-Goldman** and of course, Communications Director, **Dianne Weinrib.** Let me assure you that if you enjoyed, as I did, the Yiddish luncheons at the old Primrose Club you'll want to be at Harbourfront Centre this summer. Congrats to the Gala's chair **Linda Frum** on her appointment to the board of the Ontario Arts Council. Watch this space as I continue to name names!!!

Be sure to ask **Max Berg** about his **LMOL** annual Valentine Dance on February 15th. Call **Sandy Burns** at 485-9453 for tickets.

Again, let me wish two of my favourite people, **Leslie Dan** & **Murray Koffler,** a wonderful happy birthday. I hear that **Moishe's Steak House,** of Montreal fame, is coming here by summer and we'll try to do lunch there.

Leave it to **Alan Heller** of **Universal Sound** fame to bring some more smiles to our community. Just ask Reena's **Gail Israel, D.D.E.,** about **Universal's** contribution to 10 years of **FUNDAY** and two of **MARDI GRAS.** He and **Stewart Sinukoff** are bringing some great Canadian comedians to the City of Vaughan, at the **CITY PLAYHOUSE . . .** on February 14th & 15th, right down the street from Reena's new **Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre.** Call (905) 709-4057 right now for tickets to these HBO-type specials and have a laugh on me.

What an extraordinary evening of fun and excitement. Thanks to **Maccabi Canada's Hockey Committee** including **Avrom Silver, Gerry Wilks, Frank Simkevitz, Ron Hoffman** and **Henry Zieleniec** for inviting us to the **Hockey Hall of Fame** in BCE place to celebrate. The 15th **Maccabiah** Games are in Israel July 14-24, 1997. Reena's 3rd annual **Mardi Gras** will be held March 29th at the same historic **Hockey Hall Of Fame.**

Seen recently at **United Bakers: Ab Flatt, Ralph Snow,** and in that corner, **Flory Lebow & Sheila Engel.** It was nice to congratulate Canadian Diabetes' executive director, **Leigh Parish** (taking out some great soup for her family & asking me about one of my pen pals, **Liz Taylor**) and her chief fundraiser, **Jim Bindon** on CDA's annual beer bottle empties day take of $177,000. It was started a few years ago with Brewers Warehousing when I had the **Wheat Sheaf Pub.** I pointed out **Charlotte Ackerman** and **Margaret Sack** to them.

As this is being written, **Reena** staff and volunteers will be caught up in the infectious spirit of the **Sixth Special Olympics World Winter Games.** Several years ago I was thrilled to be part of the Canadian public relations committee established in the prescence of the games patriarch **Sargent Shriver** and the late **Harry "RED" Foster.** Thanks to prez **Michael Latimer** for keeping in touch. The Oath of the Special Olympics is: **"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."** Sounds like the spirit of **REENA!!!**

Hey, CJN allowed me **500** words for this piece. the last word in this sentence is number **499.**

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in May, 1997. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss the dedication opportunities still available.

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BBYO maintains strong role for Jewish teens in Ontario

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Youth Organization's (BBYO) largest Canadian region wants everyone to know it's alive and kicking.

Because of a restructuring of the youth group last summer, under which BBYO Canada reverted to American supervision, the former Lake Ontario Region is now called, informally, the tri-council.

The region – essentially unchanged – takes in Ottawa and Kingston; Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y.; and has as its centrepiece the newly formed Greater Toronto Council (GTC), which comprises Toronto and environs, Hamilton, Kitchener and London.

In all, the region serves roughly 350 Jewish teens from grades 8 through 13, divided into Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA) for boys and B'nai Brith Girls (BBG). About 90 are from outside Toronto. Teen Connection is for boys and girls in Grade 7.

Leaders and members agree it's been a transition year for the Canadian arm of the organization, largely because BBYO Canada ceased to exist last summer due to a budget cut from B'nai Brith International in Washington, D.C.

As well, the position of BBYO Canada national director was retrenched, and three of the four Canadian BBYO regions were reorganized.

At the time, BBYO staff criticized the return to American supervision, saying that Canadian input was being lost.

But BBYO Canada existed, as such, for just three years. Prior to that, members' activities in this country were supervised from the United States, and that's the case again now.

B'nai Brith Canada stopped funding BBYO in 1991. Today, funding comes from membership dues, public fundraising and, locally, a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Recently, a local BBYO delegation, led by Greater Toronto Council director Stefanie Hofland, paid a visit to *The CJN*'s office to bring the public up to date.

BBYO is still the largest Jewish youth group in the world, with some 40,000 members in 1,500 chapters, Hofland noted. Its focus has not changed; the group still stresses Judaic programs, but it also has plenty of recreational, social, cultural and sporting events.

And even though BBYO has adult supervisors, both here and in the United States, the group is youth-led, Hofland stressed.

This month, the GTC sponsored an AZA basketball league. The winner will go on to sectional finals in New Jersey.

As well, a Wednesday night floor hockey league has been resurrected and a parent-teen dialogue in Toronto next month will look at anti-Semitism and prejudice.

The AZA will hold a brotherhood week in late March and there will be dance-a-thon April 5. A May trip to Buffalo is planned.

Hofland said Chabad has agreed to help BBYO with its Judaic programming.

Members are also busy with community work in hospitals.

The region is busy trying to start chapters in Peterborough and Oshawa.

For information, call BBYO at 416-635-9411.

(Above), BBYO tri-council director Stefanie Hofland and Michael Ross, Greater Toronto Council president of AZA; (below) tri-council co-presidents Brian Wasserman and Dahlia Katz.

Kosher Second Cup opens at BJC

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The only totally kosher Second Cup in the world is opening Feb. 20 at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC). It will be under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

To celebrate the event, at which patio tables with umbrellas will be added to the lobby, free coffee and refreshments will be served between 11 a.m. and noon.

"We're so excited about this new service," said BJC executive director Deborah Pinsky. "We're proud to be the first fully kosher Second Cup. The ones in Jerusalem and at Lawrence and Bathurst sell some kosher products. This will be the first Second Cup in any Jewish community centre in Canada.

"We will own the Second Cup operation in the Bathurst Jewish Centre and all profits will go to help us operate our programs here," said Pinsky.

Rabbi Mordecai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council, will cut the ribbon opening Second Cup at the BJC and many dignitaries, including Mayor Mel Lastman of North York, have been invited to attend.

The cafeteria at the BJC will continue to operate.

MADA volunteers get unique experience in Israel

By ROMAN ELINSON

Last summer I volunteered for the Canadian Magen David Adom Program in Israel (MADA). Four delegations of students were sent from Canada: one to Jerusalem, two to Tel Aviv (Tel Aviv and Ramat Gan) and one to Haifa. Each group had its share of unique experiences, but I think I speak for all of us when I say that we definitely got more than we bargained for.

We stayed in absorption centres for olim chadashim (new immigrants) in our respective locations. The Tel Aviv and Ramat Gan groups were put up in the swanky suburb of Ramat Aviv (of Israeli TV fame), just around the corner from the Tel Aviv University. The Jerusalem group stayed in Mevasseret Zion, just outside of the holy city, and the Haifa group spent their summer on the beach in Kiryat Yam.

We had a choice of morning, evening or graveyard shifts, each with its own characteristic charm. Some of us tried our hand at all of them, others stuck to a more regular routine. Many of the calls received were less than exciting, such as transfers to and from hospitals and nursing homes. But there were also shifts that really got our hearts pumping and the adrenaline running, moments that will remain in our memories for a long time. These were what we lived for.

Collectively, we witnessed heart attacks, strokes, asthma attacks, car accidents, motorcycle accidents, scooter accidents, limb amputations, electrocutions, suicide attempts, drug overdoses, broken bones, fires, high falls, low falls, stabbings, beatings, shootings and other traumas that would put any episode of *ER* to shame.

Make no mistake, it takes a brave heart and a strong stomach to be a medic with MADA. It isn't a picnic to have someone die in your arms after 15 minutes of vigorous CPR and 1,000 volts of electricity. On the other hand, there are few greater feelings than that of bringing a human being back to life — now that's making a difference.

Baby delivery

Our work on the ambulance was not limited to just trauma; some of us were lucky enough to assist in the delivery of a baby. Jay Wohlgelernter did such a good job he was invited to the brit!

There were lighter moments from time to time as well. Frank and Howie can tell you about their call to a wedding banquet where they got fed and received a generous tip for their efforts (all proceeds went to MADA, of course). Some patients had their own sense of humor. Like one not-so-sane lady who came marching into the ER with me arm-in-arm, kissed me and asked the bemused staff, "How does everyone like my new groom?" There also was the strong-constitutional stroke victim who insisted on a glass of whisky instead of the usual oxygen mask.

Besides the action, riding in an ambulance has other perks. You get to part traffic with the siren, go through red lights and drive on the wrong side of the road. You get discounts at the local sandwich bars and falafel stands, and you can blare the Macarena out the loudspeaker on Ben Yehuda Street between calls.

As with many summer programs in Israel, you make good friends, both with the people with whom you come to Israel and the people you meet there. There was quite a bit of camaraderie (to say the least) between the Canadian volunteers and the nahagim (ambulance drivers). We even got to use their "pelefones" from time to time.

Volunteering with MADA is hard work, but you get plenty of free time to travel, visit family or just frolic in the sun. There were two organized trips for the MADA crew, one to Jerusalem and one to northern Israel. Some people took the opportunity to do some travelling of their own, trek through the Sinai, tour Jordan and island-hop in Greece. All in all, the trip was a blast. We left with hopes and expectations and we came back with memories, life experiences, best friends and great resumes!

The Canadian Magen David Adom Program is arranged through the Israel Aliyah Centre.

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Tessis & Partners was founded in 1947 by Joseph Tessis, CGA, CA, who retired in 1987. For the past thirty-five years, its practice has been restricted to bankruptcy and insolvency matters including personal and corporate bankruptcies, proposals, assisting secured creditors, receiverships, crises management and corporate reorganization, debtor-creditor relations and dispute resolution.

Marva M. Brooks, CIP, CFAM, licensed trustee accompanies Mr. Tessis in the merger and has been appointed Vice-President of the new firm.

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גידי קורן וחברים

זכות ההצבעה של "ישראלים בחו"ל"

עוד אני שוהה בארץ במסע הרצאות קצר, פתאום ירדה עלי הידיעה המפתיעה, שחבר הכנסת מהליכוד הגיש הצעת חוק פרטית לאפשר לכל נושא דרכון ישראלי השוהה בחו"ל להצביע בבחירות בישראל על ידי הצבת קלפיות בקונסוליות. הנימוקים בעד היו שבכך ניתן יהיה להתגבר על החשפעה האלקטוראלית הגוברת של ערביי ישראל, וגם לקרב את ציבור היורדים לארץ ישראל. נימוק נכבד נוסף הוא שכך נוהגות מדינות רבות, כולל ארה"ב, שמאפשרות לנושאי דרכון לבחור גם מחוץ לגבולות הארץ. נימוקי הנגד גם הם כבדי משקל: רבים רואים בכך מתן לגיטימיות לירידה מהארץ, ובחוגי השמאל מאמינים שהליכוד מעוניין בחקיקה כזו מתוך אמונה שבקרב היורדים רבים יותר ה"פטריוטים", כלומר אלה שתומכים ב"יד חזקה בערבים" (ילא להחזיר אף שעל", ועל כן יצביעו לימין מה שלא יהיה. במדינה שבה המאזן בין ימין ושמאל כל-כך דק, יכולה למעשה קבוצת מצביעים חיצונית כזאת להכריע את הבחירות! אבל הטיעון העיקרי נגד מתן זכות בחירה ליורדים (ולשאר השוהים בחו"ל) הוא שאין לאפשר זכות הצבעה למי שאיננו שותף יומיומי בקשיים שם, שאינו הולך למילואים ושאינו שולח את ילדיו להילחם בגבול. יהיה זה אבסורד אם ישראלים בטורונטו ובניו יורק יכריעו את הכף על מלחמה/שלום, בעוד שהם דואגים לא לשרת בצבא ומונעים מילדיהם לעשות זאת. אלה הן כמובן בעיות, שאין לארה"ב איטליה או שאר המדינות שמאפשרות בחירה לאזרחיהם בחוץ. בבחירות האחרונות, שהסתיימו בהפרשים זעירים של חלקיקי אחוז בין נתניהו ופרס, נשמעו טענות שחוגים דתיים הטיסו לארץ מטוסים שלמים כדי להצביע עבור הימין. קל לתאר מה יקרה אם כל מי ששהה בארץ חודשיים, קיבל דרכון ועוד, יוכל להצביע. יתירה מכך: ישראל מחייבת כיום ילדים שנולדו בחו"ל להורים ישראליים לשאת דרכון ישראלי, וכך יוכל להצביע בבחירות בחור צעיר שלא ביקר מעולם בארץ! נחום ברנע, עיתונאי ידיעות אחרונות, תיאר מצב שבו קהילת היורדים תייסד מפלגה משלה ואולי אפילו תריץ מועמד שישפיע ישירות על הנעשה בארץ. מעבר לכל מה שנאמר למעלה, קיימת היום בארץ רגישות עצומה להשפעות של מיליארדרים יהודיים שתומכים בשלטון הימין, שמתערבים כיום ישירות במה שנעשה בארץ, שבונים שכונות בחברון ומשפיעים על תהליכים דמוקרטיים למרות שאינם חיים בארץ. כל אלה מולידים שחיתות ברמות שלא נודעו כמותן אפילו בישראל, שאין עובר בה שבוע בלי שהעיתונות או המשטרה חושפים שחיתות חדשה של בעלי ממון, תפקידים ושררה. קשה לדעת מה יצא מהצעת החוק הזו. בקריאה הטרומית היא עברה ברוב זעום, אבל מספר שרי ממשלה (יצחק מרדכי, זבולון המר) עזבו בבושה את אולם המליאה כדי שלא יאלצו לתמוך בהצעה שהיא בניגוד מוחלט לדעותיהם. כרגע נמצאת ההצעה בדיון בוועדת החוקה, חוק ומשפט, שהיו"ר שלה, חבר מפד"ל, מתנגד לה בכל תוקף.

מאחר והנושא הזה נוגע ישירות לכל אחד מיכם, קוראי הנאמנים, אשמח לפרסם את תגובותיכם. שלחו נא תגובות ל- CJN או לפאקס: 416-633-6557.

למי נתנה ההיסטוריה לבנות את השלום:

בקיץ 96 שאלתי את איתן הבר, מזכירו של יצחק רבין ז"ל, האם יוכל נתניהו לעצור/לסטות מתהליך השלום שנקבע בהסכם אוסלו. הבר קבע חד משמעית שלא, והוא כמובן צדק. די ברור היום שנתניהו יקיים את הסכם אוסלו במלואו. ובארץ שמעתי את המשפט הבא מעשרות רבות של ישראלים: תאר לך מה היה קורה אילו פרס היה צריך לפנות את חברון - היתה פורצת מלחמת אחים אמיתית! והינה, כשנתניהו מפנה את חברון, - איש אינו פוצה פה מלבד המתנחלים, ובכנסת הוא מקבל רוב מוחלט! כלומר: צריך ממשלת שמאל כדי לעשות מלחמה וממשלת ימין כדי לעשות שלום. זה מדהים, כי לאחר הבחירות האחרונות התאבלו רבים בינינו על שתחליך השלום אבוד, והינה באה ההיסטוריה ומוכיחה שהשינוי מפרס לנתניהו הוא כנראה הצ'אנס היחידי להשיג שלום בלי להסתכן במלחמת אזרחים בישראל!

FORTINOS

Your Supermarket with a Heart!

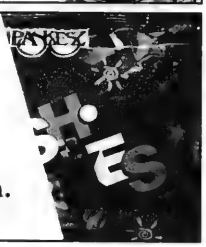
Fortinos Now Accepts ZAREINU DOLLARS in support of Zareinu Educational Centre for Children SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

LAWRENCE SQUARE

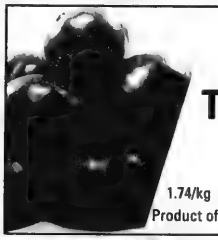
T.O. Blue Tortilla Chips 175 g pkg. .99 ea.

Beigel Sesame Seed Pretzels .89 ea. 200 g pkg. • sticks or rings

Croyden House Instant Chicken Soup Mix 1.69 ea. 5 oz. pkg.



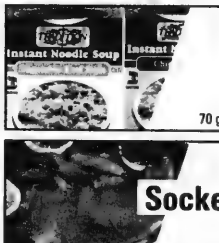
Noshkes Flavoured Snacks .33 ea. 40 g pkg.



Fresh VINE RIPENED Tomatoes .79 lb. 1.74/kg Product of Mexico • No. 1 Grade

Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets 5.99 lb. 13.21/kg

Fresh Atlantic SALMON STEAKS 5.49 lb.



Tradition Noodle Soup .89 ea. 70 g cups

Fresh from Florida Star Ruby Red Grapefruit 6/1.99 Product of U.S.A.

Smoked Nova Lox Sockeye Salmon 7.99 ea. 142 g pkg.

Glatt • Kosher Prime Rib Roasts or Steaks 7.59 lb. 16.73/kg

EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

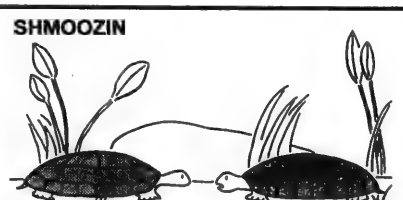
Prices effective Sunday, Feb. 9 thru Saturday, Feb. 15, 1997.

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

STORE HOURS

Monday to Wednesday	8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Thursday & Friday	8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m.-6 p.m.

SHMOOZIN



"Did you ever get the feeling that all your life you've just been schlepping along?"

After a fabulous year there's something we want to say...

David Engel
Campaign '97
Vice-Chairman

David Goldstein
Campaign '97
Chairman

Sandra Brown
President
UJA Federation

Vicki Campbell
Women's Campaign '97
Chair

Michael Daren
Campaign '97
Vice-Chairman

UJA Federation Campaign '97 has been a remarkable success.
You raised $35.5 million to help Jews in need here,
in Israel and around the world. You gave so many so much to believe in.

Thank you!

FOR OUR COMMUNITY. FOR ISRAEL. FOR OUR CHILDREN. FOREVER.

UJA FEDERATION

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

THE FRIENDLY GREEK

Treat yourself to a Greek holiday without getting on a plane. The authentic decor and the interesting and delicious food will leave you feeling like you've had a mini holiday. Start out with the calamari and maybe some humus. For your main course try the souvlaki available in lamb, chicken or beef accompanied by roasted potatoes, tzatziki sauce and a complimentary basket of garlic bread. End your perfect meal with Greek coffee. Book your parties, or call in for take out or delivery. We will make your evening an enjoyable experience.

7315 Yonge St. (north of Steeles)
Phone 416-310-4733
905-707-8579

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 11:00 am-11:00 pm
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-midnight
Wheelchair access

RICHMOND GRILL AND CAFÉ

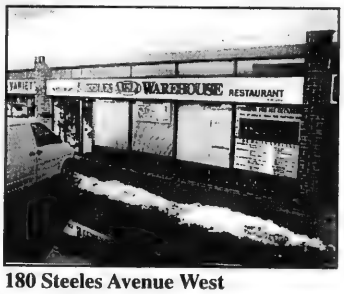
Richmond grill and café

Leslie Kubicek, former principle of Toronto restaurants Pronto and North 44, has opened the casual, easy-going Richmond Grill and Café in the heart of Richmond Hill. A bright open kitchen, lofty ceilings and art deco accents make the Richmond Grill a fun place to relax and enjoy lunch or dinner. Chef Kumar (formerly of Pronto and Jump) heads up the culinary team who's goal is to offer creativity and variety; from pizzas to grilled meats, fish to pastas and daily specials – all cooked to perfection ... of course! Lunches $4.95 and up; dinner entrees starting at $11.50. Tuesday nights – 'Tour of Italy'; Sunday nights 'We're Roastin', both at $10.95.

10165 Yonge Street
(north of Major Mackenzie on east side)
Phone 905-884-5155

Hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday
Lunch: Tues. to Fri. & Sun.
11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Dinner: Tues. to Sun. from 5 pm

STEELES DELI WAREHOUSE



This is an old-fashioned deli, whose relaxed family atmosphere, home-style cooking and traditional foods from latkes to knishes will remind you of Bubba's kitchen. The chopped sirloin dinner earns high praise; and people come specially for the liver and onions. Ninety percent of the customers are regular, on a first-name basis with the staff. Everything, including fresh bagels and kaisers, is prepared on the premises. Come once – say, to the hearty Sunday brunch – and you'll become a regular.

180 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-881-8366

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Sat.-Sun. 9:00 am-9:00 pm

GOLAN RESTAURANT

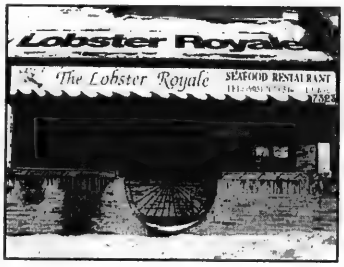
COR

Golan Restaurant offers a large Glatt Kosher menu including Israeli, Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Canadian delights. There are 45 appetizers and a wide variety of wines available to enhance your meal. Lunch specials including couscous, Moroccan fish, and BBQ quarter chicken start at $9.95. Dinners start at $12.50. Golan will cater your simcha or host your affair for as little as $25 per person. A warm and enjoyable family dining experience.

398 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-707-0330

Hours: Mon.–Thu. noon–10:00 pm;
Fri. noon–2:30 pm; Sat. one hour
after Shabbos ends till 11:00 pm;
Sun. noon–11 p.m.
Reservations recommended
Saturday night and Sunday
Wheelchair access to main floor

LOBSTER ROYALE

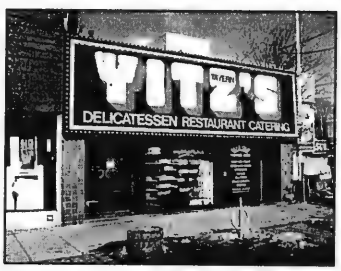


Valentine's Day is Lobster Royale's second anniversary; but Gus, owner and chef, brings to his art 25 years' experience. The lobsters which give Lobster Royale its name and fame range from one to two and a half pounds, live in the tank; other fine fish delicacies are Alaska King Crab Legs, Orange Roughy and Halibut Steak; and the meat menu includes Filet Mignon and New York Striploin. There is a certain tone here, not too formal; smart-casual dress goes well with fine table linen.

7323 Yonge Street
Phone 905-707-0546

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 5:00-10:00 pm
Reservations advised for groups
of 4 and up
Wheelchair access

YITZ'S DELICATESSEN



A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the cities best prices.

346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

Hours: 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Take Out: 9:30 am-9:00 pm
7 days a week
Wheelchair access to main floor

THE PINEAPPLE INN

The Pineapple Inn, in an old Unionville church built in 1847, has its name from the carved or painted pineapple, the Colonial symbol of hospitality. The pineapple still decorates the walls of the Inn, whose inner appearance resembles a Victorian house with fireplace and pine floors. The Inn offers fine dining, and a menu which respects current trends in dishes like roast rack of lamb, peppered fillet of salmon, or puree of butternut squash soup with ale and cheddar cheese. The atmosphere is casual, hospitable and unpretentious. Come see for yourself: drop in for Sunday brunch; or reserve a room for an intimate dinner party.

149 Main Street, Unionville
Phone 905-940-6639

Hours: 11:30 a.m.-2:30 pm., 5:30 p.m.
till closing; closed Mondays
Reservations recommended
Wheelchair access

DONATELLO'S

Pasta, chicken, veal, lamb, steaks, & seafood served in an Italian fashion complemented by an extensive wine list.

True elegance while listening to soft Italian music in a cozy atmosphere.

Private personal service.

All major credit cards accepted.

13 Elm Street
Phone 416-595-5001

Hours: lunch 11:00 am-2:30 pm
supper 5:00-11:00 pm
(Fri. & Sat. 5:00-midnight)
Reservations required

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

THAI FLAVOURS

Open for seven months, Thai Flavours already has many regular patrons; Thai cuisine is catching on. It is noted for tropical ingredients like coconut, lemon and lime, and special blends of spicy, sweet, sour and salty flavors. Mango salad is a popular appetizer; then try Dom Yam Goong, lemon shrimp soup. For a main course, try Thai tenderloin steak - or let yourself be tempted by Pad Thai, rice noodles with chicken, tofu, egg and tamarind sauce, sprinkled with roasted peanuts. Come once - and whatever you try, you'll want to come back. (Thai Flavours is fully licensed.)

1554 Avenue Road
Phone 416-782-3288

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11:00 am-3:00 pm, 5:00-11:00 pm
Sun. 5:00-10:00 pm
Reservations, please

CENTRE STREET DELI

Not exactly in the city centre, the Centre Street Deli is well worth the drive north to Thornhill. Known for wonderful hand-cut smoked meat sandwiches and fresh-cut French fries, it has many other items to satisfy your appetite and palate--and your children, with a kids' menu to match the family atmosphere. All items are available for take-out. The Centre Street Deli also has an extensive catering menu of meat or dairy dishes on trays or by the pound, hors d'oeuvres, and party sandwiches. Call Sam or Cheryl for your catering needs.

1102 Centre Street
Phone 905-731-8037

Hours: 7:00 am-8:00 pm
7 days a week

THE HAPPY GREEK

Here is an authentic Greek *taverna*, such as you find on the island of Mykonos, where friends meet, sip an ouzo or two, and chat. The patio comes indoors here, with an artificial grape arbor and terrace-like upper level. The menu too is authentic, and includes fresh fish, seafood, oriatiko (roast lamb in filo pastry, stuffed with spinach and cheese), and mezethes. Friday evenings, there is live music. For a happy birthday or any other celebration, come to The Happy Greek.

1311 Alness Street
Phone 905-669-9593

Hours: 11:00 am-11:00 pm
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-1:00 am.
Reservations recommended
Wheelchair access

BY THE WHARF

I recommend By The Wharf's own Escargot Bourguignonne and our home-made Boston Clam Chowder, prepared fresh daily. A feast fit for a king is the Captain's Platter, a masterpiece which includes one whole lobster, king crab legs, broiled shrimp and Oysters Rockefeller. For meat lovers try our Chateaubriand, Filet Mignon served with bearnaise sauce or our New York Cut, charbroiled, with mushrooms. Top your evening off with our succulent desserts that will make your mouth water.

Call ahead of time and enjoy a specially prepared menu for your party. A banquet room is available for private parties, corporate functions and special occasions. This beautiful room follows the same cruise ship decor as the dining area, and holds up to 75 persons.

1855 Dundas Street East, Mississauga, Ontario
TEL: (905) 625-5490

Join us for a dining experience you'll never forget.

HOTHOUSE CAFÉ

The HotHouse Cafe, with 120 menu items and an extensive wine list, takes special pride in its Thin-Crust Pizza, Indonesian Tiger Shrimp, and Linguine Mediterranean. There is a fabulous Sunday brunch with live jazz, and a Wednesday night buffet; the atmosphere is bright, upbeat and elegantly casual. When you plan a corporate party or a simchah, consider that HotHouse has hosted thousands of events, for 10 to 200 guests. HotHouse is in the heart of Toronto, steps from the theatre district, major hotels, the SkyDome and subway; two hours free parking.

35 Church Street
Phone 416-366-7800

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:00 am-midnight
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-1:00 am
Sun. 10:30 am-midnight
Reservations requested

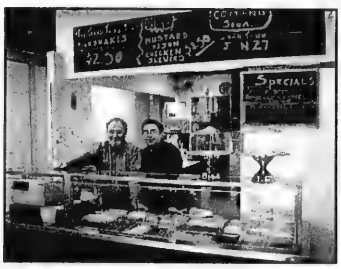
AUTOGRILL

For the best Italian cuisine outside Italy, head for the Autogrill. The Autogrill express counter offers fantastic dishes; and if you dine in the spacious Euro-sleek '60's-style diningroom, you're in for a real treat in atmosphere, style and out-of-this world cuisine. Perfection in pizza, fantastic pastas and hearty risottos set the groove for a wonderful evening out. Is an espresso or martini to your taste? The Autogrill is fully licensed; check out the marble bar, or the warm, candle-lit grappa lounge. Make the Autogrill your next stop; you're in for a great experience.

495 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-489-0961

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 10 a.m.-midnight,
Fri. & Sat. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 a.m.
Sun. 5:00 p.m.-midnight.
Reservations recommended

VIC & SAMY'S TORONTO GRILL



Vic & Samy's is strictly kosher. It is known for half-pound burgers, rib steaks, and Toronto's best tenderloin steaks; the house specialty is the pastrami burger, a hamburger topped with pastrami. There are also Middle Eastern dishes like falafel, and shawarma with 15 choices of topping. From noon to 3, there are eight different lunch specials; from 4 to 6 p.m., Early Bird specials, (dinner portions at reduced prices). The most expensive item is $16.95; the foot-long hot dog, a meal in itself, is only $4.50. For orders of $20 or more, Vic and Samy deliver. The atmosphere is relaxed and casual.

1045 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 416-736-7227

Hours: 10:30 am-11:00 pm.
summers till midnight
Closed Fridays in winter,
one hour before Shabbos in summer

THE LOBSTER TRAP

Still serving satisfied patrons after 30 years. The Lobster Trap is Toronto's original lobster house. Unique in Canada, The Lobster Trap offers live lobster in the tank from one pound up to four pounds, prepared the way you like it; and the lobster bisque sets the standard for all others. Besides our delicious lobster, scampies, Alaska king crab legs, shrimps and mussels, there is also a selection of other fine fish dishes. Casual dress goes with the cozy atmosphere; and there is a special kids' menu. Lunches start at $4.95, dinners at $16.95. The Lobster Trap is fully licensed, and accepts all major credit cards.

1962 Avenue Road
Phone 416-787-3211

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner 5:00-10:00 p.m., 7 days a week
Wheelchair access

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

O MEI RESTAURANT

With four convenient locations and a twelve-year reputation for fine Szechuan and Peking cuisine at reasonable prices, the O Mei Restaurant has become an institution in Toronto under the direction of owner Ringo Ip. Legendary favourites include Spicy Chicken, Crispy Beef, and Five Spices Lemon Chicken. The O Mei is currently featuring an extremely popular half-price special at its Sheppard and Steeles locations; details in store.

Each location has a private party room ideal for hosting parties of all kinds, and professional sound equipment is supplied by the O Mei.

Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 11:30 –10; Fri. 11:30–11; Sat. 12—11; Sun. 12–10
Wheelchair access to main floor at Sheppard.
Full wheelchair access at other three locations.
Also at 248 Steeles W. 905-889-8282
5150 Yonge St. 416-222-2300
420 Hwy. 7 East 905-881-8188

618 Sheppard Ave. West
Phone 416-635-5050

AVLI RESTAURANT

When you come to eat at Avli, you'll be pleasantly surprised. You'll taste echoes of Greek food you've had before; everything will seem familiar and comforting, and yet there will be delicious little differences. Meticulously cooked, tradition-based, mouthwatering and interesting variations of a cuisine which people have loved and craved for 2,500 years.

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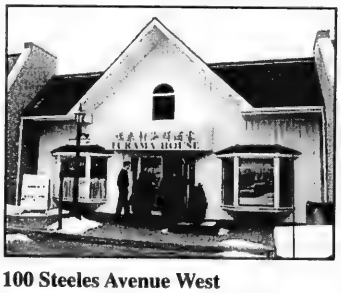

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Greater Toronto Area

Education called key to Jewish survival

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jews must rely on education to survive the turn of the millennium was the conclusion reached in a recent panel discussion at York University.

The program, titled Jewish Identity in the New Millennium: Three Views from Israel, featured three leading scholars in Jewish studies: professors Sergio DellaPergola, Yair Zakovitch and Ze'ev Mankowitz. Each spoke of the importance of Jewish education for maintaining a strong Jewish identity.

Prof. Irving Abella, who moderated the panel, asked whether Judaism in Canada can survive the freedom it has had to thrive into the next century.

"We definitely want to integrate," said Abella. "Yet we are concerned. We want to be able to maintain our uniqueness."

DellaPergola, head of the Division of Jewish Demographics and Statistics at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry, offered a statistical look at the present and future state of the Jewish population. He noted that Israel is experiencing a steady growth in population. Tel Aviv is close to having the highest Jewish population in the world, he said, second only to New York City. If this growth continues, he said, Israel should have a population of six million by the year 2010.

At the same time, world Jewry is experiencing zero population growth, DellaPergola noted, adding that the frequency of intermarriage in the United States has been rising steadily since the 1940s and almost doubling with each decade. He also said that while recent studies suggest that the fourth generation American Jews have an intermarriage rate of 52 percent, other studies suggest that the rate is closer to 70 percent.

Whether the intermarriage rate will continue to grow, DellaPergola said, will depend on "the efforts of communities to devise policies and interventions for Jewish education."

Biblical scholar Zakovitch of the Institute of Jewish Studies spoke on Jewish identity in transition.

Israel, he said, is made up of many groups of Jews. But, he noted, "it is the secular [groups] which worry me the most."

Secular Jews, he said, have "rejected" biblical literature, including midrash and Talmud.

"Some Jews demand a monopoly over Judaism. I don't agree with secular Jews who give up the Bible because others demand a monopoly. The Bible belongs to all of us," Zakovitch said.

He advocated educating Jews in Jewish sources, and in the original Hebrew text.

Mankowitz, director of the Melton Centre for Jewish Education, rounded out the panel asking, "Can education make a difference?"

The greatest mistake one can make, he said, is to put too much pressure on the Jewish school systems as the providers of Jewish education.

As for the future of Jewish education, Mankowitz said, "We have nowhere to go but forward because the solutions of the 19th century will not work for the 20th."

The panel was sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University and the action committee for Jewish continuity of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Fryer wins UJA award for commitment to campaign

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Joanna Levitt's assertion that York University student Robyn Fryer recruited about a million people for the United Jewish Appeal's first student telethon is obviously an exaggeration.

But when Levitt, citywide director of UJA on Campus, talks of Fryer's dedication and efficiency, she's perfectly serious.

"She's one of the volunteers you die for," said Levitt. "She's always there, always ready to help. She's outgoing and warm, and extremely dedicated to the Jewish people."

Fryer's contributions were recognized at the recent UJA campaign closing ceremonies held at Beth Tzedec Congregation, when the 22-year-old woman received the organization's first UJA on Campus award.

Robyn Fryer

A fourth-year Jewish studies major, Fryer hopes to pursue a career in Jewish communal service. Having spent her second undergraduate year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a summer doing Jewish programming at a Michigan camp, Fryer became more aware of the needs of different communities and realized that she "can make a difference."

A member of Beth Tikvah Congregation, Fryer works as a USY adviser at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, volunteers at Holy Blossom's Out of the Cold program for homeless people and for the Canadian Foundation for AIDS research, and is involved in Koach, the campus outreach arm of the Conservative movement. She also works for York's Office for Persons with Disabilities, taking notes for students who are unable to do so.

Fryer is a graduate of Associated Hebrew Schools and attended the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto for one year before switching to Vaughan Secondary School.

One of three children from "a very close, traditional family," Robyn and her two brothers have "complete respect and support" from their parents Sharon and Gerry, she said.

Fryer has also been influenced by the example of her late grandfather, Max Rosenberg, who supported a number of Jewish charities.

"I know he would have been very proud of me for getting this award," she said.

And just how did she recruit her friends for the telethon?

"I just said, 'It'll be a good time. It's the right thing to do. It makes us feel good that we're doing it.

"This is my future. This is the route I'm going. I want to make a tangible difference."

From coast to coast

TORONTONIAN HONORED BY BONDS

Manny Kimel (third from left) was honored in Palm Beach recently for decades of dedication to Israel through investment in Israel Bonds. Pictured with him are (from left) Gideon Patt, Bonds president, Dan Meridor, finance minister, Susan Weikers-Volchok, international campaign chairman and Michael Siegal, North American campaign chairman.

Orthodox rabbi named as McGill U religious studies dean

MONTREAL — That a Jew, let alone an Orthodox rabbi, could head a faculty whose purpose is, in part, to train Christian clergy is a source of pride to Barry Levy because he sees himself, above all, as an academic.

Levy, 51, is the new dean of religious studies at McGill University, where he has been a professor of Jewish studies since 1975.

"I may be the first Jewish dean in the world in a faculty like this," he said. "I think it's very significant. I think that it demonstrates a true openness that has rarely, if ever, been the hallmark of institutions and faculties of this sort."

Levy takes over from former dean Donna Runnalls. He will oversee about a dozen professors, 170 undergraduate and graduate students (including those in the divinity schools) and an annual budget of $4.7 million. Another 2,000 students from other faculties take religious studies courses.

Levy's biggest challenge will be to defend the independence of the faculty at a time when the university's government funding is being squeezed. Last year, McGill principal Bernard Shapiro suggested that religion might become a department within the arts faculty, as a cost-saving measure.The faculty has already lost some of its teaching staff through attrition.

Religious studies has always had its critics who think a subject rooted in faith, rather than the purely intellectual, has no right to be on par with, say, science or the liberal arts at an institution like McGill.

Levy doesn't agree. He sees a renewed interest in religion and the spiritual and thinks the university should respond to that trend. He thinks it is in society's interest that those who wish to become teachers or preachers of religion be educated in a university. A religious studies faculty combines the necessary academic and professional training.

"It would be very easy to divorce such institutions and say 'Let theological schools go out and train their own religious leaders – they have no place in the secular university.' That's an easy way out. I think that we're all better off if our religious leaders are trained in universities."

And that type of training does not belong in the arts, he maintains.

Further economies might be made by cooperating more with other departments that have courses related to morality or ethics, he said.

A native of Long Beach, Calif., Levy was educated at Yeshiva University and New York University, where he earned a doctorate in Near Eastern languages and literature. His field of expertise is interpretation of the Jewish Bible, and he has worked on a new translation of the Babylonian Talmud due to be released this year.

After a short stint as an assistant professor at Brown University, he was invited by then McGill Jewish studies chair Ruth Wisse to join her department, and he accepted in 1975, expecting to stay a couple of years and go back to the United States.

From 1991-94, he was chair of Jewish studies, which is a department of the arts faculty. In 1992, he won the H. Noel Fieldhouse Award for excellence in teaching.

In 1990, Levy was curator of the exhibition Planets, Potions and Parchments, held at the David M. Stewart Museum, in conjunction with the Jewish Public Library. His coup was in persuading Israel to lend a fragment of the Dead Sea Scrolls for the show.

Levy would like to broaden the faculty's traditional strength in Christian scriptural interpretation to not only that of Judaism, but also Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and other religions.

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CJC-P opposes changing relationship with federations

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region (CJC-P) "strongly opposes" implementation of a plan that could result in CJC regions becoming beneficiaries of their local federations, declares a CJC-P resolution.

The resolution passed after lengthy debate on a recent proposal made by the Council of Jewish Federations, Canada (CJF).

At present, national Congress operations are financed annually by about $3 million provided by the CJF, which receives the funds from the 10 federations in Canada, with the funding depending on federation campaign results. CJF also funds the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, the Canada-Israel Committee and United Israel Appeal.

National CJC reallocates its share to the regions and each region operates as an individual entity within CJC without overlapping other community programs.

CJC-P is concerned that if the region had to deal directly with the federation for funds, it could become a federation committee and risk losing its clout as the principal Jewish advocacy organization.

Pacific region feels such a change would not necessarily reflect the needs and aspirations of the Jewish population and would make it too reliant on its federation.

Funding of CJF by its member federations is mandatory, according to CJF president, Richard Vineberg of Montreal. He told *The CJN* in a phone interview that he approves this policy because "it's a national collective responsibility. The policy is my philosophy," he said, adding he's certain it's a philosophy shared by the Canadian Jewish leadership.

But CJC-P's resolution expresses the fear that the proposed transfer of funding to individual federations "will result in a merger of independent regions with their respective federations."

CJC-P chair Dr. Michael Elterman calls CJF "a conduit" for moving funds to the national organization, something he does not want to tamper with. He says that with its national structure closely linked to regional structures, Congress can act as "an effective vehicle for advocacy on a broad range of public policy and social justice issues guided by Jewish values.

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Raising funds for the blind at Hebrew U.

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Co-chairs Michael Goldberg and Dr. Paul Kowall are hoping to have 300 to 500 people come out for a Comedy Night on March 15, intended to raise money for the Blind Students' Unit at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The evening, co-sponsored by the new leadership division of the Winnipeg chapter of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University and State of Israel Bonds, will feature comedians Caryn Bark and Gord Paynter, a blind comedian.

The Blind Students' Unit, Goldberg explains, offers services to assist blind, visually challenged and dyslexic students in overcoming the obstacles they face in the university environment.

Two years ago, the new leadership division hosted over 300 people at another comedy night in support of multiple sclerosis research at Hebrew University. Now a new drug developed thanks in part to the funds raised is being tested by Upjohn Pharmacia at 56 centres worldwide, including one in Winnipeg.

From coast to coast

Campaign gears up for museum's Holocaust gallery

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A national campaign is set to begin to raise funds and find war-era artifacts for a new Holocaust gallery at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

The wing, to cost between $2 million and $3 million, will showcase Holocaust-era objects, Jewish resistance during the war, and the contribution of Canadian Jewish soldiers to the Allied cause.

Survivors' mementoes sought

Organizers say it will also take a tough look at the anti-Semitism that drove Canada's immigration policy before, during and even after World War II.

The gallery will be part of a three-storey extension at the war museum, located on Sussex Drive and affiliated with the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull. The addition, to cost at least $3 million, is expected to be complete by 1999.

The Holocaust gallery will be the first such exhibit in a federally-funded museum, although one report last week stated that Ottawa has declined to contribute directly to the wing's construction.

In addition to artifacts, the 4,000-square-foot wing, which is yet to be named, will examine Canada's dismal record of admitting Jewish refugees during the war years. It will also look at the Holocaust's other victims – homosexuals, Gypsies and Communists, as well as contemporary examples of genocide in Rwanda and Cambodia.

The gallery's curator, Fred Gaffen, is asking the public for help in locating artifacts from the Holocaust era, including concentration camp uniforms, photographs, yellow stars of David, ID cards, ghetto currency and other mementoes. He's hoping to persuade Canadian survivors to lend or donate some objects.

Gaffen told *The CJN* that talks are underway with the Holocaust museums in Montreal and Toronto, which will be asked to lend some items to the new wing.

"We'll be looking for other material too, like valises, clothes and [war] medals from the period," Gaffen said. "We prefer donations, but we're going to have to buy some things."

Gaffen said he may also go overseas to hunt for objects. Seeing actual objects, especially photos of children, can drive the Holocaust's impact home as nothing else, he added.

Phyllis Teitelbaum, who co-chairs the gallery's Ottawa advisory group, told *The CJN* she hopes that local chapters will soon be established in other Canadian cities, and a national fundraising chair appointed.

She estimates that so far, around $250,000 has been raised from individual donors.

Fundraising for the entire museum addition is being conducted by the Jewish community and the Friends of the War Museum, Teitelbaum said.

"When I visited the [Holocaust] museum in Washington, I thought, 'Canada should hang its head in shame,' " she said. "This now is our baby."

Many ways to be Jewish, Women's conference told

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamiliton Correspondent

HAMILTON — Their common desire for unity brought about 100 women from all segments of the community, including from Toronto, Kitchener, Guelph and St. Catharines, to Adas Israel Synagogue for a one-day conference on Jewish Women: Unity in our Diversity.

They heard a call for the need to listen to one another, "even when we disagree," and for tolerance and acceptance of each other's differences.

"We are a fractured community," said keynote speaker Norma Baumel Joseph, a Concordia University assistant professor of religion and activist on behalf of Jewish women. "We are not all the same and should not presume to speak for one another."

An Orthodox woman and acknowledged feminist, Joseph pointed out that "there are a lot of different ways of being Jewish," but "no one 'right way' of being Jewish.

"We must learn to trust each other," she said. "We must network where we can and build networks where we can. It doesn't matter what you believe. Find a project or issue on which you can work together. That builds trust."

Other panelists included Eva Goldfinger, a secular Jewish humanist, educator and spiritual leader of the Toronto Congregation of Secular Jewish Associations; Phyllis Angel Greenberg, a cantor, guidance counsellor and member of the Reconstructionist movement; and Susanne Kay, executive director of the Israel Cancer Fund.

Each outlined her beliefs and explained how she came to them. The moderator was Ahuva Soifer, associate professor at McMaster University's School of Social Work.

The conference was organized by Na'amat Hamilton Nitsan chapter. In her welcoming remarks, Na'amat president Wendy Schneider thanked sponsors and Hamilton Hadassah-WIZO for sponsoring the coffee break.

The conference opened Saturday evening with a performance by New York actress and writer Judith Sloan of her one-women show, *Denial of the Fittest*, before an enthusiastic audience of 260.

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Campaign launched in aid of disabled

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson and members of the city council recently joined the York South Association for Community Living (YSACL) for the official launch of a national public awareness campaign in support of people with developmental disabilities.

This year, Vaughan was chosen as the venue for the kick-off of the campaign. Jackson issued a proclamation in council designating Jan. 27 to Feb. 2 as community living awareness week in the city of Vaughan.

A national advertising campaign uses billboards designed and developed by Gould Outdoor Advertising and the Outdoor Partnership to convey the message that people with developmental disabilities should be given the opportunity to participate fully in all aspects of their community.

Jenna Martinuzzi, a 7-year old North York Grade 2 student with Down's syndrome, is featured on the billboard campaign with the caption that reads: "Her disability shouldn't exclude her."

Jenna and her mother were present at the campaign launch, held in front of the Vaughan Civic Centre with the billboard as a backdrop.

YSACL board president Rochelle Reingold introduced the speakers and thanked Gould Advertising for its donation, valued at $400,000.

Reingold hopes the billboard campaign, on view for a month at various sites around the province, will raise awareness of the needs of people who are developmentally challenged, she told *The CJN*.

"It's so important for people to be aware of people with developmental disabilities because these individuals want to be a part of their community. They want to be employed. They want jobs. They want to go to their local schools."

Those that don't have paying jobs can do volunteer work and still make a meaningful contribution to the communities they live in, Reingold added. "The more aware the community becomes, the more likely people will give developmentally challenged people a chance."

She said Jews with developmental challenges in York and other municipalities are often served by Reena, which has a close working relationship with YSACL and Community Living associations across Toronto.

Sandy Keshen, executive director of Reena, which provides residential, counselling and day program services for people with developmental handicaps, said there is a lot of cooperation between the service organizations.

"[Reena's] residential clients might go to Community Living association workshops. We have a reciprocal relationship. Their residential people might use our day programs," Keshen said.

She advised parents who have children with developmental disabilities to contact Reena at an early stage so that Reena can have something in place when those children leave school.

A public campaign that heightens awareness and understanding of the needs of the developmentally handicapped is important because this group tends to get overlooked by the public, Keshen said. "The developmentally handicapped have a right to be included in all aspects of the community."

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About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am trying to reduce the saturated fat in my diet. Is olive oil the best choice for me?

A. It is very important to remember that *all* oils are 100 percent fat, no matter what type they are, and therefore all should be used sparingly. While olive oil is among the most flavorful oils it is not the least saturated: Canola oil is the oil with the least amount of saturated fat at six percent, compared to olive oil at 14 percent. While you want to use it in moderation, canola oil is the better choice.

Q. My children do not really like regular milk, but they love chocolate milk. Is it okay to give them chocolate milk instead? I worry that they are not getting enough calcium.

A. Yes, chocolate milk is fine to give children, especially if it gets them to consume bone building calcium. Most commercially sold chocolate milk is made from one percent milk; therefore, it is low in fat and the chocolate does not add a lot of additional calories to it. If your child needs the extra calories, add chocolate powder or syrup to two percent or homogenized milk.

Q. Can I rely on foods labelled low-fat or fat-free to be good snack choices for me? I am trying to lose weight.

A. Watch out for nutrition claims on packages. Many of these foods are actually low in fat or fat free but are still packed with calories. Look at the label for both fat and calorie content before choosing them.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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Eight panels to begin post-Hebron negotiations

By DAVID MAKOVSKY AND JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

'Continuing in that spirit of cooperation'

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat agreed recently that eight panels dealing with security and other issues will begin negotiating.

"I think this is a promising continuation of the Hebron agreement," Netanyahu told reporters after a two-hour meeting at the Erez junction. "We are continuing in that spirit of cooperation to resolve all our outstanding problems and matters."

"We had a very important meeting," Arafat said. "We discussed the details of the problems we are facing, especially the points which have to be implemented after the Hebron agreement."

The panels, which are called for in the recent Hebron pullback accord, include ones regarding the establishment of a Palestinian airport in Gaza's Dahaniya area, the construction of a Gaza seaport and safe passage for Palestinians between the West Bank and Gaza.

The IDF is expected to head the Israeli side of the talks, since the main point of contention over these issues is Israel's insistence on adequate security provisions to prevent smuggling into the territories and unauthorized entry into Israel.

The "people to people" committee, headed on the Palestinian side by Israel liaison Sufian Abu Zayde, is to promote non-governmental relations between Israelis and Palestinians.

Other talks to resume include those on transferring Israeli excise taxes and other monies to the PA, whose financial distress has emerged as one of Arafat's major concerns. The economics committee is to meet, headed by Arafat's economic adviser Khaled Salam.

Under the 1994 Paris economic agreement, Israel agreed to rebate to the PA tax money collected from Palestinians in the following categories: petroleum excise taxes; VAT; customs; income taxes; and health fees.

It is estimated that the money transferred to PA accounts in Gaza in 1995 included NIS 580 million in VAT taxes; approximately NIS 50 million in customs taxes; approximately NIS 30 million in health fees; and approximately NIS 15 million in income taxes.

During 1995, an estimated NIS 101 million was transferred by the Finance Ministry to the PA, but was deposited in a Tel Aviv Bank Leumi account controlled by Arafat.

Kicking off the talks will be Foreign Minister David Levy and Arafat top deputy Mahmoud Abbas, who head the ongoing liaison committee. Both participated in the Erez meeting. Arafat also was accompanied by Hebron negotiator Saeb Erekat and preventive security chiefs Jibril Rajoub and Mohammed Dahlan.

Israeli officials termed the meeting "constructive" and "very upbeat" and were pleased to hear their Palestinian counterparts saying they believe "the chemistry between the leaders is improving."

Among the other issues raised was Netanyahu's insistence that the PA close any institutions operating in Jerusalem in contravention of the Oslo accords. The premier also called for ensuring that terrorists are promptly apprehended, prosecuted, punished and not released.

Arafat is to go to Hebron next week to celebrate Id al-Fitr and receive Palestinian women prisoners who are to be released there, a senior PA official said.

As expected, Netanyahu agreed to release Palestinian women prisoners arrested prior to the Oslo 1 agreement. Hisham Abdel-Razek, the PA official in charge of prisoner negotiations, said they will be released in Hebron.

The Israeli side also brought up the need to counter Hamas and Islamic Jihad armed groups, warning that progress would depend on reciprocity in these matters. It also called for a complete annulment of the Palestinian Charter, which the PA says it has annulled, and the extradition of killers of Israelis, something the PA has said it will never accept.

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Jews seek looted diamonds

By MARILYN HENRY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Jewish community of Antwerp, emboldened by the renewed interest in Swiss banks and Nazi loot, is trying to recover its plundered diamonds. These could be more valuable than the dormant Swiss accounts, according to an official of the Centrale, which represents the Jews of the Flemish region.

The bid for the diamonds is part of the unfolding picture of how Jewish communities in Western Europe failed to recoup their property after World War II. Recent revelations have focused on France, where the Paris Municipality apparently owns flats that had been confiscated from Jews.

The diamonds may be the most valuable of all looted properties, although the Centrale could not estimate the value of the losses. Diamonds are largely a cash business without adequate records. However, the stolen gems must have been worth tens of millions of dollars during the war era, said the official.

"With one handful of diamonds, you can live for a lifetime," he said.

Gems were taken during raids on the diamond exchange, where the overwhelming majority of the dealers were Jews.

"People had to drop them on the ground and the Germans took everything," the Centrale official said last week.

Even though there is no estimate of the value of the loss, there is evidence of the theft. When some dealers were arrested by the Nazis, they were forced to pay what was called a "guarantee" in diamonds. After liberation, some surviving dealers had empty envelopes returned to them. The Centrale has some of these original envelopes, which show a stamp of the Reich, the name of the raiding unit, the name of the dealer and the number of carats taken.

"We have no indication if some of the goods were [recovered] after the war by American or Belgian authorities or hidden, for example, in Switzerland," the Centrale official said.

The Swiss issue surfaced last fall with the release of one of the "Safe-haven" files — part of the trove of intelligence documents that have been used in the Swiss banks inquiry.

That document, a 1948 memorandum from the Belgian Mission in Germany to U.S. military authorities, said that the Nazis in 1940 took millions of dollars in diamonds and control of 1,200 diamond workshops in Antwerp. The looted diamonds were moved to neutral countries, mainly Switzerland and Spain, the document said.

It listed the names of some of the Germans involved in the diamond transactions, one of whom was still in Switzerland in 1948. The Belgian government then asked the Americans for help in recovering the stones.

It is not clear whether the Americans ever provided official help in recovering the diamonds. Most of the attention had focused on Belgian gold, which had travelled an adventurous route trying to stay ahead of the Reich.

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Syria's Assad recovering from coma

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Syrian President Hafez al-Assad recently recovered from a two-week coma, a British newspaper has reported.

The 66-year-old al-Assad apparently collapsed in December, went into a coma and gained consciousness last month after being treated by Russian doctors flown into Damascus, The Sunday Times reported.

At the time, Syrian officials had said al-Assad was hospitalized for prostate surgery.

In recent years, Assad has suffered from heart problems, diabetes and a rare form of leukemia.

His ailing health has resulted in a campaign to groom his son Basher to be his successor. Basher's older brother, Basel, was killed in a car accident three years ago.

Tragedy Above Shaar Yashuv

Cause of 'copter collision may never be known

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — With no in-flight recordings and no survivors, investigators may never fully determine what caused last week's mid-air crash of two transport helicopters in which all 73 soldiers and airmen died, analysts have said.

Security sources said an inquiry commission appointed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is focusing on human error as the main factor in the worst air disaster in the country's military history.

The sources said the Sikorsky CH-53 helicopters were circling in close formation along the northern border, waiting for permission to cross into Lebanon, when they collided minutes after takeoff.

Investigators think the rotor of the rear helicopter hit the tail of the lead helicopter, the sources said. One helicopter plunged straight down, while the other spiralled to the ground.

IAF helicopters douse their lights when they enter Lebanon to avoid drawing fire from Hezbollah, but it was not clear whether the pilots had done so yet, security sources said.

"If the suspicion is that human error caused the crash and there's no one to question, it becomes very difficult to reach solid conclusions and recommendations," said Yisrael Yahalom, a former Sikorsky pilot who in 1977 investigated what was previously the air worst disaster, when a CH-53 crashed in the Jordan Valley, killing 54.

Channel 1 quoted an unnamed pilot in the Sikorsky squadron as saying the rear helicopter "simply 'ran over' the leading copter."

Military correspondent Alon Ben-David said, "The only explanation at present is an error on the pilot's part, an error in estimating the distance between the two helicopters, which caused him to approach and to hit the helicopter in front of him."

Human error suspected

There was no flight recorder, often known as a black box.

Mordechai reiterated that the air force is obligated to adopt any recommendations made by the commission of inquiry. He also advised against making hasty judgments.

"Everything that will be demanded of us as a result of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry will be adopted and implemented," Mordechai said in an interview with Israel Radio. "The commission has only just begun. I advise all of us to be patient and not to take any shortcuts. It is important that the process be orderly and based on facts, and not something which is out to satisfy short-term public needs," Mordechai said.

The external commission — appointed outside the air force to ensure against a possible whitewash — is expected to submit its interim results soon. A final report is to be submitted within 45 days.

The commission recently met in Tel Aviv and heard testimony from air force personnel and experts on the CH-53 helicopter.

Preliminary inspection of the wreckage found that the second helicopter hit the tail of the first. IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami said that so far the cause of the collision is not clear.

Nevertheless, evidence seemed to point to human error. Mordechai said there were no restrictions due to the weather and there was nothing to show that it was a result of a mechanical malfunction.

"The mission of the inquiry is not easy. It's very complicated," Mordechai said, urging the media and the public to refrain from speculating how the collision occurred.

"I ask for a display of responsibility and not to go on about all sorts of speculation based on unsubstantiated information," Mordechai said.

Day of mourning

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The country became one grieving family last week, united in a day of national mourning for the 73 soldiers who died in the helicopter disaster. Thirty-four of the fallen were buried on Feb. 6.

The magnitude of the tragedy sent shock waves across the country, as the private grief of the bereaved families and friends affected people everywhere.

The official day of mourning began on Feb. 5 with the first funeral and continued until the evening of Feb. 6.

Festivities were cancelled, all places of entertainment were closed and flags flew at half-mast. Many people lit memorial candles and put black ribbons in windows, at the suggestion of the chief rabbis, who led special prayers in the afternoon at the Western Wall.

Radio and television broadcasts maintained the sombre tone that began as soon as the size of the catastrophe became known. The Histadrut announced it was suspending all industrial action for the day and Egged carried soldiers free of charge. IAF aircraft, except those on operational duty, remained on the ground in tribute to fallen comrades.

All state schools held memorial assemblies at the start of the day. Media attention focused on the Galili High School in Kfar Sava, which lost three graduates in the collision; the Alliance School in Ramat Aviv, which also lost three former pupils; and Jerusalem's Rene Cassin High School, which lost two more graduates in the crash.

"Today is a day of mourning for the whole people of Israel, which lost the best of its sons in the helicopter disaster," wrote Education Minister Zevulun Hammer in an announcement sent to all schools. "The State of Israel lowers its flags on the fresh graves of 73 of its fighters, who fell as one guarding its safety and security."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, speaking at the Tel Aviv funeral of Sgt. Yaron Tsofiof, 20, described the victims as the best of the country's youth. "The whole world looks at the country of Israel, at the unity of the people, and their ability to unite in grief and say, 'Together we will be strong!'" said Mordechai.

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Tragedy Above Shaar Yashuv

'I heard shouts from soldiers'

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hananiya Malka was sitting with his wife, Simmi, in their restaurant in Moshav Shaar Yashuv in the Galilee Panhandle when they heard a noise overhead followed by a loud explosion.

"I thought at first it might be a Katyusha or something like that. Then I saw the flames from a house which is used as a guest house for visitors," said Malka.

He ran to the scene — just 30 metres from his restaurant — believing that gas bottles had perhaps exploded in the empty building.

"I started to turn off the gas and electricity and then I saw the wings and rotors of a helicopter sticking out of the building in the midst of the flames," he said.

He was the first to reach the scene and he ran out with a hose thinking he would be able to douse the flames but they continued to pour from the stricken craft and the building.

"There were explosions, apparently from munitions carried by the soldiers on board the helicopter," he said.

"I heard shouts, to my great sorrow, from soldiers who were trapped inside the helicopter, but there was nothing that could be done.

"The flames were so fierce, that with my hose I couldn't do anything, nothing," said Malka.

One of the helicopters had crashed into the empty building. The other had fallen in open land across the road from the moshav in fields belonging to Kibbutz Dafna.

Residents of the moshav raced to the scene, but like Malka were unable to do anything except raise the alarm. Within minutes, Magen David Adom ambulances, fire crews from Kiryat Shmona and IDF rescue teams reached the disaster area to douse the flames and begin removing the bodies.

Boaz Norkin, head of the MDA Northern Region, said 22 vehicles and many volunteers and professionals arrived at the scene.

"The scene was awful, and the worst part of it all was that we couldn't do anything despite arriving within seconds of the accident," said Norkin.

MDA had all available personnel working at the scene and the area was closed by the military.

An officer of the Northern Region fire department said they arrived within seven minutes, but the army only permitted them to approach the fire when all were fully equipped with combat vests and helmets.

Wreckage from the craft was spread over hundreds of metres. The rescue teams used flares to light up the region in the hope of finding survivors who might have been thrown out of the craft.

Moshav residents said the crash had occurred not far from children's houses. Some evacuated their homes for fear the flames would spread while others took shelter. The residents could only stand and watch until the flames had been brought sufficiently under control so they could help in the rescue evacuation.

Israel mourns

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attended the funeral at Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem of St.-Sgt. Yonatan Amedi, 20, who was named after his brother killed in the 1976 Entebbe rescue the week Amedi was born.

The prime minister eulogized Amedi. "His name was Yoni, Yonatan. His parents named him after my brother, who was killed defending our land. Both of them are buried on this mountain, in the Holy Land, in the Holy City. Both of them fulfilled their obligations. Both of them served the country, both of them gave their lives."

All that remains, Netanyahu said, "is to cry for them, and think of the things they could have done in their lives, the pride they could have brought their parents and their families..."

Amedi is survived by his parents, two sisters and a brother.

Speaker after speaker rose in the Knesset to pay their respects. Some people found solace in the words of MK Ehud Barak. "The shocking images that visited every home from the television screen hit you right in the stomach," said Barak, a former chief of staff.

"The shocking images of ammunition exploding from broken pieces of the helicopters...the bodies, not breathing, laid out in front of us, in long, long rows.

"All of this we will painfully carry with us until our final days," Barak said, his voice cracking. "A sea of tears flooded the state of Israel last night, among them my own tears. This is a moment of agonizing pain and also a test, a supreme test of our staying power... We are struggling over our very right to live here in peace and security. That struggle will be decided by our steadfastness, by our staying power, by the power to continue not only in moments of success, but also in difficult moments like these...*yitgadal, v'yitkadash, shemeh rabah.*"

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The Week in Israel

Feb. 3

• A parliamentary committee discussed the use of depleted uranium weights by El Al Airlines to balance its planes. The issue surfaced after reports of increased health problems in an Amsterdam neighborhood over which an El Al cargo plane crashed four years ago. Boeing officials told the committee the uranium had been used in full compliance with regulations.

Feb. 4

• Harsh winter weather swept Israel. Snow fell in the Golan and in the Upper Galilee. Hail, sleet and wet snow fell in Jerusalem. Flooding was reported in a number of riverbeds in the south.

Feb. 5

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cancelled his trip to Jordan because of the helicopter tragedy. He also postponed his meeting with Yasser Arafat. Both King Hussein and Arafat sent their condolences to the people of Israel. Hezbollah and the government of Iran, on the other hand, issued statements rejoicing over the loss of life.

Feb. 6

• Police questioned Justice Minister Tsachi Hanegbi and Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri for a second time in connection with an alleged political arrangement surrounding the short-lived appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

Feb.7

• As families continued to bury their dead from the helicopter tragedy, the IDF declared a high state of alert in the south Lebanon security zone for fear of attacks by Hezbollah to mark Iran's Jerusalem Day. IDF officials recalled the heavy artillery barrage let loose by Hezbollah against IDF positions one year ago on this day.

With files from JTA

Palestinian state seems inevitable

Seeds already planted

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

A Palestinian state is taking shape as the Oslo peace process inches forward. Surprisingly enough, the present Israeli government appears to be adjusting to that reality.

Wth the signing of the Hebron agreement on Jan. 15, Benjamin Netanyahu not only embraced the Oslo formula and accepted Hebron's partition, but grudgingly came to terms with the division of the Land of Israel, tenets he had steadfastly rejected.

Over the next year and a half, Israel has committed itself to three further unspecified withdrawals from the West Bank. And when Israel and the PLO enter into final status talks later this year, Netanyahu will be under increasing pressure to yield additional territory to the emerging Palestinian state.

As of this moment, the Palestine Authority (PA), headed by Yasser Arafat, fully controls eight cities in Area A (3 percent of the West Bank) and, in conjunction with Israel, shares control of Area B (27 percent of Judea and Samaria). In addition, the PA is in charge of about two-thirds of the Gaza Strip.

The Palestinians claim that, under the provisions of the Oslo accords, Israel is eventually obliged to cede 80 percent to 90 percent of the West Bank, as well as more land in Gaza. Israel may well relinquish considerably less territory to the PA than it is presently demanding. But there is a growing consensus among Israelis that, ultimately, the ownership of the West Bank and of Gaza will be shared by Israel and the Palestinians.

In the face of seemingly irreversible facts on the ground and of the imperatives of the peace process, the Likud has begun to adopt a pragmatic approach to the heretofore heretical notion of Palestinian statehood.

Netanyahu's communications advisor, David Bar-Ilan, has floated two trial balloons which have startled and angered Likud party diehards.

Bar-Ilan, known for his hawkish views, said in December that Israel may be able to accept a demilitarized Palestinian state with limited sovereignty. A month later, he declared, "We are probably closer to an entity that will probably call itself a state, because developments point in that direction."

According to Bar-Ilan's conception, such a state could *not* raise a large army, produce or import heavy arms, form military alliances with rejectionist countries like Iraq and Iran, control Israel's airspace and its water resources and, finally, admit limitless numbers of Palestinian refugees.

Netanyahu has taken a harder line. In a recent interview, he told the Paris newspaper *Le Figaro* that he could envision a Palestinian state on condition that Israel's interests and security would not be compromised. Subsequently, however, he warned Arafat not to declare statehood, and vowed to strengthen Jewish settlements in the West Bank to prevent the emergence of an independent Palestinian state.

Prior to this, Netanyahu voiced his opposition to "complete sovereignty" for the Palestinians, saying that he preferred "a third way between subjugation and unbridled self-determination."

The policy statements issued by Bar-Ilan and Netanyahu are significant, if only for one reason. Their pronouncements have shifted the political debate within the Likud. Whereas the very idea of a Palestinian state was once nonnegotiable, this is no longer the case. The real debate now turns on the capabilities of such an entity or state-in-the-making.

Be that as it may, the seeds of a Palestinian state have been planted.The Palestinians have acquired territory and widespread international recognition of their claims. They have built a police force and institutions. They have a flag and a national anthem, and soon they will have their own telephone dialing code. And most of all, they have a genuine sense of peoplehood.

In other words, Palestinian statehood seems inevitable.

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Described by industry leaders as one of the most creative firms in the Canadian financial community, Panfinancial is without a doubt this country's foremost authority on innovative tax minimization, wealth-creation and preservation strategies.

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Over the past 25 years, Gordon Berger and his associates have dealt with many of Canada's most successful business people: the presidents and CEOs, owners, managers, and entrepreneurs of leading corporations in sectors varying from real estate and retail to manufacturing and pharmaceuticals.

For many of Panfinancial's clients the strategic-planning process involves helping individuals separate their business needs from their personal interests. "Most entrepreneurs have everything tied up in their companies," observes Berger. "Everybody plans for your company. Your banker. Your lawyer. Your accountant. But who plans for you?"

Panfinancial works for both the corporation and, the special personality behind it — working comfortably in conjunction with other professional advisors. "When we first meet a prospective client with an entrepreneurial background, the person and the corporation are indivisible. When we leave, they're extremely divisible and strategically poised for independent growth," Berger assures.

Achieving higher-than-average returns on investments, and making those investments in a way that provides better-than-average tax savings is the unique differentiator behind The Panfinancial Group. "We develop products and approaches that are typically three to five years ahead of the rest of the Canadian market and are often proprietary in nature,"Jack Pollak says.

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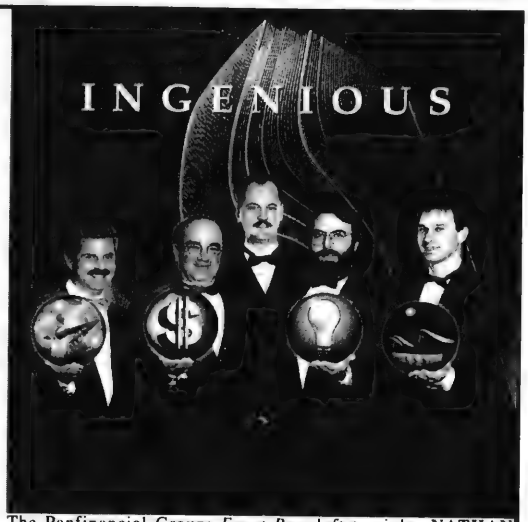

The Panfinancial Group: *Front Row* left to right: **NATHAN DISENHOUSE, GORDON BERGER, ZALE NEWMAN, JACK POLLAK**. *Back Row:* Newest Associate **RAYMOND MATT**

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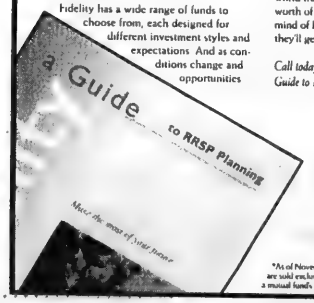

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Travel, Arts & Business

Lost in Yonkers a delightful hit for Al Waxman

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — With the production of *Lost In Yonkers* that opened Feb. 4 at the Atlantis Theatre, director Al Waxman has delivered his third theatrical hit in as many years to the Toronto theatre-going public.

This production of Neil Simon's Tony and Pulitzer prize-winning 1990 play is solidly put together, delivering all the laughs, drama, pathos and poignancy that we expect from Simon, one of the modern theatre's most dependable names.

Veteran actor Jennifer Phipps anchors the cast with a notable portrayal of the cane-wielding Grandma, a character made of cold steel and as stolid and unyielding as a battleship. The two grandsons who come to live with her after their mother dies are equally outstanding: Noah and Benjamin Plener of Thornhill, whose absolute credibility as brothers stems from their genuine consanguinity.

It's 1942. Eddie, the boys' father (Larry Manell), leaves them in grandmother's care so he can make money selling scrap iron in the South to pay off his massive debts. Grandma, a German-Jewish refugee who suffered anti-Semitic persecution and lost a husband and two children, is tough on the boys.

She's far more strict and severe than one might reasonably expect the proprietor of a candy shop to be. (The shop is located beneath her walk-up apartment in Yonkers, N. Y.)

The boys' Aunt Bella (Maria Ricossa) is 35 and unmarried; she still lives with her mother. Childish, dimwitted and as warm as her mother is cold, Bella dreams of marrying and having babies to hug as she was never hugged herself. Her mother resents even her simple pleasures like going to the movies.

Aunt Bella (Maria Ricossa) and the cane-wielding Grandma (Jennifer Phibbs). [Tom Sandler Photography]

Then there's Uncle Louie (Robert Smith), a henchman who occasionally must hide out at his mother's apartment. The boys are so unhappy, they want Louie to take them with him on the lam and induct them into his shadowy profession. It's to his credit that he refuses.

Even Gert (Tannis Burnett), the boys' aunt who appears in Act II, has not escaped her childhood without flaws: in her mother's presence, she has a chronic breathing problem that causes her to finish sentences while sucking in air.

With his trademark wit and economy, Simon shows us the hidden love in this emotionally crippled family and makes us see that they are really not so very different from ourselves.

"You want to hear what my truth is?" Grandma declares near the end. "Whatever it is you get good in life, you also lose something."

What makes this a good and relevant play? In part, it's our instant sympathy for these imperfect, vulnerable characters, struggling for love in a world that seems to want to deny it to them. The playwright understands the troubled modern psyche. In showing us an obscure corner of Yonkers, he is holding up a mirror to our own lives, showing us that we may not be so lost as we think.

All aspects of this production please but one. Situated at Ontario Place, the year-old Atlantis Theatre seems a jagged, ill-considered theatrical space.

Hard to get to, hard to feel comfortable in, it is a small theatre without intimacy.

Fortunately, Phipps, the Plener brothers and the rest of this tight cast – aided by two wizards named Simon and Waxman – quickly manage to overcome this difficulty. The result is a highly satisfying, at times even delightful, theatrical experience.

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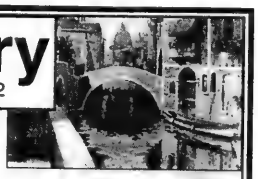

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Confiscated Art Displayed In French Museums

Officials of state-run museums in France have made little or no attempts over the past 50 years to return nearly 2,000 works of art confiscated from Jews during the Nazi occupation of France, says a confidential report prepared by France's public spending watchdog, the Cour des Comptes, and leaked recently by the Paris newspaper, *Le Monde*.

This was "a deliberate and political act to hide the origins of these works and not to try to return them to their owners," said Serge Cwajgenbaum, secretary general of the European Jewish Congress, who was quoted in a report by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Museums holding the art include the Louvre, which has 1,878 pieces, and the Musée d'Orsay, which has 85. The works include paintings by impressionists **Claude Monet**, **Alfred Sisley**, **Pierre Auguste Renoir** and **Paul Gauguin** and sculptures by **Auguste Rodin**.

French Prime Minister Alain Juppe has announced a commission to investigate the extent of seizures of art and other property looted by the Nazis and France's Vichy collaborationist government.

Meanwhile in New York, the World Jewish Congress uncovered a list of art works compiled by Hitler's henchman Alfred Rosenberg, who personally oversaw the looting of famous collections owned by the **Rothschilds**, the **Wildensteins** and **David Weill**.

Music Notes

• Temple Har Zion's first annual Choir Appreciation Night is Feb. 14, 8:30 p.m. 7360 Bayview Ave., Thornhill.

• **Michael Friedman** in concert, performing Yiddish and international folk songs and contemporary music. Winchevsky Centre, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Presented by United Jewish People's Order. $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Reservations 789-5502.

• The **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band** performs at Hart House Theatre Feb. 22 to celebrate the release of its third CD, *Fire*. $22. 416-978-8668.

• **DreamSong Recording**'s new cassette and CD release, *Lullabies and Love Songs*, is "exceptionally comforting and delicate," reports *The CJN* staffer who gave it a critical listen. The children's recording features **Tanja Solnik** singing Hebrew, Yiddish and Ladino songs, and "belongs in the music collection of every Jewish family." Available at Israel's Books & Gifts.

Two Carnivals

• The Canadian Film Centre, founded by **Norman Jewison** in 1986, is hosting La Dolce Vita fundraising event, with masquerades, a Valentine's Italian carnival and silent auction. Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Royal Trust Tower, TD Centre, 16th Floor (77 King St. W.). Tickets $75, 416-445-1446, ext. 205. Prize for best costume.

• The North York Winter Carnival runs Feb. 14, 15 & 16 in Mel Lastman Square. Highlights include an ice-show with **Barbara Underhill** & **Paul Martini** and others, with guest performers **Amy Sky** and **Sharon, Lois & Bram**...and **Elephant**, Feb. 14 & 15, 7:30 p.m. Children's performers **Judy & David** appear Feb. 15, 10:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. **Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band** with **Faye Kellerstein**, Memorial Hall, Feb. 16, 12:30 p.m.

Literature, Storytelling, Drama

• Author **Cary Fagan** reads from his most recent books, including *The Animals Waltz* and *The Doctor's House*, Bloor JCC Books & Bagels, Feb. 23, 11 a.m.

Members free, non-members $6. 416-924-6211.

• Storyteller **Leslie Robbins** entertains with Jewish stories and shares the stage with klezmer musicians over lunch at Free Times Cafe, 320 College St., Feb. 16. Two sessions, noon & 1 p.m. Part of Voices On The Fringe, 416-656-2445.

• Actors & the New Media is an acting workshop in which participants practise "blue screen techniques" and interacting with various characters that aren't really there. Course preview, March 2. Full course in four sessions, April 3, 10, 17 & 24, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Trinity Square Video, 221 Dufferin St. Fee $120. Owin, 416- 593-1332.

A coffee house atmosphere

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Do you remember the 1960s coffee houses where if you felt like it you could join the performers on stage?

Well, for lovers of Yiddish this is happening again at a monthly bash at the Winchevsky Centre on Cranbrooke Avenue in North York, co-sponsored by Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS), which inspired much of today's resurgence of interest in Yiddish.

A gala opening party on Feb. 15 at 8:30 p.m., to be hosted by singer and actor Gloria Valentine, will feature singer Allan Merovitz, comedians Allen Farkas and Michael Lebovic, storyteller Leslie Robbins, actor Howard Jerome, singer Michael Friedman from Vancouver, pianist Nina Shapilsky and Jonno Lightstone with the Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer band.

Valentine is anxious to hear from performers who like the idea of taking part in an informal, cosy coffee house ambience on Saturday nights (416-638-2222).

"Right from the beginning we've encouraged people to show their love of Yiddish, whether in listening, speaking or reading favorite bits," Valentine said.

Those attending the gala Feb 15 are asked to contribute $10 that will also cover further monthly events at $5 per person. Coffee, tea, cold drinks and noshes will be available.

For further information, call Valentine or Morris Winchevsky School, 416-789-5502.

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PESACH on the MOUNTAIN

Travel, Arts & Business

Growth unprecedented, Israeli minister says

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN and MYRON LOVE
Special to The CJN

Israel's growth in the last five years is unprecedented for a western-style economy, according to Israel's economic minister to North America.

"Israel has become quite an economic empire, and is moving onto the list of the 23 or 24 industrial nations of the world," David Rubin said in Toronto recently.

However, he added that Israel has large trade and budget deficits.

"There is a slowdown, firstly because it is impossible to maintain such a high rate of growth indefinitely. Also, North American companies can import without customs and a huge jump in imports results in a trade deficit," he said.

There is a long list of companies which invest in Israel, but the most significant barometer of the country's economy is what is happening on the stock market, Rubin said.

"The stock market is a real indication of investor confidence and there is a tremendous increase in Israeli companies going public on foreign stock exchanges.

"In the six weeks before the Hebron agreement, the stock market inexplicably took off and many companies have turned to the American stock exchange. Currently, there are 93 Israel-related companies being traded in the United States. That is second only to Canada. There are also four Israel-related companies on the London exchange," he said.

Meanwhile at a workshop in Winnipeg — one of six that were held across the country, co-sponsored by the Israel Economic Mission and the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters of Canada — Yael Varsano-Barzilay, Israel's trade commissioner to Canada, said liberalization of trade, economic reform, large scale immigration and the peace process have combined to make Israel a very attractive place to invest.

Varsano-Barzilay said economic growth in Israel averaged 5.8 percent last year. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 4.4 percent; the average income is now $16,000, equivalent to western European countries; and unemployment stands at 6.5 percent.

Varsano-Barzilay said new markets in places like India, China and Russia have been opened up to Israeli exporters thanks to the peace process.

The government, she said, is planning to speed up privatization of government-owned businesses, among them, El Al, the National Oil Company and Zim Israel Navigation. In total, 13 companies are to be privatized.

Israel now has free trade agreements with the United States and Canada, most western European countries. Turkey and the Czech Republic, and is negotiating deals with Poland and Hungary, Varsano-Barzilay said.

She said Israel's economic strong suits are diamonds, electronic products, chemicals and plastics, telecommunications equipment and medical products. She pointed to several areas of ongoing Canadian-Israeli cooperation in health care, biotechnology and telecommunications.

Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's Foreign Minister, also at the workshop in Winnipeg, described the new Canada-Israel agreement as an important building block in the Middle East peace process. "People are more likely to buy into a peace process if they have jobs to look forward to," he said.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Promoting Tourism

The tourism ministries of Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority recently launched a three-week joint advertising blitz in North American cities, aimed at bringing more tourists to the region in the wake of the recently-signed Hebron agreement.

Large newspaper ads have appeared in major cities, headlined with the word "Peace" in English, Hebrew and Arabic, with the subhead, "It's a beautiful sight to see." Inviting Canadians to "come visit our lands," the ads describe children playing in Jerusalem parks, a new spirit on the streets of Bethlehem and smiling merchants in Amman.

"The idea was that, after we reached the agreement on Hebron, to try to show everybody that things are back on track and that we're still a very attractive and safe region," said Ruth Ben-Tzur, director of the Israel Government Tourist Office (IGTO) for Canada. "Israel is working closely with the Jordanians and the Palestinians on various tourism activities besides the ad campaign, such as workshops for travel agents and seminars for tour operators."

Despite rumors that tourism has fallen sharply, Ben-Tzur claims the drop has been minimal. Israel attracted nearly 2.5 million tourists in 1995, a record high, she says. The figures for 1996 show only a six percent reduction, which is "not a serious decrease."

Joint preparations are under way by the three tourism ministries to handle the increased numbers of visitors expected for Israel's jubilee anniversary in 1998 and the Christian millennium in the year 2000.

* * *

Dead Sea Sailing: A Turkish-built wooden vessel, Lot's Wife, offers a 75-minute sailing journey on the Dead Sea. Named after the woman who turned around to watch the destruction of Sodom and Gomorra and was transformed into a pillar of salt, the boat departs from and returns to Ein Gedi, an oasis famous for its springs. The cost is the equivalent of $17.50 for adults, $15 for youths, $10 for children.

* * *

Tel Aviv Museum: Sigmund Freud's grandson Lucian Freud, who is 75 and lives in London, has been described as "one of the greatest figurative artists of this century." An exhibition of his work from the early 1940s to the mid-1990s is at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

The museum is also showing some of the graffiti found where Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. Following his death, shocked and grief-stricken Israelis expressed their sorrow by writing on nearby walls.

The graffiti became a symbol of national pain. Gadi Dagon and his assistants documented them through thousands of photos, 13 of which are on display.

For further information about Israel, contact the IGTO, 416- 964-3784 or 800-669-2369. Fax 416-964-2420.

E-mail igto@idirect.com, web [www.infortour.co.il].

* * *

Pesach In Switzerland: The Grand Hotel Park, situated with magnificent views of the Bernese Alps in Gstaad, Switzerland, is a stone-and-wood health resort that invites Jewish guests there for Passover.

The entire hotel is made kosher for Pesach under the hashgachah of Rabbi Levinger of Basel who has five mashgichim working under his supervision. The hotel also has a Shabbat elevator and its own synagogue. E-mail, [Pesach-@access.ch].

* * *

Pesach In San Diego: The waterfront Sheraton Harbor Island is a 19-acre resort and spa convenient to many local attractions of San Diego, with panoramic views of the bay, the city skyline and neighboring Coronado Island. The resort has three heated pools, jacuzzis, four lighted tennis courts, children's playground, two gyms and many land and water recreational opportunities. The glatt kosher Passover program is under the rabbinic supervision of the Va'ad Ha-Rabonim of San Diego. 800-PASSOVER.

* * *

When In Philadelphia: Information about Philadelphia's Jewish heritage – everything from Jewish events taking place to a listing of kosher restaurants – is on the internet, at the address [http://www.libertynet.org/phila-visitor/attractions/jhome.html].

Jerusalem brews a Second Cup

JERUSALEM — Second Cup — one of Canada's top coffee retailers — has opened a coffee house in downtown Jerusalem. It is located on Shammai Street, in the heart of the pedestrian-only zone, just off Ben Yehuda Street.

"Specialty coffee bars have limited exposure in Israel," says franchisee Raphael (Raffi) Tsoubari, who, with partner Peter Veres, purchased the master franchise rights for Israel from Second Cup. "This new location has had a strong, exciting start and it's clear that Second Cup will be extremely successful here."

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Synagogue woven into texture of Barbados' history

By NANCY WIGSTON
Special to The CJN

Barbados' Kaal Kadosh Nidhe Israel. [Nancy Wigston photo]

BARBADOS — Tony, our cab driver, is lost. You wouldn't think Synagogue Lane, just a few blocks from the major stores on Broad Street, would present a challenge, but Bridgetown's historic synagogue was only recently brought back to life. Finally, stopping for directions, Tony smiles and gives us the 'thumbs up' signal.

Kaal Kadosh Nidhe Israel (the holy scattered congregation of Israel) prove worth the search. A neoclassical jewel, with pink coral walls two feet thick, the building forms part of the Barbados Heritage Trust. Inside we find graceful columns, lacey lattice work, pews fashioned from gleaming Barbadian mahogany. Some features, like the clock, are original. Others, like the chandeliers, mimic the originals. Reflecting the proud achievements of a congregation that numbered 800 by 1750, this synagogue is woven into the very texture of Barbadian history.

No one knows for sure if Jews first brought sugar to this island, but a letter to the Earl of Carlisle concerning crop yields survives from 1628, the year after the British arrived. Abraham Jacob is the signatory.

Famed for its warm climate and cooling trade winds, the British colony was soon welcoming Brazilian Sephardim fleeing the Catholic Inquisition. The local archives contain a pass issued by Oliver Cromwell in 1655 to Dr. Abraham de Mercado and his son, from the city of Recife.

Surrounding the synagogue today are tombstones dating from those early years. The oldest, from 1685, bears the name of de Mercado's son, David, credited with introducing a new type of sugar mill to the island. Inscribed in a multitude of languages – Hebrew, Portuguese, Spanish – the graves make for fascinating reading. Bordering many, like afterthoughts, are inscriptions in English.

For hundreds of years, the Jewish community prospered In 1831, Barbados granted Jews full civil and political rights, the first British possession to do so. But the terrible hurricane of the same year not only destroyed the synagogue (rebuilt in the "chaste and classical" style) but also devastated the island's sugar-based economy. Emigration ensued. By century's end the Jewish presence had dwindled.

In 1929, the sole remaining active Jew in Barbados, Edmund Baeza, sold the synagogue, which was then deconsecrated. Though the graveyard had been leased for a 100 years to the Jews of Barbados at a "peppercorn rent," it seemed Jewish history on the island was at an end – if it wasn't for Moses Altman.

In 1932, Altman, a Polish trader, was bound for Venezuela with his family when he saw the British flag waving over Bridgetown and disembarked. After he wrote home to his friends and neighbors urging them to come, a new Jewish community was born, and the graves tended once more. James ("Jimmy") Altman, Moses' grandson, remembers cleaning debris from the stones one afternoon when a stranger dropped by to chat.

"Come see me when you visit my city," the man said as he left. It was Teddy Kollek. When, a decade back, the government proposed the old synagogue be destroyed, Henry Altman, Moses' son, objected vociferously.

With help from worldwide Jewry, the campaign to save Nidhe Israel, chaired by Henry's son Paul, was a stunning success. Today the building stands as a monument to the efforts of Barbadian Jews to preserve the oldest synagogue in the Caribbean.

Although the 1654 building opens for services during the winter season (it can be visited year round), a new synagogue also welcomes visitors. Tony found the Rockley temple, a bungalow called True Blue, without asking for help. It was early December. The air-conditioners were whirring, the accents were West Indian. We settled into comfy plastic chairs. After services, we mingled with residents and visitors and munched on latkes, apple cake and breadfruit.

"Delicious," said Tony, tasting his first latke. Laughing, he thanked us for showing him part of Barbados that was steeped in history, but quite new to him too.

AWARD OF MERIT

The Canadian Wood Council recently announced the winners of its annual design awards program for excellence in wood building. The Award of Merit was presented to Mary Jane Finlayson architect of Toronto for her design of a home on Howland Street in Toronto. The construction of the home was completed by Steven Kirsch of Kirsch Construction of Toronto. The winners were chosen from a total of 109 entries from across Canada.

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We've gone BAR/BAT MITZVAH CRAZY!
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Tayler Drain, drains cleared w/o digging, 24 hrs., **10% Seniors Discount,** Guar. Service, Video Inspection.416-631-2819.

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Paralegal Services. Small Claims, Landlord & Tenant, Family Court, Separation Agreements, Uncontested Divorces, Process Serving, Reasonable Rates. Karen Kirsch & Associates (416) 663-6135.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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BACKS ON THE RAVINE – $995,000
Lower village oversized rooms w/out bsmt, 9 ft. ceilings, 5 bdrms, 5 baths, hdwd. flrs. **Cheryl Graff***

FOREST HILL VILLAGE TUDOR
$950,000 Exceptional looking 5 bdrm, 2 storey with oak library & dble gar. Must see! **Jeffrey Joseph****

YONGE/SUMMERHILL NOW $389,000
Architecturally unique 3 bdrm, 3 bath & fam. room. Open plan, skylights, nanny's suite, 2 car pkg. **Jean Zinman***

GLENCAIRN & BATHURST!
$288,888 - 3 bdrm, bungalow, very pretty decor, 2 bdrm in-law apt. in bsmt. Lot size 50' x 132'. **Olga Schrage***

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
212 Carmichael Ave. $254K - Listed & Sold w/multiple offers for 101% of price. Call **Sandon** today.

NORTH

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - BEAUTY
4 + 1 bdrm, 100' x 125' lot, fin. bsmt, with nanny's quarters. W/out to pool. Stunning! Call **Shelly Teichberg****

IT'S A DOLLS HOUSE – $299,000
Excellent loc. on quiet street, mostly new windows, 131 ft. deep lot, dble gar., mod. decor. Call **Samantha Graff***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED
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Bathurst Manor Triplex - $279,000. Just listed! 2x3 bd., 1x1bd. Good income.
High Park - 11.2% return. 8x1 bd., 2x2 bd. Asking $548,000. Must sell!!!

EXCLUSIVE LISTING – GOVERNOR'S HILL
Ravine View, Lowest Price in bldg, asking $276,900. Jacuzzi ens, beautiful eat-in-kit, overlooking magnificent ravines. Superb facilities, 24 hr. concierge, exclusive with:

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Forest Hill
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1ST AD! JUST LISTED! $1,295,000
Seeing is believing! A-1! C. Kwinter* 488-2875

CUSTOM! AVE. RD./LAWRENCE-OPEN HOUSE 2-4 SUNDAY
Lrge 5 br, bsmt apt, mikvah, pesach, kitch. Sukkah. Must be seen!! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

CEDARVALE STUNNING LOT
Lg 5 bdrm home. Rickey Fitzerman*/Ingrid Hemmerich* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS 1ST AD $479,000
Fab cen. hall w/ms[SOLD]suite + fam. rm. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

YONGE & ST. CLAIR! QUAINT & COZY
Det 3 br w/frplc, steps to TTC, shopping, etc. D. Wagman* 488-2875

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON JUST $344K
Lovely 3 bdrm, 2 stry home, 2 baths. F. Sversky**488-2875

1ST AD! BATHURST/EGLINTON $319,000
Det 2 stry 3 bdrm, 2 baths, bsmt! D. Wagman* 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON COMM. RENTAL
Fab location small retail opp. R. Fitzerman* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

YORK MILLS/OLD YONGE "MASTERPIECE"
Custom home to be built 110' x 200' ft. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presenting 6 custom built homes. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

JUST $699,000 BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Elegant & spacious 4 bdrm home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16-5500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

BATHURST/EL[SOLD]MILLS "MODEL HOME"
Gorgeous 3530 sq. ft. home, 2 yrs. new. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DET 3 BR, 2 CAR GAR. THORNHILL $245K
Fireplace, main fl fam. rm! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CLARK - 3 BR - 1ST AD - HURRY!
Priced to sell $209,900! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

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Huge 4 level back-split. Warm & inviting entry. 5 bdrms. on second level. Ground level panelled library. Family rm. with wet bar. Great entertaining flow for 100. Fin. bsmt. with panelled rec. rm. & nanny's quarters. A must see for the growing family!

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Subdued elegance in the heart of downtown North York! 1800 sq. ft. garden view – 2 bdrms. & 2 baths plus family rm. plus solarium. Exceptionally well maintained building with full fitness & recreational amenities plus 24 hr. concierge & valet pkg. Being offered for quick sale including custom designed furniture.
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$683,000. This 5 BR. home was built by "Ucci". 5000 s.f., incl. lower, offers a lg. rm. off the kit., den, laundry, powder rm. on main floor. The open south-facing garden invites outdoor enjoyment. To view this grand fam. residence call today.
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- **THORNHILL.** 4 bdrm., 2 storey, 4 bth..

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633-7373

BATHURST SHEPPARD
Greatly reduced, ideal for doctor's office or other professional use, 5 rms, lge lot, great buy & location.

• • •

BATHURST VILLAGE
4 bdrm bung, L-shaped liv & din, fin bsmnt, w/out to yard, extras.

• • •

BLUE FOREST AREA
Ideal for lge family, 5 bdrms + fam rm, 4 bths, comb. liv & din, w/out to deck, prof. fin. bsmnt, dble drive, gar!

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BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm bung, 2 bths, 2 kits, fin. bsmnt, steps to all!

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GIDEON WAICHENBERG

- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, balcony, lokr, approx. 1400 s.f.
- Bathurst/Steeles - 3 br, 2 wr, corner, hardwood, $218,000.

MORE LISTINGS WANTED
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BATHURST / WILSON
Custom-built 3 bdrm. backsplit on 45' x 130' lot, 4 baths, self-cont. bsmt. apt., Passover kitchen, move-in condition.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Prestigious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, 66' frontage.

For details call:
Jacob Florans, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200

BATHURST/FINCH
$299,000. Great investment property. 60'x140' lot, 3 bedroom bungalow, finished basement, 2 car garage. Zoned commercial.

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(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

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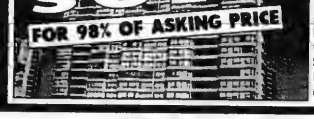
PRIMROSE / BATHURST / STEELES CONDO



Approx. 1,300 sq. ft., gorgeous view, balcony, 2 bdrms., 2 parking [SOLD]ws well asking $189,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $669,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

TRIPLEX – NEW LISTING
Luxury 2-3 bdrm., 1-2 bdrm., near subway, approx. $34,000 gross income, asking $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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FOREST WOOD
Spacious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge fam. rm., library, attention to detail, $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – REDUCED

Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, only $369,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS
Custom built luxurious executive home, finished basement, 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, granite & hardwood, floors, dream maple kitchen. ACT NOW! $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE
51 foot frontage, rare opportunity! Mostly land value, presently rented. Only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Custom built exec. home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge fam. room with fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded with upgrades, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bdrm., fam. rm., fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hrdwd. floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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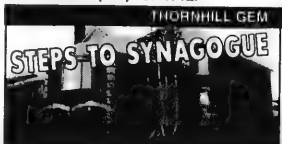
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Fabulous executive 4 bedroom, 4 baths, family room, library, dream kitchen, shows to perfection! Only $539,000. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THORNHILL GEM



Bright & spacious, steps to syn., shows beautifully. Dream family room, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $369,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

T. House at Bathurst/Steeles. 3+1, large unit, very nice kitchen, only one available in complex. Asking $192,900.

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4 bedroom, 3,000 sq. ft., Scarlett O'Hara staircase, pool, executive home, kitchen with 3 skylights +1 over staircase. Ceramic flow from ent. thru. kit, Regal model home, $364,900.

• • •

Thornhill 4 bdrm., stunning decor, ceramics, parquet, fin. bsmt., close to all amenities, $309,900.

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Bathurst/Wilson, 2 bdrm. plus, suits designer, architect or person working from home, low main., ren. completely, $109,900. Vendor will consider taking back mortgage.

Sol Goldkind (416) 739-7200
Sutton Group Admiral Realty Inc.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

407 & BATHURST

Award winning design, gorgeous living space, cathedral ceilings, custom kitchen, 4400 sq. ft., private $509,900.

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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Clark, 3 bdrm., exc. loc., no pets, n/smkrs., $1300./mo. + util. 636-8271 or 336-3622.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

House in Thornhill, near BAYT by prof. family. Anne 781-3862.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

10 PROCTOR AVE.

OPEN SUN. 2-4 P.M.

$400,000 - The only suite available in this exclusive bldg. Stunning open plan, liv. & din. rm., cornice mouldings, marble flrs, oak panelled library, lg. bright family kit, Approx. 1700 sq.ft. Luxury details, 2 pkg.

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Rosalie White, *Sales Rep.*
Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.
487-4311.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bath., ex. lge. 2 bdrm. + fam. rm., 2 bth., sol., sec., immed., all incl., $1,450. 787-6886 or 785-8175.

Antibes, lux. 3 bdrm.,sol., 2 bths.,6 mjr. appls., cable, 2 pkg. hrdwd. flrs., eat-in kit.,$1395., refs. Mar.1. 663-6198.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Shomer Shabbes fem. roommate wanted. Call 256-7476.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, lge. bsmnt. bach, new house, $550. 785-1235.

Duff./Steeles, bach. bsmnt. apt.sep.entr.$490/mo. 665-8586

Antibes/Bath., lux. 2 bdrm., pkg., encl. balc., shabbat elev., $1200./mo. 416-225-4278.

Bath./Egl. area, bach. avail., + pkg., ground flr.,$569.69. Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm. Call 485-1193.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village, Pembroke Pines, furn. condo.,2 bdrms., 2 baths, full rec. facil., secur. Avail. immed. for mthly. or bal. of season, with options for future yrs. 905-881-9174.

Delray Beach, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, close to shul., immed. Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 163rd & Collins, opposite beach, tennis, secur., nr. Rascal House, $65. U.S. daily, from Mar. 1 - min. 1 mo. Mark, 631-9994.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Principal-Administrator, for well established Schecter Jewish Day School, west coast of Florida, competitive salary & benefits, send résumé to: 5720 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33707 or call (813) 344-1111 or fax: (813) 344-1117.

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Female Day Camp counsellors, age 16 & up. 785-4600.

Retired Judge/Lawyer req'd. for consulting work, family law. Extra income. Call 523-2736.

Seasonal/Part-time sales help/cashier, exper., for Judaica shop.P.O. Box 54106,Lawrence Plaza, Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B7.

Exper. sales staff, PT, for Judaica Book/Gift Store, must have Jewish book knowledge & able to read Hebrew. Call Marina, 256-2858.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Exper. handyman seeks part-time job. 638-5488, Ephram.

246 VOLUNTEERS

Need volunteer in Day Care, Thornhill, resp., energetic person. 905-771-0500.

247 DAY CARE

Babysitter avail., live in or out. Call Lena 439-1575.

Babysitting in my home, full-time or part-time, mother of 2, all ages, clean, n/smoking home. Bev, 905-738-8125.

247 DAY CARE

DAY CARE in my home, Bath./Shepp., n/smoker, 2 yrs. old & up. Please call 638-2771.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH

Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?

CALL (416) 630-3773

APPLE DOMESTICS NEED A NANNY?

- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-472-5518**

Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. Joanna, 239-6838.

Exper. sitter seeks job as Mother's Helper or elderly caregiver. Refs. 449-7172.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Lady seeks house cleaning job, exper., refs. avail. 636-8985.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Cleaning lady with yrs. of exper., refs.,offices/apts. 741-5190.

Polish cleaning lady for Sat. & Sun. Call 207-0550.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic**

Nursing & Domestic care for seniors. 24 hrs. 656-6695.

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Services for Seniors, after hospital care, housekeepers, companions, nannies, house sitters, cleaners, HCA's, respite care avail. 650-1840.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter/Hskpr., Bath./Lawr., to take care of 20 mo. old, refs. req'd. Call 780-1494.

Housekeeper/live-in for 1 lady, English speaking only, refs. req'd. Phone 416-250-9341.

"Mary Poppins" req'd. to p/u kids from school (Egl./Wilson) 3:45-6 pm. Must like kids, have car, reas. cooking/light hskpng., exper., refs. Call Cheryl, eves. (416) 322-1517

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together is what I do best. Photos.Top rated service. 20 yrs. exper. Free consultation. 905-731-5204.

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NHLers named to Maccabi hockey squad

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With the wave of his hand and the greeting, Shalom, Jacques Demers declared himself "the best Jewish coach you've ever seen."

Well, if not the best, then certainly the first "Jewish" coach of Canada's hockey entry in the Maccabiah Games. Demers, a two-time NHL coach of the year, will be behind the bench when the best Jewish hockey players from Canada take to the ice for the first-ever hockey competition at the 15th Maccabiah Games in Israel next July.

Demers was at the Hockey Hall of Fame last week, along with a glittering assortment of hockey celebrities, to promote the event and to raise money for Maccabi Canada's hockey entry. Hall-of-Famer Jean Beliveau, Toronto Maple Leaf defenceman Matthieu Schneider, former Leaf captain Darryl Sittler and Montreal Expos part-owner Mark Routtenberg were among the celebrities present, as were a who's who of the Maccabi Canada organization. The event was emceed by Ken Daniels of Hockey Night in Canada and the Fan 590 Radio.

Hall-of-famer Jean Beliveau (centre) shows off Maccabi Canada's hockey sweater along with coach Jacques Demers (left) and Maccabi Canada president Roy Salomon. [Paul Lungen photo]

If Demers' enthusiasm, determination and confidence are catching, then Canada's entry in the competition should do well. The games "are important to me because I'm a winner," Demers told the crowd. "When we land in Toronto or Montreal, I want us to land with the gold medal."

Demers will coach a team that will likely consist of Junior A and college calibre players, with a healthy smattering of professionals that will give the team instant credibility. Demers announced that Calgary Flames' "character player" Ronnie Stern has agreed to captain the team. Other pros who will lace 'em up for Canada are Chicago Blackhawk Steve Dubinsky, Florida Panther David Nemirovsky and his brother Mikhail, who's playing in the IHL. Other names mentioned as likely participants included Aaron Brand of the St. John's Maple Leafs, Todd Simon of the Detroit Vipers of the IHL and Michael Henrich of the Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League.

For Demers, the chance to coach at the Maccabiah Games presents a challenge and "I like challenges." He said his involvement with the team began when he was approached by his friend Sam Eltes, who has ties with the Maccabi organizers. Eltes had mentioned his name as a possible coaching candidate for the team, and when he approached Demers, it didn't take long for Eltes to convince him to come on board. Besides enjoying the challenge, Demers was curious about Israel. His aunt had been to the Holy Land twice and raved about the country, so he wants to see it as well, Demers said.

For Beliveau, a visit to Israel will be a chance to renew acquaintances. In 1985, he served as Maccabi Canada's honorary chef de mission. He'll reprise that role again this summer and he said he still holds dear memories of the Maccabiah experience 12 years ago. "It's such a great event. [When] you see and talk to the youngsters who go over there, it's a very good investment," he said.

Holder of 10 Stanley Cup rings in a glorious NHL career, Beliveau said he retired too early to represent Canada in international tournaments. It's something he always missed, but "I'll always remember stepping in front of the 256 [Canadian] athletes [as they entered] Ramat Gan Stadium," he said.

Getting the hockey team to those emotional opening ceremonies was one of the raisons d'etre of last week's fundraiser. Routtenberg, who serves as chair of hockey for Maccabi Canada, said the team is entirely self-financed and will require an estimated $200,000. Maccabi Canada intends to send 35 hockey people to Israel, including 22 or 23 players, as well as doctors, trainers and coaches.

Prior to last week's event, Maccabi Canada was "40 percent on the way" towards reaching its financial goal, Routtenberg said.

Owner of the Hull Olympiques of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, Routtenberg said he planned to approach all Canadian NHL teams to seek their co-operation by lending personnel to fundraising events. The Toronto Maple Leafs, he said, had been very cooperative, with both Sittler and Schneider attending last week's event, he pointed out.

In addition, the corporate world is being approached for contributions, and last week Routtenberg announced that Bauer and Itech had agreed to fully outfit the team. The team's new sweaters were also unveiled, featuring a design that combines Canada's red maple leaf with the blue Star of David.

The players vying for the right to wear that sweater will gather again in mid May for the final training and evaluation camp in either Hull or Ottawa. Should the Canadiens be eliminated by then, Demers, a Habs scout, will be on hand to help with the player selections. Otherwise, it will be under the supervision of Olympiques GM and governor Charles Henry.

Twenty-one players made the cut after the last evaluation camp, held in Toronto about a month ago. They'll gather, along with about 25 pros, junior and college players for the final cutdown. Demers and Henry will be aided by Charles Thiffault, a former assistant coach with Demers in Montreal. Thiffault, coach in Rouyn-Noranda, will be Demers' right hand man in Israel.

Among those expected at the final camp is 16-year-old phenom Cory Pecker of Lac St. Louis Midget AAA Lions, who, if he continues to develop, could be a first overall NHL draft pick, Henry suggests.

As in World Cup competition, the United States could well be Canada's main stumbling block to a gold medal. That team will be headed by playing coach Mike Hartman, a former NHLer with the Buffalo Sabres, Winnipeg Jets and New York Rangers. The Americans are expected to rely heavily on NCAA players, Henry said.

Russia and Israel round out the hockey event, which will be played on the Olympic-sized ice surface in Canada Centre, a recreation facility built in large measure with Canadian funds provided by the United Israel Appeal.

Roy Salomon, president of Maccabi Canada, said 300 athletes will represent Canada in a variety of sports at the games. While they naturally strive for excellence, for Maccabi Canada "the bottom line is the development of young people who come to Israel with us. We want to nurture a sense of pride in Canada and a sense of pride in Israel. That's what we're all about. It's about young people, it's about pride."

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The Inside Back

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I've been looking for a job and I'm not having any luck. I feel lousy and I'm sure that whoever I speak to these days can see how discouraged I am.

Dear Reader,

You can't feel good every day and there are many days when you are job hunting that you will feel lousy. Being unemployed is like riding a roller-coaster of feeling – sometimes you are high and sometimes you are low and you never really know what's around the bend. Knowing you are on a roller-coaster ride, however, is a little different because you know when you're going to get off. Unemployment isn't like that.

When you're unemployed, expect the unexpected. Give yourself time to deal with your negative feelings because they will come. But make sure you do something useful with that time. The most useful activity is one that includes some sort of physical exertion.

Self-motivator Tony Robbins says that because we're human, we're bound to fail some of the time and it's those people who know how to deal with failure who succeed in the end. If we consider failure as simply a learning experience then we're succeeding in anything we do.

What we need to do is learn the tools of reframing the messages we hear and giving ourselves new messages. I prefer to let all the negative messages accumulate because each one brings me closer to a positive. In the meantime, I give myself positive messages and repeat these messages to myself until I believe them. I say things like "I have worth" and "My time and energy have value."

Reading a book like Shad Helmstetter's *What to Say When You Talk to Yourself* will teach you a great deal about giving messages to yourself that help you believe in yourself.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
ASPARAGUS SALAD WITH RASPBERRY VINAIGRETTE
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2 lbs. asparagus, cut into 1" pieces
1 large red bell pepper, seeded and cut into 1" pieces
1 medium red onion, chopped
1/2 cup raspberry vinegar
1/2 cup water
1 tblsp honey
1 tsp. parsley

Steam asparagus pieces for 2 minutes. Plunge into cold water to stop cooking. Drain. Place asparagus, red pepper and onion into a plastic bowl (with cover). Blend vinegar, water, honey and parsley in a separate bowl; pour over vegetables. Adjust seasonings if desired (may want to add more sweetness). Stir, cover and refrigerate for at least 24 hours. Stir occasionally. Yield: 4 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Morris Miller and his *Half-Moon Saloon* woodworking creation.

Time for some real-life Jewish sitcoms

By JORDAN MAX

As full-time working parents, my wife and I don't often get to watch a whole lot of television. However, when I do get the rare chance to watch (assuming I don't want to watch *Barney* or Winnie the Pooh videos for the umpteenth time), I watch sitcoms. Now, if you watch enough sitcoms, you begin to notice two things: first, that no one actually *works* in these shows, and second, the prevalence of Jewish names in the credits. If only these writers' talents could be put to better use writing real-life sitcoms/dramas with some Jewish content. Here are a few ideas for some mid-season replacements.

Coronary Street: The Jewish equivalent to *Cheers*, the delicatessen where everyone knows your business. The regulars all come in to eat, shmooze, argue, do deals and be seen.

Yes, Gabbai: A sitcom based on the world of shul politics. To be followed by the sequel series, *Yes, Mr. Vice-President* and *Yes, Mr. President.*

Quantum Leap of Faith: Follow the adventures of a yeshivah student who is sucked into the Internet due to a freak accident with his computer modem, and is sent around the world to "leap into" and rescue fellow Jews from assimilation, apathy and high fat diets. He is guided in his travels by the Surfer Rebbe. Will he ever return home, and will his dinner still be warm?

Assets and Liabilities: The accounting version of *L.A. Law.* This action-drama gives an inside view of the exciting world of a modern Jewish accounting firm. (It's a wonder this hasn't been done before.)

Phantom of the Bimah: The story of a newly ordained rabbi in an old shul that is haunted by the ghost of a deceased chazzanic wannabee. The phantom causes numerous hilarious mishaps until he is finally allowed to lead services on Kol Nidre. He then decides to stay to help increase the membership, while secretly training a young boy with chazzanic ambitions.

Max Giver, PF: A new action adventure series about a mercenary who takes on the fundraising jobs no one else will do. Using only his creativity, daring and that first-year psychology course he took in university, Max Giver convinces the most reluctant persons to become big donors.

Abe Watch: An action-drama series featuring Abe, a middle-aged beach lifeguard (go figure) who becomes a *baal tshuvah* but decides to keep his job. Catch the excitement as he patrols the public beaches for drowning swimmers and immodestly clothed bathers. Features lots of slow-motion action rescues and cover-ups , but no close-up shots. (Credits to M.R. for the idea)

Called to the Bar: Based on the innovative format of *Murder One*, in which we watch a young boy and his family go through the ups and downs of getting prepared for his bar mitzvah celebration over the course of an entire year.

Day School 90210/DeRashi Junior High: A sitcom/drama about a Jewish day school, its teachers and students, as they struggle with a double curriculum load, class rivalries, Rashi and lipstick. Also deals with parental struggles to pay for it all and epidemics of metacarpool tunnel syndrome.

Well, I've thrown down the proverbial gauntlet. Are there any script writers out there?

Miller captures wild west

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO – First prize red ribbons adorn his walls, but woodworker Morris Miller, 72, will not sell any of his creations, which include the *Half-Moon Saloon*, a recreation of a wild west bar that took six months to do.

"When I die, my wife can sell any of it she likes," said the 6-foot retired pharmacist, a member of the Earl Bales Senior Woodworking Club.

The *Half-Moon Saloon*, which includes a preacher trying to convert a drunk on the balcony above the bar and a cowboy sliding down a bannister, has won two red ribbons already. It will shortly go on display at the Earl Bales Community Centre.

Born next door to the Darcy Street Shul, son of the late Abraham and Sarah Miller, the prize-winning craftsman is a sterling example of how active and useful a life a senior can live. His recreation room on Heathview in North York is full of trophies won for golf and tennis. He is a sailor and a ham radio enthusiast, and has even found time to appear as an extra in three movies, *State of Shock*, with Peter O'Toole, *Mutations* and *Starship Invasion*.

His wife, Helen, their children Glen and Marsha, and his sisters, Bella Sherman and Emma Goldstein wonder how he does it.

The piece which has won him more red ribbons than any other, titled *Hidden Forest*, is made of 30 different woods. It depicts deer and other animals in their leafy surroundings.

"I'll never give that one up," he said. It rightly occupies a place of honor.

His fellow club members at Earl Bales have watched Miller's painstaking work on *Full Moon Saloon* with admiration, knowing that a couple dancing on a revolving table, shaped from a single block of wood, took three weeks to complete. The bar has 50 liquor bottles, six barrels, three dogs, six animal heads and 23 people, including a card shark with an ace up his boot, as individual pieces. Like all respecting wild west bars, it has a coat rack on which to hang drunks and a table loaded with a free lunch.

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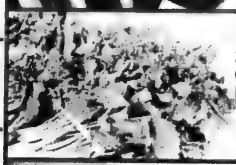

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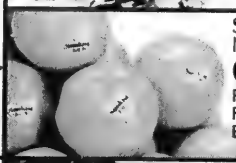

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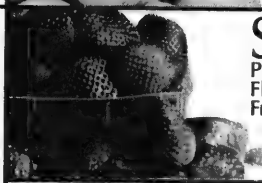

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Israeli-style party at York University is a big hit. *Page 6*

Sammy Cohen overcomes injuries and shares his luck with those less fortunate. *Page 20*

Unlikely as it seems, Ryerson University has the fifth-largest Jewish campus population in Canada. *Page 23*

Coast to Coast

Liberal senator apologizes for citing Adolf Hitler to make a point. *Page 27*

Health

Early intervention crucial to language disorder therapy for children. *Page 30*

Sports

Jean Beliveau will chair Maccabi Canada reunion in Montreal. *Page 42*

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Syrian talks on hold

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

President Bill Clinton gestures as he leaves a joint press conference last week with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the East Room at the White House. The key subject of discussions between the two was Israel-Syria peace talks. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

WASHINGTON — The United States is not yet prepared to bring to Syria proposals discussed with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for restarting negotiations, a senior U.S. official said late last week.

"We'll continue to explore what ideas will form the basis for the resumption of talks... The prime minister's visit has not yet produced the magic formula to advance," the official said.

In a speech to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy last Friday, Netanyahu said that if talks resume, "obviously we will take note of" Damascus' previous discussions with the Labor government, but he added that he "cannot be bound by speculations and theories and hypotheses" from those talks.

A member of Netanyahu's delegation said that in the premier's meeting with President Bill Clinton, Netanyahu stated that he would resume the talks on the basis of three elements: the U.S. letters of invitation to the 1991 Madrid peace conference, the "general basis" of UN resolutions 242 and 338, and "taking note" of previous Israeli-Syrian talks.

The term "general basis" does not mean it is applicable to territorial compromise on the Golan Heights, the Israeli official stated. Prior to Netanyahu's visit here, the idea that such compromise might be possible had been suggested by others, including Foreign Minister David Levy.

Responding to Netanyahu's visit to Washington, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara said last weekend in Cairo that Israel was running away from peace and that Syria was willing to resume peace talks, as long as they started where the previous round left off.

"There is no Syrian obstinacy, as Netanyahu claims, and Syria is not distancing itself from the peace process or its elements as some

Continued on page 33

Nazi prosecutor seeks return

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The former head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit wants to get back into the business of prosecuting Nazis.

Bill Hobson said he's made an offer to the department to rejoin the unit as a consultant or senior advisor, or as a lawyer contracted to handle a case.

"I've had a lot of experience in the litigation field. I want to come back as a 30-year litigator," he said.

Hobson said circumstances have changed dramatically from the time in August 1990 when he felt compelled to resign in order to send a message to the unit's political masters.

"The unit is in a position now, in terms of staffing and support from the people above and the support of the Minister, to do the things I said could be done in 1989," said Hobson.

'Attitude roadblocks' have been overcome

Hobson, who headed the unit for three years, believes the "attitude roadblocks" that paralyzed the unit back then have been overcome and that the unit is capable of registering successes. That's a far cry from the situation when "I left...in circumstances where I was a critic of the unit."

Hobson said he was frustrated over the direction in which the unit was heading when he resigned. "It happens when you, as head of a unit, have a vision for it...I felt there were people senior to me who didn't share my opinions and views that there [were] a number of cases that should be investigated and should go forward in a short period of time."

A seminal event that helped prompt his resignation took place in December 1989 when he gave a news interview during which he said the unit was investigating 35 cases, 18 of which had been named by Justice Jules Deschenes in the confidential section of his 1986 report. Despite getting the prior approval of then justice minster Doug Lewis, Hobson was unprepared for the "hostility" he faced from others in the department.

Continued on page 29

INSIDE

The CJN Crossword is back. Please see page 43.

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Israel and PA back at the table — please see page 31

The News in Brief

Selected Statistics on Immigrants to Israel From the Former Soviet Union

Occupation	1996	1989-1995
Scientists	480	10,000
Engineers/architects	5,571	63,356
Doctors/dentists	950	13,665
Pharmacists/veterinarians	124	**
Lawyers	112	**
Social Scientists	1,248	**
Teachers	2,842	28,549
Writers/artists/journalists	1,028	31,986
Technicians	4,500	**
Industrial workers	2,959	57,837
Skilled workers	3,187	**

**unknown

Information based on materials from the Ministry of Absorption

CANADA

Wolfe Elected

TORONTO — Morley Wolfe, past president of B'nai Brith Canada, the Joint Community Relations Committee and the Jewish Camp Council, has been elected as chair of the North York committee on community, race and ethnic relations.

ISRAEL

Hebron Shops Reopen

JERUSALEM – Palestinian storekeepers last week began to reopen shops in an Arab market in downtown Hebron for the first time in three years.

Israel's opening of the market, which is adjacent to the Avraham Avinu settler complex, honors the agreements made last month with the Palestinians.

Back From The Dead

JERUSALEM — A 23-year-old woman being prepared for surgery went into cardiac arrest in a Beersheba hospital last week and was brought back to life by a Magen David Adom team called into the operating room.

Agudat Yisrael Leader Dies

JERUSALEM — Rabbi Moshe Ze'ev Feldman, a former Knesset leader of the haredi Agudat Yisrael party, died last week after a 12-year battle with cancer. He was 67.

Amir's Friend Indicted

JERUSALEM — A Tel Aviv court has indicted a friend of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin on charges of failing to notify the authorities of Yigal Amir's plan to kill the prime minister.

Margalit Har-Shefi, 22, also was charged with giving Amir information about explosives and about how to set up an anti-Arab underground.

WORLD

Kosher Burger King?

LONDON — Bloom's in Whitechapel, London's oldest and most celebrated kosher restaurant, is to be taken over by Burger King. A spokesperson said the chain was "seriously considering" serving kosher burgers.

Lauder takes over at JNF

NEW YORK — Ronald Lauder, cosmetics heir and former U.S. ambassador to Austria, has been elected president of the Jewish National Fund of America.

Neo-Nazi Sentenced

BONN — A Berlin court has sentenced a 25-year-old neo-Nazi activist to one year in prison for inciting racial discrimination and circulating anti-Semitic propaganda.

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In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Feb. 18, 1972

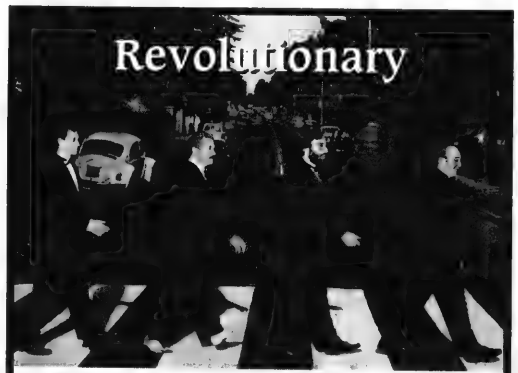
NO LIMIT TO IMMIGRATION, MEIR SAYS

"There is no limit and will never be a limit," Israel's Prime Minister Golda Meir said in response to a question about whether the increased immigration of Russian Jews would weaken Israel's economic infrastructure to the breaking point.

The question and answer essentially summarized the findings of the extraordinary economic conference in Jerusalem convened by Meir to discuss the immediate and long-range economic problems of Israel with regard to mass immigration of Soviet Jews.

VOTE FAVORS RENEWAL OF EDUCATOR'S CONTRACT

The membership of Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto affirmed its support of Rabbi Ben Hollander by a vote of 369 to 365. A difference between Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg and Rabbi Hollander over educational methods led to a dispute. Initially the trust company hired to conduct the vote reported the results as 540 to 234 in favor of retaining Rabbi Hollander. The *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail* reported this incorrect vote. The trust company said they had mistakenly assigned 131 proxy votes to the wrong column.



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Vol. XXXVII, No.42 (2,838)

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Toronto mourns 'best of our sons'

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Seventy-three yahrzeit candles, seventy-three photographs of faces of the dead.

That's what hundreds of mourners saw as they filed into the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue last week for an hour-long memorial service for the 73 Israeli soldiers killed Feb. 4 when two helicopters collided over the northern town of Shaar Yashuv.

As Israeli Consul-General Jehudi Kinar pointed out in his talk in Hebrew, Shaar Yashuv has exactly 73 families, each of which "decided to adopt the family of one of the fallen soldiers" in the wake of the worst military accident in Israel's history.

Most of the dead were between the ages of 19 and 21, he said, and many of the older victims were officers. "They were the best of our people, the best of our sons. They came from all over the country, from the south and from the north. They included new immigrants and the sons of veteran kibbutznikim.

"They represented the full political spectrum from the left to the right."

One of the soldiers had been a recent immigrant from Ethiopia whose parents had lost 12 other children before arriving in Israel. Another had arrived alone from England two years earlier and had enlisted voluntarily.

Yet another, born days after the Entebbe rescue, had been named in memory of Yoni Netanyahu, brother of the present prime minister who was killed during the mission; they are buried in the same cemetery, the crowd was told.

Although factionalized by politics and religion , Israeli society has been united in mourning the tragedy, Kinar said. "Last week, everyone set aside their personal opinions, and Israel became what it always has to be in order to withstand the challenges facing us. Israel became united as a people."

Kinar read an editorial from the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv*, written by Ya'acov Erez which described the anguish that many Israelis endured upon hearing of the calamity: "This night you searched for them. First, your own children. Afterwards your friends, and then their friends, and their children, and the friends of their children. An entire nation trembling by the phone.

"These are the moments when Israel is not a nation. It is a shared home."

> *'Israel is a shared home'*

Hassida David of the Israel Educational and Cultural Institute,who "led" the memorial service, called on Rabbi Philip Scheim, IDF Brigadier-General (Reserves), Doron Kadmiel and Major (Reserves) Yehuda Marley and several others to offer remarks. Most of the service was in Hebrew.

Rabbi Scheim drew a parallel between the fact that the Shaar Yashuv tragedy occurred during the month of Adar as did the series of suicide bombings last year in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon. Because the holiday of Purim falls in Adar, it is traditionally considered to be the harbinger of happiness and joy. Rabbi Scheim pointed out the obligation, albeit the difficult one, of "seeking Jewish joy notwithstanding the cost of Jewish survival."

Brigadier-General Kadmiel read the IDF standing order of the day from Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak-Lipkin urging everyone to do what they could "to strengthen the hands of the families that have suffered such heavy loss."

Major Marley read a message of condolence from Rabbi Israel Landa of Chabad. "We will not only light a memorial candle to the memories of the fallen, but we will, ourselves, become a candle which brings light in their memory."

Cantor Yehuda Rotner sang *K'El Maleh Rachamim* and other mournful hymns, and a trio of singers sang the Hebrew ballad, *Mah Avareich* (What Kind Of Blessing Can I Give A Child?) Two students read the poem, *Everyone Has A Name*, in Hebrew and English.

"When something like this happens, it touches everybody in Israel," David told *The CJN*. "It reaches into every kibbutz and every village and every place in the country. We're all hurting."

Both Kinar and David told *The CJN* that they know of numerous people in Canada who lost friends and cousins in the accident.

Israelis jarred by mention of crash scene in Scripture

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Was the helicopter crash that killed 73 Israeli servicemen foretold in the Scriptures?

That is the question on the minds of many Israelis, who were more than a bit unnerved to find a reference to the name Sha'ar Yishuv — the northern farming settlement over which the Feb. 4 crash took place — in the preceding week's Haftorah, the reading from the Scriptures that accompanies the weekly Torah portion.

The passage, in Isaiah 7:3-4, reads: "Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Sha'ar Yishuv thy son... and say to him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be faint-hearted on account of the two tails of these smoking firebrands."

Some believe that the "tails of these smoking firebrands" is a direct reference to the two helicopters that collided in mid-air and then caught fire.

Although some religious figures said the passage foretells the crash, others were quick to downplay what they admitted was a more than passing coincidence.

Gary Shapiro, faculty chair of the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, expressed the opinion of many Israelis. "I don't reflexively reject anything," he said. "However, I think we have to be very cautious about drawing a one-to-one correspondence between biblical verses and real-life events.

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The campus world

In this column, I bring to the readers' attention two unique student publications in Toronto: *Dorot* and *Images*.

In addition to the labor and dedication that are poured into the publications, their most outstanding features are the obvious energy and commitment that flow from them in the refreshing manner so reflective of the enthusiasm and creativity that is special and infectious among students struggling with challenge and change.

Dorot is a contemporary Jewish literary journal. Last week I attended the official launch of its second issue.

It is a slim, modest journal of poetry, fiction, non-fiction and photographs. But despite its 30 pages, it packs a punch, at times iconoclastic, at times poignant.

Sidura Ludwig, a student at York University, is its editor. Ludwig was *The CJN* summer intern last year in our Toronto office. She has a love for writing that is evident and ever prevalent in her work.

Dorot describes itself as an "innovative, provocative literary journal" that seeks submissions from university students...

"We want pieces with Jewish themes — that means anecdotes about your insane relatives, poetry about chicken soup, informal essays on the chaggim — anything Judaic!" Ludwig says.

"Dorot is the Hebrew word for generations. We want to show the public the talent of today's youth. Help us spread the strength of today's generation."

In an interesting irony of the launch last week, doubly acute because unintended, the journal's name was lent an added metaphorical dimension. The launch was held at the Joseph and Minnie Wagman Centre of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

The strength of the young generation was indeed spread, but in a manner respectful and obliging to the oldest generation.

The occasion was, in a sense, trans-generational, bringing forth a morning of newness and discovery in the twilight of the fully mature and fully expressed, as if giving living expression to the injunction in Leviticus: *"Mipnai sayvah takum, v'hadarta p'nai zakein."* Rise when you are in the company of an older (and therefore wiser) person; and give honor to the presence of an elder.

With a staff of four, and through the co-sponsorship of the Zuckerman Charitable Foundation and the Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, *Dorot* provides an opportunity for university students who seek their meaning and their expressions in the experience of writing. It is a wonderful opportunity for students and a wonderful opportunity for us, their parents, to glimpse their campus world.

Thirteen authors and photographers are published in volume two of *Dorot*. We shall reproduce the poem of one of them.

IF GOD HAD A ZIP CODE
by Dave Gordon

guns and knives bring me down
that's why people are always praying
But the message is usually returned to sender
I only wish God had a zip code
then we could all send him agiant postcard
saying, "Hey, you! God!
We've been trying to get intouch with you for ages!"

Oh, and the postcard: it would have a portrait of Earth on it
with a caption:
Wish You Were Here

Images is, as its front page banner expansively proclaims, "Toronto's Jewish student voice."

It is a full-fledged college newspaper, usually more than 20 pages in length, which appears every few weeks. It provides a range of articles from news stories, features, opinion and commentary and is a forum for the coverage of issues and events concerning the Jewish student community.

Because Jewish students in Toronto attend a far-flung geography of post-secondary campuses including U of T, York, Ryerson, Seneca, and George Brown, the voices one reads in *Images* are diverse and eclectic.

Its editor Jessica Pelt, is a student at the University of Toronto. Like Ludwig, Pelt also has an involvement with *The CJN*. She coordinates our monthly feature entitled Campus News and Views.

Images is published by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto with the support of its member campus organizations. It enriches campus life for all those students who pick it up and who inevitably find in its pages the exercises and activities at which students are very good: creative works that inform, entertain, amuse and provoke.

Wherever campuses exist, students will find vehicles of expression. If there are none to be found, they will create their own.

We, their parents, can be proud.

To borrow a phrase from the late brilliant poet and author, A.M. Klein, in their inventiveness, curiosity, energy, enthusiasm and inquiring minds, these young student writers "shine like phosphorous at the bottom of the sea."

In the glow of that shine, we not only see them, but we can gain newer glimpses of ourselves as well.

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Greater Toronto Area

Canada's voice absent in peace debate: Spector

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is making "virtually no contribution" to peace in the Middle East, charges a former Canadian ambassador to Israel.

As well, "Arabists" at the Foreign Affairs department have for a long time shown "a systematic bias" toward support for Arab positions, Norman Spector told a synagogue audience last week.

Spector, who served as Canada's ambassador in Tel Aviv from 1992 to 1995, said Ottawa's Mideast policies "fall way short of the standard set by [former Prime Minister] Lester Pearson."

Canada's efforts are not only "relatively ineffectual" but "counterproductive" to Mideast peace, charged Spector, who was recently appointed publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*. He takes up the position this spring.

Spector, Canada's first Jewish envoy to the Jewish state, repeated his oft-stated view that Jews are unwelcome in the foreign service. "Arabists" have "monopolized" the Middle East desk at Foreign Affairs, "and have gone so far as to advise Jews to make their careers elsewhere."

He conceded that under his tenure, Canada-Israel relations advanced, citing the free trade agreement between the two countries, which came into force Jan. 1, and the lifting of the embargo on Canadian arms sales to Israel.

But the free trade agreement, a "no-brainer" first proposed by Israel in 1987, took so long to get off the ground because it was strongly opposed by pro-Arab bureaucrats — an opposition that

Norman Spector

continues as "strong, evident, consistent and sustained" on a range of Israel-related issues.

And Spector belittled Ottawa's other efforts, calling the Mideast peace talks' Refugee Working Group, which Canada has chaired since 1992, "a sideshow."

Canada briefed Norway on one round of talks held in Oslo, "and to our ever-lasting embarrassment and surprise, the Norwegians were negotiating the Oslo accord right under our noses. They pulled off the diplomatic coup of the decade, if not the century."

Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin did not consider Canada a player on the Mideast stage, Spector said. Ottawa owes "what little role it does play" to the Likud government of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, which asked Canada to chair the refugee talks.

The time for politeness is over, he said, and he called on Canadian Jews to press Ottawa to change its Middle East policies.

Spector's talk was presented by Beth Emeth Synagogue, the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and B'nai Brith Canada.

Jewish leaders, businesses join trade mission to Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Meetings with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Ezer Weizman are confirmed for Canada's biggest-ever trade mission to Israel, from Feb. 21 to 27.

International Trade Minister Art Eggleton will join the leaders of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) and B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), and at least 54 business leaders on the trip, which will see the signing of several joint business ventures.

The goal of the Israel 1997 Business Mission is to inaugurate the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA), which came into force Jan. 1, and opens doors for Canadian businesses wishing to export their goods to Israel.

The mission will focus on, but is not limited to, seven main areas arising from CIFTA: agri-food and fish; high technology; telecommunications; medical, pharmaceutical and health care; construction and building; paper and forestry; and transportation.

In addition to meetings with Weizman and Netanyahu, meetings are slated with Israel's trade minister, Natan Sharansky; infrastructure minister Ariel Sharon; communications minister Limor Livnat and transport minister Yitzhak Levy.

Participants will also lay a wreath at the Mount Herzl gravesite of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Eggleton will preside over the official opening of Canada's new embassy in Tel Aviv. It moved in December.

Delegates will take part in a Canadian trade show to introduce their firms to the Israeli market and will open the Canada-Israel Joint Economic Commission at Israel's trade ministry.

Also scheduled are talks with the Palestinian Authority's minister of trade and economy, Maher Masri, and Palestinian business leaders.

Canadian companies represented on the trip include: Bombardier Inc.; Magnasonic Canada Corp.; Pixcom Communications; Spar Aerospace Ltd.; and SNC-Lavalin International Inc.

Jewish leaders taking part are: CJC president Goldie Hershon and national executive director Jack Silverstone; CIC president Stephen Victor and executive director Robert Ritter; and BBC president Lyle Smordin and executive vice-president Frank Dimant.

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Greater Toronto Area

York students hold successful 'Israeli' party

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A recent Saturday night party — Israeli-style —went so well that organizers at York University have planned a second one for early March.

About 130 people, a 50/50 mix of Israelis and Canadians, showed up Feb. 1 at the Open-End pub at Vanier College to socialize and dance — sometimes in circles, holding hands — to both Israeli and Canadian music. (A second party will be held at the same location March 8.)

"I think this is one of the best initiatives we've had this year," said Pearl Gropper, Jewish Student Federation (JSF) director. "There was such a positive feeling."

Her enthusiasm for the program, planned by two Israeli students, stems largely from the bringing together of two communities — Israeli students and their Canadian Jewish counterparts — which have for the most part remained separate. In addition, the party represented a new way of reaching out to Israeli students and bringing them together with each other.

In fact, said Gropper, there were a lot of new faces. "You don't hear from them, but they're there."

Ron Salamon, 20, a sociology student who organized the party with psychology student Ilan Gordon, 25, has a foot planted firmly in both cultures. An Israeli who moved here with his family nine years ago, he speaks English with no trace of an Israeli accent, and has both Israeli and Canadian-born friends, although he generally sees them separately.

In his experience, the two groups have preferred not to mix.

Salamon had had no connection with the JSF and had even thought of starting his own group for Israeli students, but decided to check out the existing group after hearing about a Hebrew speakers' club that Gordon had initiated.

The club served as catalyst for bringing more Israeli students into the JSF and breaking down barriers between Israelis and Canadians.

Now the JSF's Israel Affairs chair, Gordon, who came here four years ago after completing his army service, organized the Hebrew speakers' club under the auspices of the student organization.

The first meeting was hilarious, he recalled. About 25 students, both Israeli and Canadian, showed up to discuss things about Israel that strike Canadians as strange, and vice versa.

"When an Israeli comes here," said Gordon, "he stands in line for the bus, he's alone, he looks back and sees this straight, perfect line of people. It's the strangest thing."

The group has consciously avoided political issues, noted Gropper. "This is just to celebrate Israeli life. The emphasis is on cultural and social programs."

Ilan Gordon (left) Pearl Gropper and Ron Salamon are gearing up for a second Israeli party at York University. [Frances Kraft photo]

Jewish life thriving at Ryerson University

Please see page 23

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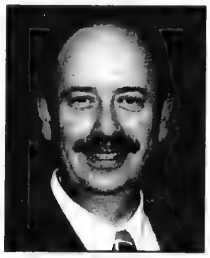

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Greater Toronto Area

Lawyer apologizes to CJC for contempt remark

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Lawyer Michael Code has apologized to Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) for suggesting the organization was in contempt of court when its representatives appeared on a CBC television documentary that focused on his client, alleged Nazi war criminal Helmut Oberlander.

"Based on information that I now have...I have been assured that neither Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee, nor Bernie Farber, national director of [community] relations for the CJC were referring to the particular facts of the Oberlander case in the remarks they made to CBC reporters.

"The language of my Feb. 4 letter has been taken to suggest the CJC was 'participating' in a contempt of court. Based on the information I now have, I have offered my sincere apology to them and to the CJC for any embarrassment or offence," Code stated.

Code's retraction was contained in a letter to Justice Department lawyer Chris Amerasinghe, a copy of which was filed in the Federal Court. A similar letter was sent to Congress, but "it's a private letter and we're treating it as such," said Keith Landy, Congress' honorary legal counsel.

Landy said Congress is satisfied with the apology and is now treating the matter as closed. He pointed out that both Abella and Farber "are seasoned people with regard to dealing with matters before the court. They know not to deal with specific cases and they know how to bring the views of the Jewish community to the public and the government with regards to the war crimes issue. They would never make any comment on specific cases before the court."

Code's complaint about the two Congress spokespeople stemmed from a recent CBC television documentary titled *The Oberlander File*. It focused on Oberlander's alleged role as an interpreter for a Nazi killing unit and the way the charges were perceived by the German and Jewish communities in Kitchener-Waterloo, where he now resides.

CBC lawyer Dan Henry has denied suggestions the network was in contempt, saying the report would not affect the fair adjudication of the issues before the court.

Code's Feb. 4 letter alleged that the CBC was in contempt because it dealt with the merits of the case against his client. He also criticized federal authorities for launching the Oberlander case "with a barrage of media publicity...Conducting litigation by way of press release...casts grave doubt on the attorney general's ability to carry out his duties with the historic neutrality...The appearance given by the press release was of a minister who was catering to the very interest groups who are now participating in contempt of court, together with a publicly funded broadcasting network."

The Oberlander case has been joined with those of alleged Nazi war criminals Erichs Tobiass and Johan Dueck to facilitate the resolution of preliminary legal issues the cases share in common. The cases have been before the courts for approximately two years with no end in sight.

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Conscience lost

Two of the major American news networks, NBC and CBS, have turned their cameras and their lights upon Canada's indefensibly feeble record in not ridding itself of the alleged Nazi war criminals who found shelter within our borders. (The question of how and why they found such protective shelter here is not part of this specific discussion.)

The spotlight and the heat the topic has cast in the vastly larger American mainstream appear to have embarrassed Canadian authorities in a way that neither the CBC nor Jewish groups ever could.

But embarrassment brings no satisfaction; only concerted, swift and determined action can.

To be fair, Attorney General Allan Rock has been more active than any cabinet minister before him in initiating legal proceedings against the alleged Nazis in our midst. That his actions have not been crowned with success is deeply regrettable. But we cannot lay the persistent, disheartening, dragging failure at his feet.

That failure stems in large part, incredibly, from an institutionally ingrained attitude that says: "Let bygones be bygones;" or "Fifty years is a long time;" or "Let the 'old men' merely live out the last days of their miserable lives forgotten and in obscurity."

Such an attitude is perverse. We oppose it abjectly with every ounce of our strength. It violates two fundamental tenets that Canadians hold dear and upon which we base our society: conscience and justice.

Perhaps a measure of local perspective will drive home the point more forcefully. As we have written before in this space, imagine if *every man, woman and child* in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and half of Alberta had been murdered systematically, brutally, callously and coldly by an organized group of evil thugs and their many accomplices. And imagine, too, if the majority of the killers were never brought to justice even though the remaining Canadians and many others knew the killers' identities and whereabouts.

As long as the killers lived, and Canadians knew where, would Canadians not attempt to bring the killers to justice? Would not conscience and justice demand that we bring the killers to account for their crimes?

Every man, woman and child in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and half Alberta.

Would Canadians not expect other like-minded, democratic, law-abiding peoples to understand their cause and indeed to help them in that cause?

As long as the killers lived, and Canadians knew where, would we ever say, "Let bygones be bygones;" or "Fifty years is a long time;" or "Let the 'old men' merely live out the last days of their miserable lives forgotten and in obscurity?" After five years? After 10 years? After 50 years? After any number of years?

Is it conceivable that Canadians would simply yield their consciences to the inconvenience of the passage of time? Is it conceivable that Canadians would simply shrug their shoulders in impotence and watch justice be defeated by injustice?

Canadians would pursue the killers to the ends of the earth because we know that conscience compromised is conscience lost. We also know that justice is more than a debt we pay to victims. It is the minimum standard by which we live our lives and in which we find praise and pride for our society.

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"Zionism has already brought about something remarkable, heretofore regarded as impossible: a close union between the ultra-modern and the ultra-conservative elements of Jewry. A union of this kind is possible only on a national basis."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

THEY SAY THAT ADVERSITY STRENGTHENS THE SOUL.
SO?
SO AT THIS POINT IN HISTORY...
WE MUST HAVE THE STRONGEST SOULS ON THE PLANET!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 19, 1895 the first Baron de Hirsch Benevolent Society Synagogue was dedicated in Halifax. That night Harry Glube and Sarah Cohen were married in the synagogue. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Debating the society we want

Your editorial commentaries of Jan. 30, "Mega-week in Ontario" and "Less drama, more thought," provided a welcome antidote to the assault on the citizens of Ontario by the "mega-week" announcements of the provincial government. Together with Rabbi Gunther Plaut's column of the same date, "Helping the less fortunate," they also give the basis for a response from us, as Jews, to a campaign with far-reaching implications.

We have a particular responsibility because for us there is no separation between religious ideals and the principles by which we should conduct our life, individually, and especially communally. In other faiths, it may be possible live a principled life in isolation from others, but Jews do not have this option. To be a good Jew is to be actively involved in the issues of social justice and concern for others. If we disdain "politics" as a somewhat sordid enterprise and distance ourselves from it, we leave the field open to people who may not bring a principled approach to an endeavor which is, in essence, about how we decide to live together as a society. This is a pity on two counts. Not only do we deny ourselves the opportunity to be truly human, as our tradition defines it, we deny the larger community our unique insights and experiences.

In one sense, Mike Harris and his government have done the people of Ontario a favor by sparking a debate on the kind of society we really want. Jews should take an active role in the discussion.

Anne Adelson
North York

The Bible is more than stories

Re: "Many Youth Alienated" (Jan. 16). When I read articles like this, I feel that the people who are attempting to teach our children cannot see the forest for the trees. If the story of Abraham, Isaac, the circumcision, the covenant, is not told against the backdrop of the practices of the Babylonians and the role of human sacrifices in the religious life of all other nations, then it is merely a story. If our children are not taught of the courage it took to turn our back on the practices that other nations hallowed, then the Jewish Bible is merely a collection of stories. Similarly, if the Sabbath is taught only within the context of not turning on the electric light, then our children are poorly taught.

In a world divided between two distinct classes, the slaves and their masters, Judaism took mankind's first step towards freeing slaves by giving the slaves a day of rest. The next giant step was taken when it was decreed that men must be paid for their labor and the hours of labor were to be regulated. Without knowing this, the rest is merely a story, that is soon set aside.

I feel our children are being poorly taught about the glories of Jewish history.

Elsa Rosenberg
Hamilton, Ontario

Forest Hill hockey teams face anti-Semitism

Your article "Anti-Semitic insults mar hockey tournament" (*CJN*, Jan. 30), says that "for many of the boys [representing Israel in Bulgaria] it was their first taste of blatant anti-Semitism," because they have played mostly in Canada.

Your readers should be aware that such incidents are commonplace in Canada when one team is distinctively Jewish. It is rare for a season to go by for Forest Hill hockey teams, who play against teams from Toronto and vicinity, without at least one anti-Semitic incident. I was present at such an incident within the past week, where Forest Hill players were called "dirty Kikes." Trash-talking is increasingly common in sport, but you needn't travel to eastern Europe to have it degenerate into racial slurs; 14-year-old Canadians are quite fluent in the language.

Debate rages as to how to respond to such comments. Alon Eizenman, in his report from Bulgaria, expresses pride in the fact that he and his teammates brawled with their Yugoslavian taunters, and "taught them a lesson in manners." His coach "upbraided the youngsters for fighting," but some of the players regarded a violent response as a matter of self-respect. Forest Hill players likewise aren't sure whether an anti-Semitic taunt is grounds for physical reprisal or yet another occasion for practising self-control.

C. Peter Herman
President
Forest Hill Hockey Association

The answer to the X-Files question

I read in *The CJN* an article by David J. Litvak from Vancouver. He wanted to try to find out if David Duchovny from *The X-Files* was Jewish. I have the truth to set his mind at rest.

The unofficial biography of David Duchovny states that his father is a Russian Jew and his mother is of Scottish descent. Therefore, he is not Jewish, as it all depends on one's mother's background.

Debbie Lee Keltz
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Our national history begins with music

By CHARLES HELLER

Recently, a correspondent to the *Jewish Chronicle* of London wrote that he was astonished that a London synagogue spent thousands of pounds on a chazzan and choir, "when there are dozens of other projects desperate for that kind of cash." I am sorry he felt so bad about it, but for anyone who responds to music, the matter is not astonishing at all. We need music; so of course we need musicians.

There will always be people like that correspondent who ask, "Why do we need music?" Well, as Louis Armstrong said, "If ya gotta ask, you'll never know."

But let me try to answer the question anyway. In the words of Toronto musicologist Bryan G. Levman: "The importance of music in key social situations" such as public ceremonies and religious services, "shows the deep conviction that all societies in the world have that music can share and transform experience, invoke and commune with the spirit world, and set this world in its proper order."

In simpler words, music affects us. Some people are only slightly touched by it, while for others, music, like all the arts, is an essential part of everyday experience. One Holocaust survivor said that the music played in Terezin was more important than the rotten food: "Music reminded us we were human beings."

Jewish national history begins with music. At the crossing of the Red Sea, Moses and the Children of Israel burst into song, shirah. The Shabbat when we read this episode is called Shabbat Shirah (which this year fell on Jan. 25). Jewish Music Month in North America is traditionally ushered in by this Shabbat, and many synagogues and communities arrange special musical programs around this time.

Jewish leaders have encouraged music ever since Moses. A synagogue service without chant and song is impossible. Over the centuries, there have been countless innovations, many requiring regularization through specific decrees of the rabbis. But the impulse for musical development could never be completely stopped and so gradually our liturgical music has become richer and more varied.

The Chassidim especially valued music. Rabbi Nachman of Breslov said, "A Jew must dance or sing or do something joyful every hour." In fact it is largely through their music and stories that the Chassidim have become accepted and influential in our time. Before 1945, the Chassidim were dismissed in some circles as superstitious and uneducated, but their status today vindicates the prophetic remarks made by Buber in 1907: "To find new life in our time Judaism will have to assimilate chassidic elements."

The Chassidim themselves never doubted their role. When the Breslover Rabbi Nosson sang *Aishet Chayil* on Friday nights, he would add his own chorus: "*Unser sheynkait un unser groyskait vet men visn az Moshiach vet kumen.*" (Everyone will know our beauty and our significance when the Messiah comes.)

Jews have of course been prominent music makers throughout history, from King David down to Sondheim, Blitzstein and Bernstein, not to mention Mendelssohn, Mahler and Schoenberg. Now these last three represent a particular paradox: the Jewish artist who has to reject his Jewishness in order to enter the mainstream of civilization. All three converted to Christianity, but each had his own brand of faith that was never fully accepted by the Christian world. Mendelssohn retained a lifelong attachment to Jews, both Reform and Orthodox; Mahler embarrassed his Christian singers by telling them to pray as Jews do, "wrestling with the angel." Schoenberg actually re-entered the Jewish community, his last few compositions being solely on Jewish themes.

The painting, *Musicians*, by Mané-Katz, captures in broad, expressive strokes how some people took to heart Rabbi Nachman's admonition: "A Jew must dance or sing or do something joyful every hour." ***[Sotheby's Important Judaica Oct. 1996]***

This paradox of the alienated Jewish artist (which the re-establishment of the Jewish State has, we hope, ended for ever) is encapsulated in two remarkable statements. In 1921, Schoenberg had worked out the method of serial composition and he remarked, "I have discovered something which will assure the supremacy of German music for the next hundred years." But even this was said slightly tongue in cheek, for he was fully aware of the precarious position of Jews in Germany.

As for Mendelssohn, he was responsible for the revival of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in 1829, which marked the reinstatement of Bach's work as the foundation of Western classical music. Mendelssohn wrote: "To think that a Jew-boy must revive the greatest Christian music for the world!"

The alienation of Jewish musicians is a complex story. Not only was the music of Jewish composers considered degenerate by many, but Jewish entrepreneurs were also edged out to the margins of society, which gave them an affinity for other rejects. Thus it is not surprising that the struggling Beatles were given their first encouragement at Hessy's music store in Liverpool; while in Chicago, blues artists got their first break through independent record producers such as the Chess Brothers, who signed Chuck Berry and Howlin' Wolf. It was a Jew, Alan Freed, who was the first DJ to play "black" R&B music on a "white" radio station. And because performing musicians themselves have been universally regarded as anti-social, their ranks have always been filled by those largely kept out of mainstream society, such as Jews and blacks.

During Jewish Music Month we focus specifically on Jewish music. But what exactly makes "Jewish music" Jewish? People argue endlessly about this. I once heard a distinguished speaker tell his audience that the question was silly and unanswerable, but the audience had come out of their way on a snowy night to hear him speak; so obviously the question has meaning and deserves an answer.

Some people think anything written by a Jew is Jewish music. (Under this definition we would have to include Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*.) Others think you can recognize Jewish music by its sound: if a piece of music has that sound, it's Jewish, and if not, then it's goyish. This method of identification would be very convenient if it were true, and would save a lot of arguments. Unfortunately, it is completely false. It developed in the early 20th century, largely influenced by half-baked theories of "race" and the desire of each country to have its own "national music."

The definition I prefer is: Jewish music is music intended for a Jewish audience. Jewish Music Toronto has a policy of ensuring that its concerts include a certain minimum proportion of "Jewish music," defined as being by a Jewish composer or having Jewish content. This would include, for example, Yiddish folk songs arranged by non-Jews such as Ravel, as well as chamber music by Mendelssohn.

There seem to be two kinds of reaction to Jewish music — some people think: "Oh no! Not more *Havah Nagilah*!" and refuse to listen. Then there are those who expect that, since Judaism is 4,000 years old, Jewish music must equally be "archaic" and "exotic." The former tend to have a limited knowledge of Jewish culture but an extensive education in Western culture; the latter tend to be Jews or non-Jews with only a romantic notion of what Judaism is all about. The truth is somewhere in between.

Jewish music covers vast reaches of time and space. I like to think of it as a museum of rare and beautiful things picked up along a journey through history and kept safe for posterity. At its core is Torah chant (trop) and prayer chant (nusah ha-t'fillah), some of which is 2,000 years old. Medieval pilgrims gave us the hymn *Eli Tsiyon*; Polish dancers gave us the lilt of the mazurka for our zmirot; while Baroque composers left their mark on Sephardi liturgical music. In the last century, the Russian masters influenced Jewish composers of the "St Petersburg School" who created highly artistic work based on their own discoveries in Yiddish folksong. This was something new —profoundly Jewish material presented with the finest Western technique, a style that continues to be explored by Israeli composers today.

* * *

Celebrate Jewish music in 1997, Mendelssohn's 150th yahrzeit, by thinking about these questions: Do you agree with critic Max Brod that "the Jewish note" is heard clearly in his music? Or do you agree with musicologist Abraham Idelsohn that there is "not a single element that bears Jewish features?"

Or why not be more musically active and join a choir near you, wherever you live? Every major centre should have an opportunity for singing in a synagogue or community choir. (If it hasn't, why not start your own?)

Last November, I was at a gala CBC choral celebration attended by amateur singers from all over Canada. The host, Howard Dyck, made a memorable comment: "Choral music creates a sense of community." The Jewish community has been singing ever since it crossed the Red Sea and now it's your turn to join in!

Charles Heller is choir director at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue in North York, and is vice-president of Jewish Music Toronto. He is also a consulting editor for the Cantors Assembly of New York.

Opinions

Ridding the earth of Hitler's shadow

With the war just about 50 years over, three great books have appeared, Gerhard Weinberg's *The World at War*, his *Germany, Hitler and World War II* and Richard Overy's *Why the Allies Won*, and while very different in outlook — the first two by a former German Jew, the other by an Englishman — on the crucial point they say the same thing: *Hitler almost won the war.*

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

France was beaten, England alone, the United States not ready and, what with Hitler's surprise attack, the Soviet Union had lost, in the first half-year, four million men; 8,000 aircraft, many on the ground; 17,000 tanks, to say nothing of more than half its steel and coal, and its Ukraine "bread basket." Truly staggering figures!

The young may think we naturally won, and even we who lived through it all never knew how close a call it was, but as Overy writes, "The conflict was poised on the knife edge in the middle years of the war. This period must surely rank as the most significant turning point in the history of the modern age."

Then why did we win? To quote Overy again: "The battle of Stalingrad depended on the desperate, almost incomprehensible courage of a few thousand men who held up the German 6th army long enough to spring the decisive trap."

Whence this "desperate" courage of the military? Or the heroic endurance of the starving population in Leningrad, besieged but never conquered? In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler preaches that the most brutal war is the most merciful, for it is won fastest; and in Soviet Russia he practised to the full the evil "mercy" he had preached. With word getting around of the fate meeting captives of the Germans, the Russian population — civilians and soldiers — fought with a courage they never knew they had.

Communism brutal tyranny

That was one reason we won. The other was luck. Here again is Overy: "The invasion of France hung on the ability to keep the enemy guessing, against every conceivable odds...and then on the weather. It is hardly surprising that Churchill thought at the end of the war that Providence had brought the Allies through."

Churchill himself had a crucial share. Long a foe of communism, and even now not disguising his hostility, in what historian A.J.P. Taylor has called the "greatest act of statesmanship in modern times," he did not even let a day pass without veritably jumping to the aid of the attacked: "I have to make a declaration, but can you doubt what our policy will be? We have but one aim...to destroy Hitler and every vestige of the Nazi regime...until, with the help of God, we have rid the earth of his shadow."

That and more he said in a historic address to his people, still gravely endangered themselves.

Communism was a brutal tyranny. But a Nazi victory would be the end of civilization. Trying to put it in a single sentence, I once put the horror humanity has escaped thus: humanity divided into racial subhumans and supermen, both having ceased to be human, both enslaved, the first by others, the second to enslaving others, all born and bred to no other purpose, in turn breeding others to the same purpose, and these yet others, and so on, for the thousand years that the Third Reich was to last.

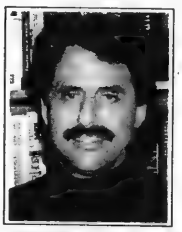
Churchill was of indispensable help in getting rid of Hitler. However, he did not succeed in getting rid of his shadow. The "mercy" Hitler practised on the Russians, this and more he practised also on Jews who had no means of fighting back. Indeed, he lost the war but, alas, won the Holocaust.

These 50 years, we thought, at least, it was over, but now we know it is not. There are Holocaust perpetrators, victims and bystanders. But with works such as Christopher Browning's *Ordinary Men* and Daniel Goldhagen's *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, we only now get a fuller knowledge of what the perpetrators did to the victims, while at the same time learning that the bystanders did not just stand by, but shamelessly enriched themselves at the expense of the murdered Jews. Perhaps this simultaneous information is not accident. Perhaps it took 50 years for us to do what Churchill wanted to do, get rid of Hitler's shadow.

For Jews, at any rate, the duty is clear: we must hound that shadow wherever it is.

Israel's divided capital an unbearable fact

How many times have we heard Israeli leaders emphasize that Jerusalem is the indivisible and eternal Capital of the Jewish State. Within the Jewish heart, it is most certainly the geographical, spiritual core of this nation.



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

And how many times have we heard Palestinians, and more than a billion Muslims, claim there will be no real peace until Arab Jerusalem will be the capital of a sovereign Palestinian State. Within the Islamic consciousness this too is a fundamental axiom.

So with Palestinian and Israeli negotiators preparing to tackle the toughest of issues — the future status of Jerusalem — a solution doesn't seem possible.

Unfortunately, both sides still find it too difficult to cope with the reality of Jerusalem.

That reality points out that Jerusalem is a totally divided city, divided into a Jewish and Islamic world, divided into Hebrew speaking and Arabic speaking regions, divided in loyalties, and divided in cultures.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demands the Palestinians close their government offices in Jerusalem, but even if those doors close, east Jerusalem will remain Palestinian and west Jerusalem will remain Israeli. The Western Wall will remain Jewish, the Temple Mount will remain Islamic. The populations will not mix, and they will not accept the other community's domination.

Populations refuse to mix

Hamas, Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad activists may dream of a new Salah A Din who will lead Arab armies into Jerusalem defeating the Jews as he defeated the Crusaders, but like the Jewish dream, this too is wasted fantasy, not fact. No Arab army is going to conquer Jerusalem from a nuclear armed Jewish State.

The fact is, Jerusalem is already a divided capital — an unbearable fact, yes, but still a fact. Arabs and Jews have been trying to push each other out of Jerusalem for nearly a 100 years. But like the rest of this contested land, Jerusalem has condemned both nations to share this city, like it or not.

Israeli suburbs expand and so do Palestinian neighborhoods. Israelis turn to their municipality and mayor; Palestinians turn to their local leaders and governor in the Abou Dis suburb. Diplomats visit the Israeli Foreign Ministry in west Jerusalem and the Palestinian Orient House in east Jerusalem.

Personally, I don't find a Palestinian capital in Arab suburbs of Jerusalem a threat to my Jewish identity or a danger to my spiritual attachment to this city. Shabbat will still be Shabbat at the Western Wall. Jewish life will remain vibrant in the Jewish quarter of the Old City. The Knesset, the Israel Museum, the Hebrew University, all manifestations of Jewish political-cultural activity, will continue to thrive in Jerusalem.

Palestinian sovereignty in Arab Jerusalem cannot threaten Israeli sovereignty in Jewish Jerusalem, just like the Israeli government can't really unify this city into one homogenous Capital.

A year ago, it would have been unthinkable that a Likud government would hand over Hebron. Five, 10 or 15 years from now we will see a future government compromise over Jerusalem.

In time, we will face this reality and move on. A Star of David over the Western Wall, an Islamic flag over the Haram El Sharif may enable the human beings in the city and the region to live in peace.

Museum of Tolerance

"You must see the Museum of Tolerance," my nephew told us when we visited Los Angeles recently.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

He was right; I found it to be a must, even after having been exposed to the Holocaust Museum in Washington on two different occasions.

To be sure, the basic ingredients are the same; the growth of Nazism, the terror of persecution, the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, the partisans, the horror and the valor. But there are palpable differences as well.

Most significantly, the Los Angeles museum, created and run by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, has a somewhat broader focus. It not only deals with Jews, it also pursues the theme of tolerance in general. Thus, on entering the exhibit area, one is greeted by a challenge to determine one's own degree of intolerance in a variety of ways. A whole room is dedicated to the Rwanda slaughter, and the pictures of 6,000 children who are still looking for their parents fill its walls, creating a memorable tapestry of suffering. There is room for only the 6,000 images, but many more children are currently orphaned and hope that they might miraculously find surviving members of their families. The walls depict graphically the immense task that Rwandans face in the painfully difficult reconstruction of their lives.

Still, the Shoah remains the chief focus of the exhibits. In some ways, I found them more graphic than their Washington counterparts. That is not surprising for a museum in the city that harbors Hollywood, and indeed, virtual stage settings dot the exhibits. In one memorable scene, the visitor becomes part of an outdoor restaurant of 1933 Germany, just after the Nazis had come to power. Three-dimensional, life-like figures sit at tables, and the lights switch from one pair of guests to another, letting us listen to their conversations. Almost all the "actors" express their belief that the Nazis will turn out to be tamer than expected, and that sooner or later the German people will throw them out. But some disagree and announce their intent to leave the country forthwith. I looked and listened hard; I could almost see my father sitting at one of the tables and saying what they were saying. He too could not imagine the horror that eventually befell all of us.

State-of-the art interactive exhibits are everywhere. I went to a screen where I could retrace my own steps in the conquest of the Dora-Mittelbau-Nordhausen concentration camp. I looked at the pictures they showed and could have asked the machine to print them out for me, but decided against it.

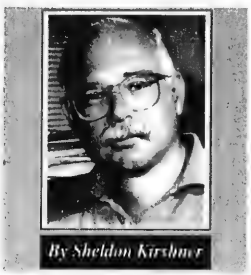
About 1,000 people a day visit the museum, I was told. We encountered school children of various ages, and I have no doubt that what they saw and heard in the 2½ hours it takes to make the tour will stay with them for a long time.

I also hope they took a "little identity card" of some child caught in the cauldron. At various stages of the journey they would find out what happened to that child and his/her family during the Holocaust years.

"It could have been you," the subliminal message says.

The Kirshner File

Author takes a timely, moving look at Eastern Europe



By Sheldon Kirshner

Upwards of five million Jews resided in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic prior to the Holocaust. Now these countries contain fewer than 120,000 Jews, as well as the relics of vanished or greatly diminished Jewish communities.

Ruth Ellen Gruber, a United Press International correspondent, visited these post-Communist societies in 1989 from her base in Vienna. She has produced an informative account of her travels, *Upon The Doorposts Of Thy House: Jewish Life In East-Central Europe, Yesterday And Today* (John Wiley & Sons, $34.95). The book is both timely and moving.

Gruber, an American, wanted to fulfil two broad goals — to document remnants of Jewish life and to explore disused synagogues, graveyards and buildings which evoke a vibrant lost world.

She falls short of painting a complete picture of present-day realities in these much-depleted Jewish communities. However, she succeeds in conveying their haunting past. Quite aptly, Gruber employs the mezuzah as a metaphor of a bygone epoch.

"Today, on the doorposts of countless houses in countless towns and villages throughout East-Central Europe, where few if any Jews have lived since the Holocaust half a century ago, it is still possible to distinguish the places where mezuzahs had once been attached, marking these houses as Jewish homes," she writes. "On some doorposts there are actual scars — empty, often very neat, gouges in the wood left when the mezuzahs were removed."

Gruber then launches into her narrative, which is filled with 50 of her own black and white photographs.

In Prague, a tourist draw with about 1,000 registered Jews, Gruber wanders through old Jewish neighborhoods, weathered cemeteries and venerable synagogues. As she discovers, the hollow-eyed visage of Franz Kafka — Prague's most illustrious son — peers out from postcards, posters, banners, souvenir mugs and T-shirts. During the Communist era, though, Kafka's novels were frowned upon.

Gruber's profile of Prague's new rabbi, Karol Sidon, formerly an assimilated intellectual and political dissident, is instructive. With deft brush strokes, she draws a fine pen portrait of a man whose mother was a Christian, whose Jewish father perished in a concentration camp, whose life was saved by Christian relatives during the Nazi occupation, and whose awakening to Judaism was visceral.

In the following chapter, Gruber visits the Tokaj wine region of northeastern Hungary, where Chassidism flourished. In the town of Tokaj, she stumbles upon Lajos Lowy, one of the last four adult Jewish men there. Portrayed as a lonely individual, Lowy is obsessed by a desire to preserve the memory of local Jewish history. One of his projects is to photograph and number tombstones in a nearby cemetery before neglect and erosion obiliterate the inscriptions.

He directs the author to the "jewel box" of Tokaj, the great but delapidated synagogue that was put to use as a warehouse in the wake of the Holocaust. Pressing on, Gruber stops in the village of Mad, where she comes upon "a scallop-sided baroque" synagogue which enchants her.

In the eastern extremity of Slovakia, adjacent to Ukraine, Gruber ventures into Michalovce, a town recommended to her by Josef Klansky, an elderly Prague writer. In her mind's eye, she conjures up visions of a Jewish community which once comprised one-third of the population.

Szeded synagogue a masterpiece

Further down the road, she encounters Meyer Spira, who, together with his sister and his brother-in-law, are the sole remaining Jews of Bardejov. Until the Nazi deportations, Bardejov was 50 per cent Jewish. Today almost nothing of Jewish interest is left, except a synagogue, a bathhouse and a school, all of which are crumbling.

In Budapest, with the largest Jewish population in East-Central Europe, Gruber makes it her business to track down the gravestone of Lipot Baumhorn (1860-1932), a prolific synagogue architect who designed some two dozen shuls.

Baumhorn's masterpiece was the synagogue in Szeged. Clearly impressed by this soaring edifice, she describes it as "an eclectic extravaganza of Baroque, Moorish, Romanesque and even Art Nouveau styles bristling with cupolas, turrets, tracery, mosaics, gilding, stained glass and frescoes," topped by a massive dome surmounted by a Star of David.

After an exhaustive three-year search, Gruber finally finds Baumhorn's grave with the help of two attendants. Thick ivy, resembling a shimmering outer shroud, encrusts the tombstone. As her excitement wells up, she claws at the stems and creepers, restoring to daylight "the chiseled memory of this man." Understandably, she feels like a liberator.

In Poland, home to 3.3 million Jews in 1939, Gruber explores Kazimierz, Krakow's venerable Jewish quarter. Untouched by the Nazis, Kazimierz, with its synagogues, shtieblach and institutional buildings, is a "symbol of Jewish absence." The words are those of Henryk Halkowski, one of the handful of Jews still living in Krakow.

Gruber wonders whether Kazimierz should be left in its decrepit state or restored as a monument to Polish Jewry. It's an academic question, since funds are lacking and the ownership of property has yet to be clarified.

The last Jew in Auschwitz

On the last leg of her odyssey, she makes a pilgrimage to Auschwitz, known in Polish as Oswiecim. For Jews, Auschwitz is the "ultimate symbol" of the Holocaust. For Poles, it is the epitome of "Polish suffering under the Nazis."

There, Gruber meets Franciszek Piper, director of the research department at the Auschwitz museum. His knowledge of Oswiecim's destroyed Jewish community is awesome.

Thanks to a tip from a local reporter, she resolves to interview Szymon Klueger, the last remaining Jewish inhabitant of Oswiecim. But as Gruber stands by the gate to his house, she changes her mind.

"I debated with myself about walking up that path and knocking on the door and confronting ... the man who so easily fit into a set of quotation marks: 'The Last Jew in Auschwitz.' I chose to walk away."

Snowbound in Auschwitz, Gruber meditates on her journey through Eastern Europe. Her observations are those of a sensitive, caring observer, and fortunately, they permeate *Upon The Doorposts Of Thy House.*

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Greater Toronto Area

Student teams spar in unique Bible contest

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

THORNHILL — On a recent Sunday morning, 12 teams of students from six supplementary schools in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) sparred in the local Bible contest.

The event, sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), was held at Netivot HaTorah Day School in Thornhill.

There was a 25 percent increase in the number of contestants this year, with 41 students participating, compared to 31 a year ago, said contest organizer Joyce Levine, coordinator of student services at the BJE. The students were in grades 5 to 7.

The participating schools — most fielded two teams — were Beth Tikvah Synagogue School, Holy Blossom Temple Religious School, Orah School for Jewish Children from the Soviet Union, Temple Kol Ami Religious School, Bet Sefer Solel and the Downtown Jewish Community School (DJCS).

Toronto is the only community in Canada which offers a local contest, Levine said, noting that there are no big prizes to be won.

"It's really just for fun. The students have a good time at it...It's great to see the kids excited about learning Torah. These students are most often learning on their own time," she added.

This year's contest was on the text of Exodus. The students study the text rather than the commentary, she explained. "They study it so well they retain it for years."

For a second consecutive year, teams from Beth Tikvah and the DJCS came first and second respectively. Chava and Leah Schwebel, Adam Silver and Kimberly Edwards were members of the winning team from Beth Tikvah. Ben Strauss, Esther Lexchin and Katie Costin of the DJCS placed second.

Moishe Kesten, an executive board member of the BJE, awarded books to the two winning team members at the closing ceremony.

Kesten said he was very impressed with the students' enthusiasm. "I found it inspirational that students from supplementary schools were all hyped up and excited about studying the Bible."

Dr. Uri Korin, principal of Bialik Hebrew Day School and a judge at the local Bible contest for the last 10 years, said he was impressed with the level of knowledge.

"It was obvious that the teachers and the students put in a tremendous amount of effort," Korin said.

The average score of the six schools he judged was 92 percent, he said, pointing out that this level of achievement is much more difficult to attain in supplementary schools than in the day schools. Bible study is an extracurricular activity for supplementary school students, he said. "They are making a major commitment to learn Tanach."

The other contest judges were Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University; Yael Seliger, director of teacher development at the BJE; and Laura Wiseman, program director of Judaic studies at United Synagogue Day School. Gary Levine, director of student services at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, moderated the trivia round, in which all the teams participated at once.

The local Bible contest was held on the same day as the preliminary written exams for the Regional/national Bible contest.

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New parenting magazine focuses on special needs kids

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *B'Yadeinu*, the new kid on the block in parenting magazines, has a different slant.

This quarterly publication is devoted to children with special needs in the Jewish community.

The term special needs refers to such a wide variety of difficulties as developmental delays, physical challenges, genetic anomalies, emotional difficulties, even such conditions as anorexia.

Editor Susie Mittelman-Sokol, herself the mother of a special needs child, 12-year-old Talya, sees it as "a way of sharing, learning, venting, *chizuk* (strength), interaction, dialogue," for families who have children with special needs.

But she intends to gear the publication to the broader community as well.

"I want rabbis to be more involved, for instance. Families need support from the community. The community is led by the rabbis — the values they teach trickle down to the community."

She wants to show professionals in the medical and education fields "the reality behind the theories. I want them to see the issues families face between therapy sessions, so they can have a better understanding of the family unit."

For others not directly involved, "I want to explain the child they will see at shul and at the park, and start a dialogue about what they will experience."

Children who have special needs are "still part of the kehillah, the Jewish community, even if they don't attain what we would want for them," she says.

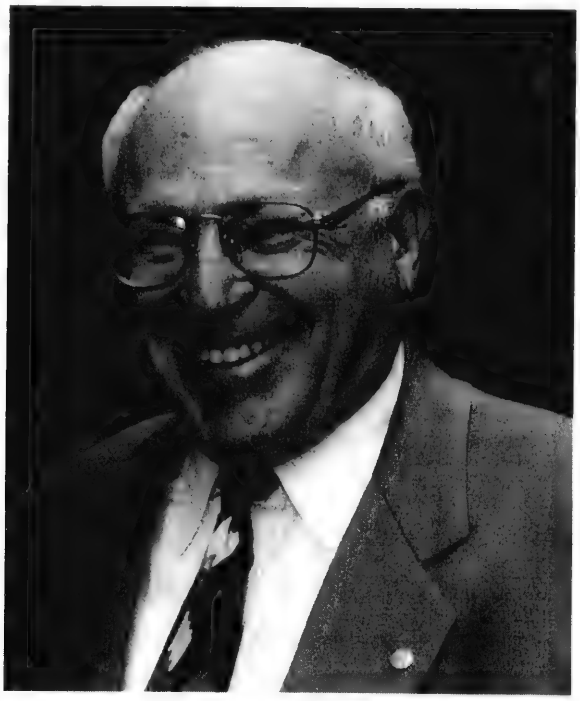
The first issue, dated December 1996, is a glossy, 23-page effort with a decidedly professional look. There are articles about immunization, stress, sensitizing children to those who are "different," and ChaYil, a new organization for parents of special needs children.

Features in every issue will include news from across Canada, crafts, poems, Sib Side (a sibling's experiences with the family member who has special needs) and Parental Vent for parents' comments.

Mittelman-Sokol also runs a So Proud...So Embarrassed feature, which will give examples of community happenings one can be proud of, or ashamed of. (The first So Embarrassed tells of the person who asked that copies of *B'Yadeinu* be sent in brown, unmarked envelopes.)

Reaction to the first issue has been very positive, Mittelman-Sokol said. "I have gotten many calls asking to subscribe, and a lot of people have asked to help with the magazine."

Yearly subscription is $18. For more information, write B'Yadeinu, 800 Steeles Ave. W., Suite B10-183, Thornhill, L4J 7L2.



Edwin Goldstein has been appointed as the Chair of the "Over the Top" Committee of the ***Baycrest...Imagine Our Future Without It Campaign.***

This Committee will lead the final thrust into the community for awareness and fund raising. To date, the Campaign has raised $50 million of the $60 million goal. The final $10 million is needed to complete the building, and initiate new community service programs.

As an active member of the Jewish community through most of his adult life, and past Chair of the Baycrest Centre Board, Edwin Goldstein has been involved with Baycrest for over 30 years.

"Everyone at Baycrest, and everything at Baycrest is first class," Edwin said. "I am proud of the work done here and the care that is given. We have to look after our elders, and ensure they receive the best care and treatment. People are now living longer, which means greater numbers of elderly are needing assistance. Baycrest's work is becoming more and more important."

"I took on the role of Chair because I know there is a pride of ownership for Baycrest within the Jewish community. And I also know I have the support and confidence of Harold Lederman, Chair, Baycrest Centre Foundation, Florence Minz Geneen, Chair, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, and the nine Chairs of the Campaign.

"The final push for the goal must come from all of us. The Campaign team, the community, and *you!* We have to raise the last $10 million. We have to put the community care plans in place, and the roof on the building. Please help. It's *your* Baycrest!"

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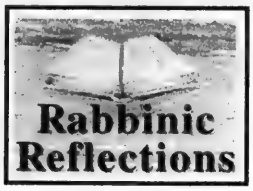


No one is indispensable

By RABBI CHANAYA M. BERZON

Many commentaries pose the question why the Torah portion Tezaveh does not begin with: "And G-d spoke unto Moses..." Instead, Moses's name is deleted. The parshah begins with: "And thou (meaning Moses) command the children of Israel etc." HaShem is directing his words towards Moses, but not calling him by name. Why?

The Baal Haturim remarks that since Moses said "Erase me from the Book which You have written." HaShem erased Moses from his parshah. After the episode of the Golden Calf, HaShem told Moses He was ready to destroy the Jewish nation and build a new nation from Moses and his descendants. Moses responds with his limitless love of his people, saying, "If you destroy them, I too want out. I don't want any part of your plan."

The Almighty castigating Moses in this fashion does not seem to make any sense. Moses should be commended for his act of love for his people. He cares for them, and is willing to forfeit his own personal future for them. So why the punishment?

Obviously, Moses, in threatening HaShem, implies that HaShem can not go it alone without Moses. It was as if he was stating "You have no choice. If I don't go along with You there is nothing. Without my cooperation and agreement to father your planned new nation, there is no Torah, no Israel and even no world. So, G-d, You are forced to listen to me. You can't make it without me."

HaShem, by deleting Moses' name from one parshah, is conveying a clear message to Moses and mankind. No person is indispensable. "Moses ... Got along without you before I met you. Gonna get along without ya now." True, Moses you are the most important man ever created. There never was and never will be a prophet, a teacher, a leader like you. No one has ever shown as much self-effacement and love. But that will not be the reason for destroying the world. The world will survive without you. Perhaps with great difficulty. But it will!

How true to life this message is. Let me cite a few illustrations.

Marital strife: Isn't it true that at least one of the partners is convinced that the other would be devastated if they would separate. "I'll teach my partner that without me there is nothing. My spouse will just fall apart." Perhaps there is a degree of truth in this remark. Life can be rough going it alone. But life goes on. Eventually the partner, often with difficulty, puts life together and continues. The partner learns to "get along without ya!"

Isn't it the same with children who threaten to abandon us if we refuse to condone their self-destructive behavior?

We encounter such conduct in communal life. Occasionally, we have a leader who is advancing the cause with colossal competency. He gets off track and when it is pointed out, threatens to resign. We offer to conciliate and placate. He refuses. We fear the enterprise will collapse. How can we persevere without this person at our helm? Something happens. We do prevail. It is difficult initially. We were accustomed to his direction, input, capabilities. Someone else takes the helm. We flounder for a while but eventually we get back on track.

HaShem, at the onset of our parshah, sends a message to all of us. No person is indispensable. Even the great Moses in his own Torah — in this parshah — can remain nameless.

Rabbi Berzon is spiritual leader of Young Israel of Chomedey, Quebec.

Diplomatically Speaking

By Jehudi Kinar

The hectic life of a consul general

Very often I am asked about the consul general's duties. People understandably get confused about work done by a consulate and work done by the embassy.

The ambassador has the overall function of representing the State of Israel across Canada, and deals primarily with federal issues. Consulates, on the other hand, of which we have two in Canada — Montreal and Toronto — deal more specifically with provincial and communal matters. Israel currently has a total of 108 missions abroad, 21 of which are consulates.

In general, consulates are established in large countries which boast major cities, and in the case of United States and Canada with larger concentration of Jewish communities. There are nine consulates in the United States and two in Canada, which together account for more than 50 percent of our consulates worldwide. Were it not for the financial burden, we would certainly open a consulate in Vancouver, a city making enormous strides in the economic and political arenas as well as in the Jewish world.

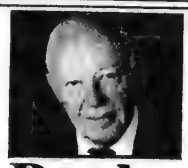
As it stands now, the consulate in Montreal is responsible for Quebec and the Maritime provinces, and Toronto for Ontario and Western Canada. Although our consular department is very busy issuing official travel documents and the legalization of other documents, this constitutes only a small part of our daily work.

We try to improve links with political leaders, to enhance economic cooperation such as suggesting investments in Israel or proposing partnership between Canadian and Israeli firms. We also do our utmost to act as a cultural bridge between Israel and Canada, trying to expose the Canadian community to Israeli culture, and vice versa. We follow the local, provincial and national press and try to keep the media informed of events in Israel. The Israeli Government Tourist Office for its part, tries to attract an increasing number of Canadian tourists to Israel each year.

At the same time, the consulate serves as a direct link between Israel and the Jewish communities in the different provinces under our jurisdiction. The many activities of the large number of Jewish organizations in Toronto are very demanding on our representatives. The manifold events which take place on the same day and often the same hour cause us many conflicts; needless to say we would like to be present at as many events as possible.

Furthermore, the communities in such cities as Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Hamilton, London and Windsor also have their demands, and rightly so. Not that we are complaining, but one or two additional staff members would ease our lives. For the time being, however, in light of current budgetary constraints in Israel, this is not likely to happen in the foreseeable future. As is normal in such work, we usually know at what time we will start our day, but never when it will end.

On a somewhat different note, in my capacity as consul general, I am confronted on a daily basis with the bizarre and unexpected. We answer our telephones in the office with great trepidation. Not uncommonly, we hear from people claiming to be the messiah; others have solutions to the problems plaguing the Middle East — if not the world. We have listened to suggestions about building a subway line from Eilat to the Hermon, individuals inquiring about visas to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq; there are still others who call with urgent messages for the Mossad, and their confreres who await instructions.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Peretz remembered

I. L. Peretz Reader **edited by Ruth Wisse (Random House, $21 (paper).**

Isaac Leib Peretz (1852-1915) was one of the three great "classic" Yiddish writers — the others being Mendele Mocher Sforim and Shalom Aleichem.

Peretz was a man of many contradictions. Born in Poland to a rejected and persecuted minority, he reached out for universal cultural ideals. Jailed at one point for his socialist views, he remained suspicious of any form of collectivism that would suppress or deny individual creativity. Suspicious of Zionism, he worked to create a Jewish "Diaspora nationalism" based on the Yiddish language. Convinced of the need for Jewish acculturation to the outside world he nevertheless strove to preserve what he considered precious and distinctive in his own tradition.

For 25 years, Peretz served as an official of the Jewish community of Warsaw, giving untiringly of himself as prolific writer, publisher, teacher and dramatist.

The I. L. Peretz Reader contains 26 short stories, many of them newly translated. They can be read today with the same fresh delight and meaning as a century ago when they were written.

In the brief tale, *Der Golem*, which relates a legend about the famous figure of clay created by Rabbi Low of Prague, Peretz injects a bitter satire on what he considers petrified Judaism. He concludes, "The Golem is still here; he is not forgotten, but the Shem — the ineffable Name of God — by means of which the Golem was animated, is irreparably lost. The clay body of the Golem lies, and the cobwebs over it grow thicker and thicker, but no one is allowed to disturb it, for both the Golem and the cobwebs are sacred."

Hypocrisy is satirized in the tale *Die Frume Katz* (*The Pious Cat*). A pious cat kills two canaries, one after the other, because they spend their days foolishly without worrying about the hereafter. He kills them as a sacred duty, but the deed is discovered and the cat is punished. He finally concludes that he will turn a third sinful canary from the path of error by kindness, by embracing it and preaching to it. "But," ends the tale, "since a canary cannot live in air exhaled by cats, it died of suffocation."

Some of the most successful stories deal with the world of Chassidism. In his famous story, *Oib Nisht Noch Hecher* (If Not Higher), we are told how a Lithuanian skeptic doubled the stories of extreme piety told about the Zaddik of Nemirov. He decides to investigate and discovers how the Zaddik performs a good deed — chopping wood and lighting fire for a widow in a forest cabin. Ever afterward whenever he heard people say of the Zaddik that he ascends to heaven during the holiday season, he would say, "if not higher."

In the story *Zwishen Zwei Berg* (*Between Two Mountains*), the two characters are a master of Talmudic learning and a former youthful disciple who left him because of his dry and sterile teaching. They represent two sides of Judaism, the intellectual and the emotional. On the day of Simchat Torah, the two, the rabbi and his disciple meet.

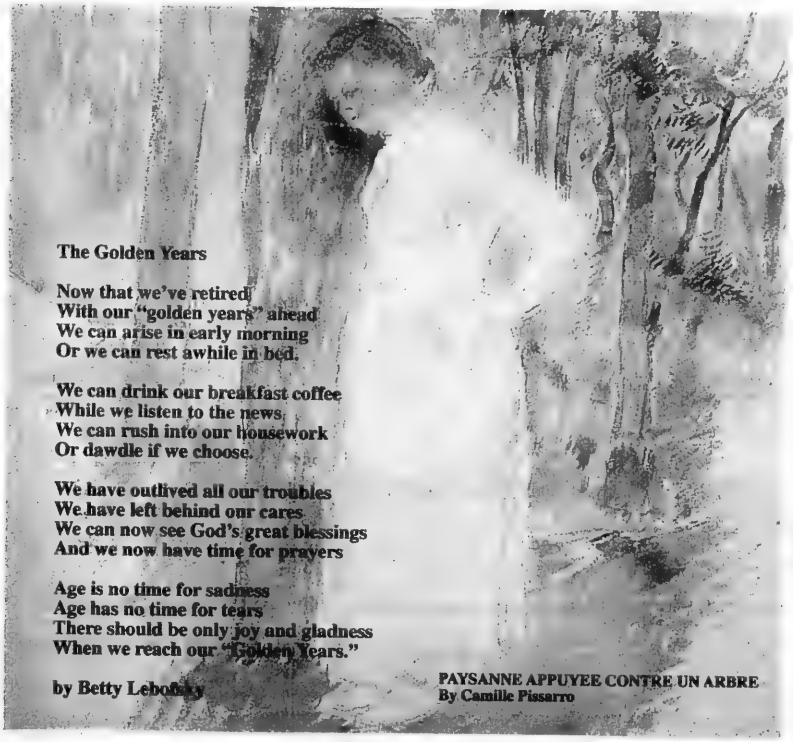
"Why, Noah, did you leave me?" asks the rabbi.

"Because," Noah answers, "your Torah, master, is justice without mercy; it is intended for the scholar, for the select. What message have you, master, for the entire House of Israel, for the woodchopper, butcher, tailor, and all unlearned Jews?"

The former student then led the rabbi to the balcony and showed him a group of Chassidim on the lawn whose faces were bright and among whom joy reigned as they sang a chassidic melody. It was a veritable joy of the Torah. The rabbi of Brisk was impressed but not converted. Silently, master and disciple parted.

For those who have never read the stories of Peretz this book will provide much pleasure. To those already familiar with them, it will bring renewed interest and meaning.

When Peretz died, more than 100,000 mourners came to his funeral. They had lost a friend who was a magical weaver with words of their lives, hopes and dreams.



The Golden Years

Now that we've retired
With our "golden years" ahead
We can arise in early morning
Or we can rest awhile in bed.

We can drink our breakfast coffee
While we listen to the news,
We can rush into our housework
Or dawdle if we choose.

We have outlived all our troubles
We have left behind our cares
We can now see God's great blessings
And we now have time for prayers

Age is no time for sadness
Age has no time for tears
There should be only joy and gladness
When we reach our "Golden Years."

by Betty Lebofsky

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By Camille Pissarro

Beth Tzedec Congregation
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Faye Kellerstein

accompanied by

Jordan Klapman

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 25, 1997

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NEW LEADERSHIP
STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS
PRESENTS

Quebec Nationalism: What Does It Mean for the Future of 'Ethnics and Money'?

Sunday, February 23 at 7pm

After former Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau blamed 'Ethnics and Money' for the Yes side defeat in the October 1995 referendum, the question for the almost 100,000 Quebec Jews still remains an urgent one. Should they start packing their suitcases and abandoning their homes? Should Toronto prepare for a new onslaught of Montrealers?
Our panel of high profile and outspoken Montreal "movers and shakers" share their insights on this vital issue.

Speakers:

Marcel Coté-Economist and co-founder of SECOR Consulting, and an outspoken federalist.

Robert Vineberg-Senior partner national law firm of Goodman Phillips & Vineberg.

Michael Goldbloom-President and Publisher of The Gazette. Montreal's last remaining anglophone newspaper.

Moderator:
Nancy Wilson-Co-host of *POLITICS* on CBC Newsworld.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
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DEADLINE CHANGE

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 20 is deadline for March 6 issue and Thursday, Feb. 27, is deadline for March 13, issue. Then deadlines change to Mondays, 10 days prior to publication date, i.e., Monday, March 10, is deadline for March 20 issue and Monday, March 17, is deadline for March 27 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Feb. 21

ONEG SHABBAT SERVICE

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m., Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. 236-2054.

Saturday, Feb. 22

WINTER FAIRY TALES

Winter Fairy Tales, blending Jewish, Canadian and Russian dancers, singers and musicians, 7 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Produced by Golden Swan Art Corporation with support of Kalinka Performing Arts Company. $10/child, senior. $12/adult. For tickets 636-1880, ext. 235. For information, 767-3301.

BOWLING NIGHT

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Young Families Group Bowling Night, 8 p.m., York Bowl (Wilson), two games, munchies, dessert. $10/person includes shoe rental, prizes. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Beth** 785-0338.

Sunday, Feb. 23

QUEBEC NATIONALISM

Three outspoken Montrealers share their insights on the topic Quebec Nationalism: What Does it Mean for the Future of 'Ethics and Money' in Quebec? Speakers **Michael Goldbloom**, president and publisher of the *Gazette*; **Marcel Coté**, economist and federalist; **Robert Vineberg**, senior partner, Goodman, Phillips & Vineberg. 7 p.m., Sandford Fleming Building, University of Toronto, 10 King's College Rd. Room 1105. For tickets 789-3351.

CONCERT AT THE KOFFLER

A concert featuring the Lachan Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir with conductor **Cantor Benjamin Maissner**, accompanied by **Wendy Humber Bornstein** on oboe and **Nadyah Adler** on piano, 3 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Presented by du Maurier Arts Ltd., as part of the Music for a Sunday Afternoon at the Koffler Centre series in co-operation with Jewish Music Toronto. $5 at door. 636-1880, ext. 354.

POST-HEBRON

Canadian Friends of Peace Now and Palestine House panel discussion Post-Hebron: Where is the Peace Process Going? with **Dr. Frank Guttman** and **Simon Rosenblum**, national co-presidents, Canadian Friends of Peace Now, and **Rashad Saleh** and another representative from Palestine House, moderated by **Rita Devereaux** of Vision TV, 7:30 p.m, Columbus Centre, Lower Gallery, 901 Lawrence Ave. W. 905-764-3997.

WELLNESS SERIES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah Sisterhood Wellness Series with chiropractor **Eve Silver** speaking on Back to Basics, 8 p.m. at synagogue, 2640 Bayview Ave. $4, students $3

ART AUCTION

Art auction courtesy Park West Galleries, 7 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. $10, free posters, door prize. **Joyce Kreiser** 905-508-6364.

BOOK CLUB

Shaarei Beth-El Sisterhood Book Club discusses *A Place Among the Nations: Israel and the World* by **Benjamin Netanyahu**, 9:30 a.m., Munn's School, Oakville. 905-849-0408 or 905-847-6999.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members breakfast meeting 9:30 a.m. Centennial Arena, Skaters Lounge

Monday, Feb. 24

JEWS & MUSLIMS

Jacob Lassner of Northwestern University lectures on Jewish-Muslim Relations continue with The Convergence of Historical Con-

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
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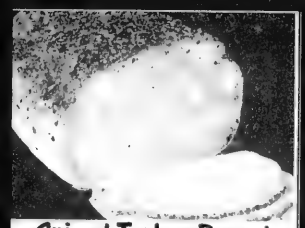

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Kosher, Valu Club Pack
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400 g pkg.
239

Peri's Cream Coleslaw
From the Deli
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179 lb.

Cantaloupes
Product of Central America.
No. 1 Grade
149 ea.

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Frozen, Whole, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Mott's Fruit Packs
Assorted Varieties
6 x 113 g pkg.
159

Double Rye Bread
From The Bakery
Baked Fresh, 550 g
199

Sponge Cake
From The Bakery
Baked Fresh, 400 g
329

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT. SUNDAY, FEB. 16 UNTIL SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

sciousness in the Middle Ages, 8 p.m., Sandford Fleming Building, Room 1105, University of Toronto, 10 King's College Rd. 978-5301.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, (40 plus singles) general meeting and election for 1997/98 slate, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Prospective members invited. **Lil** 905-771-8386 or **Sheila** 665-3333

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Blood donor clinic Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., 3:30-7:30 p.m. 974-9900.

Tuesday, Feb. 25

LECTURE FOR PARENTS

Eitz Chaim Mother's Association and Project DERECH lecture Beyond "Please" and "Thank You"- Teaching Children Respectful Communication, educational therapist/counsellor **Sarah Chana Radcliffe**, 8:15 p.m., 475 Patricia Ave.

ISRAEL UPDATE

Toronto Zionist Council presents Israel and the Not So Secret War Against the Jews with an update on the latest events in Israel by journalist **Ruth Matar**, founder of Israel-based Women for Israel's Tomorrow (Women in Green), 8 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave.

BREAST HEALTH

Breast Health-focusing on self-examination, breast cancer and other associated conditions, nurse clinician **Helen Marks**, Breast Centre, Women's College Hospital, sponsored by Shaar Shalom Sisterhood, 8 p.m., Synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill.

JEWISH VEGETARIANISM

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein discusses Jewish Vegetarianism, 8 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue.

WHEN YOU SEPARATE

Jewish Family & Child Service offers When You're About to Separate, What to Tell the Kids, 7 p.m. Promenade office, Promenade Mall, 3rd floor. **Elinor Gertner,** 905-882-2331.

Wednesday, Feb. 26

JEWISH PARENTING

Jewish Parenting Project presents Why Did Grandma Have a Christmas Tree and We Didn't? a panel discussion moderated by **Rabbi Dow Marmur** with four Holy Blossom Temple members who are Jews by choice, 8 p.m. temple boardroom. **Heather Finestone**, 932-1099.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Women's Institute of Torah Study series on Feminine Images of the Bible with **Rochie Wagner** continues with Climbing to Great Heights, 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Dr. 905-881-2012.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue continuing education series on Health and Wellness presents Mapping Your Best Years — managing conflict, dealing with emotion, 8 p.m.,

THE JAZZ SINGER

Holy Blossom Temple's Winter Film Festival screens *The Jazz Singer* (1927) starring Al Jolson, 8 p.m. Commentary by film critic/historian **Richard Rotman**.

Thursday, Feb. 27

THEATRE NIGHT

Israel Cancer Research Fund and Charactors Theatre Troupe present *The Sisters Rosensweig*, 8 p.m., Vaughan City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster Dr., Thornhill. Reception follows. $25 and $40. 487-5246.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation Jewish Single Parents' Group (30-50) features Doing Your Own Tax Return Workshop, speaker **Marty Applebaum** 8 p.m. $5 at door. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New

NUSSBAUM AWARD

Dr. Aaron M.Nussbaum Award, United Synagogue Day School, is for students furthering their Jewish education or planning careers in Jewish education or Jewish communal service. Candidate must be a graduate of United Synagogue Day School and have applied to a recognized and approved undergraduate or graduate program which includes a significant Jewish component. Application forms available from Award Committee, 225-5926, or fax 225-9108. Closing date March 28.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Worldperfect: The Jewish Contribution to Civilization, **Rabbi Ken Spiro** from Jerusalem, co-director of Russian Outreach Program, Sunday, Feb. 23, 8-9:30 p.m. Register.

Parenting series, How to Help Your Children Achieve Their Dreams, **Sarah Chana Radcliffe**, 8:30 p.m. Pre-register. $40 couples, $30 per per person..

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre programs.631-9395.

Astrology Seminar at Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd., Sunday, Feb. 23. Registration 7 p.m., lecture at 7:30. No charge.

Kabbalah eight-week beginners course, Wednesdays, 7 p.m. (started Feb. 12), at Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. Register.

VENDORS WANTED

Vendors are wanted for a craft and gift sale at Bayview Village Mall Monday, May 19,Victoria Day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (over 100 boutiques), under the auspices of Beersheba Club, Na'amat Canada. 636-5425 days, **Malka Mirsky** 633-6538 evenings.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

Jewish Family Life groups offered by Jewish Family & Child Service: The Self-Confident Woman, begins Feb. 25; Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together, begins March 26; The Challenge of Anger: For Women, begins Feb. 24; Single Parent Challenge: Balancing Personhood and Parenthood, begins March 17. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

PURIM BASKETS

Medrash Torah Vehayim in conjunction with Balloon Bash offers Mishloach Manot-Purim Baskets, medium $8, large $18. Order deadline Feb. 28. 905-669-7500.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Memberships due for the coming year, $12; blood pressure clinic Tuesday, March 4, noon to 2 p.m., free to members; Scarborough Town Centre, Thursday, March 13; dance to live music, Sunday, March 23; Atlantic City and Cape May, March 31-April 4; shuffle off to Buffalo, Thursday, April 3. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Israel trip March 5-26; musical *Dames at Sea*, in Buffalo, Sunday, June 1; *Camelot*, Stratford, Sept. 17. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield**, 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 27 program is a lecture by **Shula Opar** on the topic The Change of the Kibbutzim. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Prevention of Heart Disease and Stroke in Seniors, a talk, video and quiz with **Diana Lunn**, volunteer from Heart and Stroke Society, Thursday, Feb. 27, 1:30-3 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1:30-3 p.m. with resource person **Joan Turner**.

Etrog, Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Feb. 26 is a free evening and discussion. **Anna**.

Movie, *Tommy Boy*, Sunday, Feb. 23, 2:30 p.m.

Singer **Jack Garson** performs at Wednesday afternoon social Feb. 26, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Sundays at Bloor Books & Bagels presents City of Toronto Book Award winner **Cary Fagan** reading from his most recent books including *The Animals Waltz* and *The Doctor's House*, Sunday, Feb. 23, 11 a.m. Non-members $6. Coffee and bagels served.

JCC Bloor Seniors Club features **Molly Picon** in *Mamele* in Yiddish with English subtitles, Thursday, Feb. 27, 2 p.m. Club members $1, non-members $2. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Spring session at the Koffler Centre of Visual Art courses for adults in Pottery, Drawing, Life Drawing (with or without instruction), Oil/Acrylic Painting, Watercolor, Stone Sculpture, and Design in 3-Dimension. Space limited. Register. **Raylene**, ext. 270.

Soccer, Arts and Crafts, Jazzercise programs running after school at Associated Hebrew Schools, United Synagogue day Schools, and Rockford Road Public School. For information or to get your school in-

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Jordan Benjamin receives a Jewish Funeral Directors of America scholarship award at ceremony at Humber College, presented by Jay Mesnekoff of Buffalo, representing JFDA board of governors. Benjamin is a graduate of Humber College Funeral Services Program

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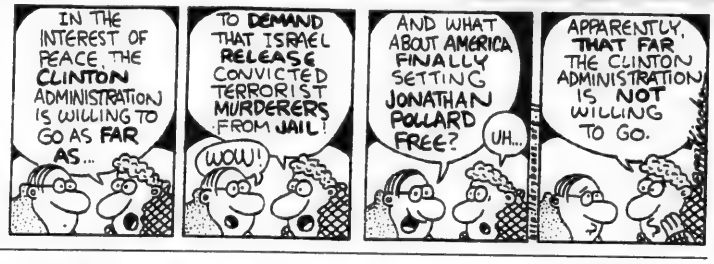

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פון יהודה צור

200 מיליאָן קינדער אין דער וועלט לעבן אין באַדינגונגען פון שענדלעכער עקספלואָאַטאַציע און מאַנגל פון גרונט, וואָס זאָלן זיי באַשיצן אין זייער לאַנד, ליט אַ באריכט פון דער אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער אַרבעטער-אַרגאַניזאַציע אין שווייצאַריע. די אַרגאַניזאַציע וואַרנט פאַר די קאַטאַסטראָפאַלע פאַלגן פון דער וויטשאָפּטלעכער פּאָליטיק אין אַ סך לענדער פון דער דריטער וועלט, באַווידקט פּונעם דזשק, וועלכן עס איבן אויס אינטערנאַציאָנאַלע, עקאָנאָמישע קעראָפערשאָפטן.

ווער זיינען די אמת׳דיקע שולדיקע אין דעם מצב, אין וועלכן קינדער מחן אַרבעטן, אָנשטאָט צו לערנען? אויף דער פראגע האָט געפּראוועט ענטפערן לעצטנס דער זעלבשטענדיקער אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער גענפערן כמעט אין דער גאַנצער וועלט, אָבער פיל רעגירונגען, לדוב אין דער אזוי גערופענער דריטער וועלט, מאַכן זיך נישט וויסן פון זיי. דאָס געריכט שטעלט אויך פעסט, אז א געוויסע עקאָנאָמישע פּאָליטיק ברענגט מיט זיך פאַרשארפּונג פּונעם קריזיס און די עיקר־דיקע געטראָפענע דערפון זיינען קינדער.

ביי די אַרבעטן זיינען די קינדער אויסגעשטעלט אויף אַ סך געפאַרן. די אינטערנאַציאָנאַלע אַרבעט־אַרגאַניזאַציע האָט מיט עט־לעכע חדשים צוריק געוואָרנט, אז פיל קינדער אין עלטער פון 7-6 יאָר זיינען באַשעפטיקט ביי געפערלעכע אַרבעטן אין פאַבריקן און קוילנגרובעס, דער עיקר אין דער דריטער וועלט. ליט דער מיינונג פון דער אַרגאַניזאַציע איז די אַרעמקייט די ערשטע און עיקר־דיקע סיבה פון קינדער־אַרבעט, צוליב דעם נישט גליקן פראָבלעם פון וויטשאָפּטלעכער אָנטוויקלונג אין פאַרשידענע ראַיאָנען אין דער וועלט.

„קינדער פראָדוצירן דיוואָנעס אין פאַקיסטאַן. זיי זיינען קנעכט אין סאָוידע, פון 6 יאָר אָן זיינען זיי באַשעפטיקט אין די גאָלד־גרובעס אין פּערו; אין די ציגל־פאַבריקן אין קאָלומביע; אין די מיסטפלעצער פון גוואַטעמאָלאַ; וויי פעלד־אַרבעטער אין בראַזיל, וואָס שלעפּן קוישן אָן פעסער פון ריכע קעסט אויף די מערק פון מעקסיקאָ, וויי שליחים אַדער בריוטרעגערס פון נאַרקאָטיק־הענ־לערס, און טיילמאָל וועלן זיי אויך אויסגענוצט סעקסועל״ — זאָגט מען אין דער אַרגאַניזאַציע.

דאָס איטערנאַציאָנאַלע גערעכט האָט אויך זיין סעסיע אין מעקסיקאָ פעסטגעשטעלט, אז די עיקר־דיקע שולד לינט אויף דעם אינטערנאַציאָנאַלן וואַלוטע־פאָנד, וועלכער צווינגט די רעגירונגען, אויסצוהיפּן פון דער דריטער וועלט, צו פּונקציאָנירן אין זייער שוועכע באַדינגונגען, ווי א תנאי צו באַקומען הלוואות פון דער וועלט־באַנק. צוליב דעם אין געוואָקסן די אַרבעטלאָזיקייט און די קינדער האָבן געמוטן גיין אַרבעטן, כדי צו העלפן די משפחות. נאָך מער, די פּאָליטיק פון קריזיס און צוזטרומאָכונג אין פיל מדינות אין דער דריטער וועלט און אין עטלעכע מדינות אין דער מערב־די־קער וועלט, האָבן דערפּירט צו דעדוצירטע בודשעטן פאַר סאָציא־לע און גזעלשאַפטלעכע באַדינגונגען און צום פאַרמאָכן פון שולן און אַנדערע חיתך־אַנשטאַלטן.

די אינטערנאַציאָנאַלע אַרבעט־אַרגאַניזאַציע שטעלט פעסט, אז דער מינימום־עלטער פאַר א נאַרמאַלער אַרבעט, דאַרף זיין־ציקסטנס זיין פון 15 יאָר אָן. פאַקטיש קאָן מען נאָר פון 18 יאָר באַשעפטיקן קינדער ביי געפערלעכע אַרבעטן. די אַרגאַניזאַציע פאַר קינדער־רעכט טענה׳ן, אז די פאַראיינקטע פעלקער האָט נישט פאַרבאָטן קאָטעגאָריש די אַרבעט פון קינדער, נאָר זיך בא־גנוגט מיט א רעקאָמענדאַציע „פעסטצושטעלן א מינימום־עלטער אריינצוטרעטן אין דער אַרבעט פון קינדער, וועט מען דערווייל אָפּליגן, צוליב דער אַרעמקייט און מאַנגל פון גוטע חינוך־באַדינגונ־גען אן צוליב גזעלשאַפטלעכער גלייכגילטיקייט, וואָס דערמוע־לעכט אלץ״.

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Greater Toronto Area

Todres new president of Baycrest Foundation

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Elaine Todres

TORONTO — After 20 years of public service under three political parties, Elaine Todres, Ontario's deputy solicitor general and deputy minister of correctional services, is leaving government to become president of the Baycrest Centre Foundation, the fundraising arm of Baycrest Centre.

"Baycrest gives me an opportunity to be involved in a broader public sector environment providing leadership to a Jewish institution that is committed to Jewish values, care of the elderly and tikkun olam — repair of the world.

"[It] is a unique institution in its commitment to providing a broad continuum of services."

Todres is married to Rubin Todres, a professor of social work at the University of Toronto and is the mother of Lindsay, 14, and Jesse, 12. She attends Darchei Noam Synagogue, where she co-chairs the ritual committee.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, she is the daughter of Holocaust survivors Bernice (Auerbach) and Arie Meller. Her mother, from Zborow, Poland, near the Russian border, and her father, from Kazimieraz Wielka in Poland, met and married after the war in a DP camp in Germany. They had a relative in Winnipeg and in 1948, they came to Canada to start a new life.

Todres attended the Talmud Torah, Joseph Wolinsky Hebrew High School and the University of Winnipeg. She was a dancer and singer in the Sarah Sommer Chai Folk Ensemble, taught piano and Hebrew and was a group leader at Young Judaea.

Elaine and Rubin were married in Winnipeg in 1970 and when she completed her doctorate in political science at the University of Pittsburgh, she moved to Toronto to join her huband.

She entered the Ontario public service in 1976 with the Ministry of Revenue and held a number of posts. As deputy minister of Human Resources Secretariat and chair of the Civil Service Commission, she was responsible for developing and implementing government policies on employment equity, sexual harassment and pay equity.

As assistant deputy minister of the Ontario Women's Directorate, she directed the development of Ontario's policy on child care and family violence, and was responsible for the development of Ontario's pay equity legislation.

Currently, she is chief executive officer of the Ministry of Correctional Services and oversees a staff of 15,600. She advises the premier and cabinet on a broad range of issues such as modernizing and integrating the criminal justice system and modernizing the jail system.

She was a founding member of the United Jewish Appeal Business and Professional Women's Network and a member of the executive committee and chair of the Human Resources Committee at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

She has won a number of awards including Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto's Young Leadership Award, the National Woman of Achievement Award presented by Hadassah WIZO Organization of Canada, a gold medal from the Centre for Human Rights and Race Relations, and she is a nominee for Who's Who in America.

In announcing her appointment, Stephen Herbert, president and chief executive officer of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, said, "We are fortunate to have attracted someone with such an enormous breadth of experience in public service."

Todres takes her position on April 1. She succeeds Stan Feldman who intends to pursue graduate studies.

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Greater Toronto Area

'Lucky' Sammy shares with less fortunate

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sammy Cohen considers himself a very lucky little boy, and he's sharing that luck with children who are not as fortunate.

At the beginning of January, Sammy, a 7½-year-old student at Netivot HaTorah Hebrew Day School, and his father were walking home from Friday night dinner with some friends, when the boy was hit by a car and dragged some 40 feet.

Aside from scrapes and bruises and a concussion, his most serious injury was a broken femur, and he found himself in traction for three weeks at York Central Hospital. He is now at home in a body cast and manages to get around on crutches.

Since the accident, say his mother, Judi, a social worker in the psychiatric day hospital at Baycrest, and his father, Jeremy, assistant director of the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada, people have been "incredible," bringing food, coming to visit, and offering to help.

Best of all, from Sammy's point of view, is the many toys and games people have brought him. (The other "best thing" is that he got to miss school. He is now going for an hour and a half a day.)

He decided to donate some of his presents to the Junior UJA Tzedakah All-Star Team.

Sammy Cohen drops some of the presents he received after his traffic accident into the Junior UJA Tzedakah All Star Team gift box at his school, Netivot HaTorah. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

The project, which was begun in December 1995 by volunteer Elizabeth Erlich, was designed "as a way to teach the kids the concept of tzedakah in a creative way," said Howard English, director of communications for UJA Federation.

It is also seen, he said, as "a way of building Jewish leaders at a very early age."

Boxes are set up in participating schools (13 at the present time, including Leo Baeck, Eitz Chaim, USDS, Associated and Netivot). The idea is for children to donate one of their birthday or Chanukah presents, or presents given them for any other reason. The gifts are given to Jewish Family & Child Service, which distributes them to clients.

Contribution appreciated

Each child who donates a present is sent a thank you card for every donation, "so they realize that their contribution is appreciated," said administrative assistant Sylvia Astrug.

As well, they automatically become members of the 2,000-strong Junior UJA Club and get discounts for Chanukah and Purim parties at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Other benefits are being worked on, English said.

"Junior UJA and the Tzedakah All Star Team are the only projects of their kind in North America," he said. "We are being called from all over for information about what we are doing."

Over 800 contributions were received in 1996, and the project, chaired by Karen Amato, continues to do well.

Leo Baeck students rent a tree from kibbutz's orchards

TORONTO — Students at Leo Baeck Day School are participating in a unique project to rent a tree in Israel.

Through the Partners for Peace project of Kibbutz Yahel, students raise money to rent a pomelo tree for one year from the kibbutz's orchards on the Jordanian border.

Leo Baeck students will be raising $180 (US) rental for each tree. In exchange, they will receive 30 pounds of Yahel pomelos, a fruit that is a cross between an orange and a grapefruit. The fruit is scheduled to arrive in time for Tu b'Shvat.

The money raised will go towards Yahel programs aimed at bringing Israeli and Arab children from the area together to promote peaceful interaction between the two groups.

Kibbutz Yahel, the first Reform kibbutz in Israel, is located in the southern Arava, just north of Eilat. Harvesting the pomelo is a primary source of income for the kibbutz.

Recent peace negotiations called to question the continued existence of these fields as part of Israel, but a compromise was reached and the new, somewhat uneven border allows the kibbutz to keep its cultivated land.

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TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESAY	THURSDAY
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7-9 p.m.	מתודולוגיה בהוראת ספר שמואל הרב ש. בראון	Special Education in the Classroom (in English) *D. Levine*	סקירה ועיון במדרש ובאגדה הרב י. וויטי	
7-9 p.m.		The Study of the Book of Exodus (in English) *Rabbi H. Sacknovitz*		גישות להוראת פרק בתנ"ך. שילוב חומש ונביא. ס. אילת

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish youth said just as likely to run afoul of law

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jewish youth get in trouble with the law for the same reasons as those in the general community, says a probation supervisor for young offenders in North York.

"Jewish teens are no different than other teens. By and large, they act out because of their environment," Marc Levine said at a recent breakfast meeting of the Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood.

He said Jews represent about one percent of the population of Metropolitan Toronto and "it is fair to say that out of about 1,300 youth on probation in Metro, about one percent are Jewish.

Teens may get in trouble because they are doing poorly in school or have low self-esteem; they may be looking for attention, he said. "Basically, they are crying out. They are sending out a message that there is a problem."

Levine said the Young Offenders Act, which affects youth 12 to 17 years old, replaced the old Juvenile Delinquent Act, "which did not protect the rights of youth. Under that act, kids could have technically been placed in a training school for years. The Young Offenders Act holds them responsible in fair ways. People think that youth get away with things, but they really do not. I think more kids than ever are being held accountable."

The probation period, he said, gives a young offender the opportunity to remain in the community and prove that he can behave in a responsible manner. The length of the probation order and the conditions that must be followed are set by a youth court judge under the terms of the Young Offender Act according to the needs of each youth.

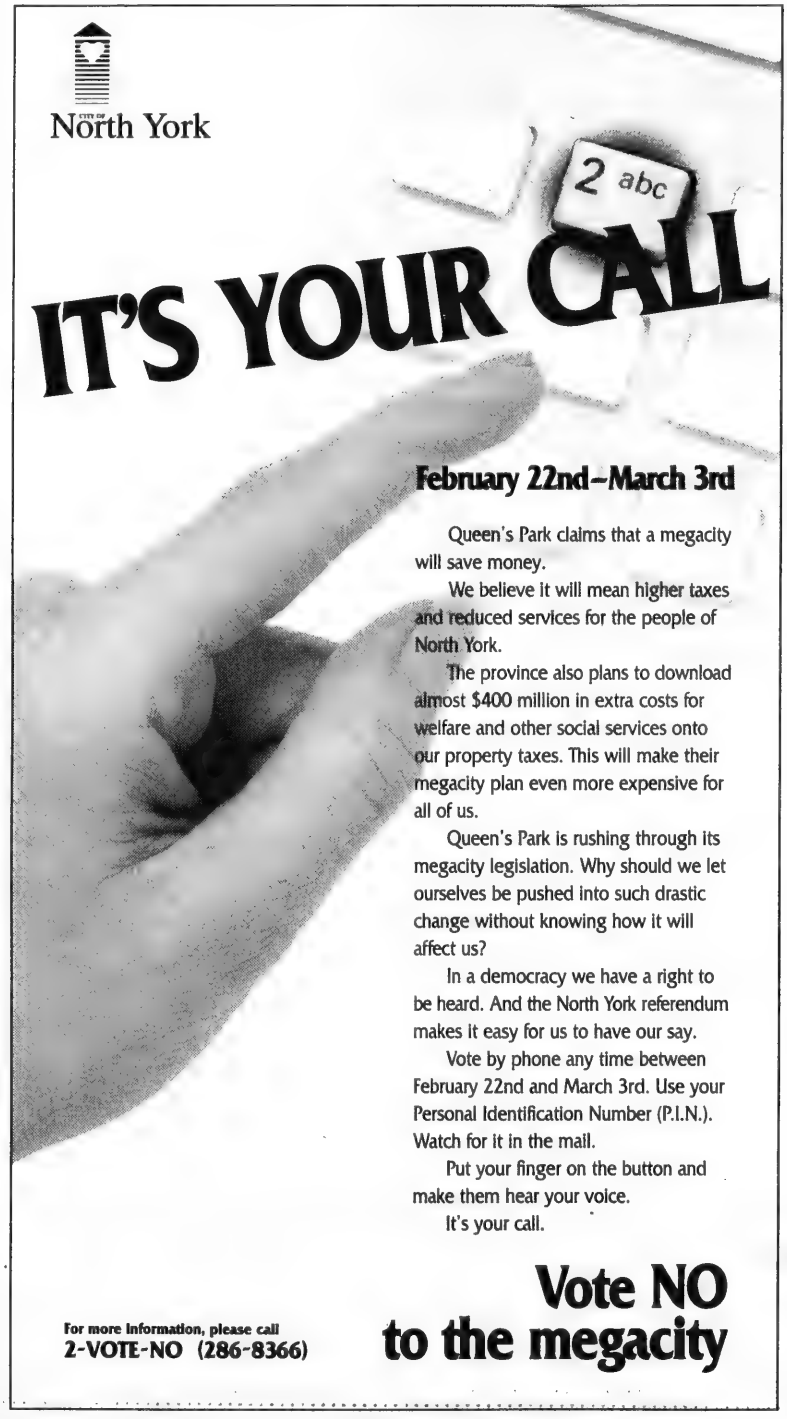
When there is a reporting condition, the young person sees a probation officer on a regular basis. "These officers recognize the importance of working closely with the youth's family. The officers are also involved in community service orders which have youth work at various community agencies."

Asked if more youth are committing crimes today than several years ago, Levine said the crime rate has not risen, but the level of sophistication has.

"More kids today are walking around with knives and guns and appear to lack appropriate supervision."

In one case study of a Jewish boy who is on 12 months probation, Levine said the boy told him that he gets along with his parents because they do not punish him.

"Parents are not accountable for their kids' crimes, but they are responsible for their children. They should not ignore any signs of trouble. Early intervention is essential, although there is no quick-fix solution. It takes time to resolve issues," he said.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Habonim Dror shlichah settles in her new job

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Shula Ofir

TORONTO — When Shula Ofir finally arrived here from Israel in mid-October, there were so many phone messages awaiting her that new callers were told her voice mailbox was full.

Now settled in as Habonim Dror shlichah, she succeeds Orit Praag, who returned to Israel early last summer after 2½ years as emissary for the Labor Zionist youth movement. (The long gap resulted from bureaucratic delays in arranging Ofir's Canadian visa.)

A native of Iraq, Ofir moved to Israel at age 5 with her family. A teacher, former high school principal and mother of three grown children, she also served as Habonim Dror shlichah in Johannesburg, South Africa from 1986 to 1988.

Later she spent three short stints in Russia, teaching intensive Hebrew ulpan and organizing Jewish holiday programs for teenagers about to make aliyah.

Most recently, Ofir, 51, served as manager of Kibbutz Givat Brenner, her home for almost 30 years, located near Rehovot. She is a former army officer and has worked for Israel's United Kibbutz movement, with which Habonim Dror is affiliated. (On March 2 Habonim Dror will host an open house meeting with Amichai Yarchi of the America-Israel High School Program at Kibbutz Beit Hashita.)

Na'amat, which is also affiliated with Habonim Dror, represents another longtime connection for Ofir. Her affiliation with the organization in Israel led to her involvement in a number of women's issues. Here, she will serve as a resource person for the group.

Her priority right now, though, is to increase the number of youngsters participating in Habonim Dror.

"I think the youth movement is the best way of making friends and having a good time, and it's educational."

The Toronto chapter has several programs a month. This year's calendar includes a Tu b'Shvat telethon for trees, ice skating, participation in Na'amat's annual bazaar (selling falafel) and a fall seminar, attended by 120 youngsters.

The Hamilton chapter, for which Ofir is also responsible, has similar programming.

In this province, Habonim Dror also has a presence in Kitchener, London and Ottawa. The latter city has its own shlichah. Vancouver is the only other Canadian city to have a Habonim Dror shaliach.

Most of the participants have become involved through Camp Gesher, the movement's summer camp in Cloyne, Ontario, or through friends. The movement also runs a summer leadership training program for teens in Israel.

While Ofir expects that young people will not come out to local programs if they "just" want to have fun, she notes that often those who come for fun end up being "the best people in the movement."

Ofir's goals include increasing parental participation in Habonim Dror and increasing members' participation in the greater Jewish community.

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish life alive and well at Ryerson

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Quick, which five Canadian universities have the largest Jewish student populations in the country?

Answer: York University, McGill University, the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario and Ryerson Polytechnic University.

Ryerson? Unlikely as it may seem, Ryerson apparently has the fifth largest Jewish campus population in Canada, with a mailing list of over 300 out of an estimated 1,200 Jewish students

According to the 1997 Hillel Guide to Jewish Life on Campus, York has 4,000 Jewish students; McGill, 3,500; and U of T and Western, 3,000 each. (Ryerson, which attained university status in 1993, is not listed, and the University of British Columbia is said to have 1,000 Jewish students.)

"No way," said a Jewish Ryerson student on learning of the local population estimate (based on a Hillel formula). "Where are they?"

Part of the low visibility of Ryerson's Jewish students stems from the "compartmentalized" aspect of the campus, theorized Tami Sitcoff, program coordinator for Ryerson and Seneca College Hillels. "There's no central hangout place at Ryerson. You could really get by without meeting anyone from other programs."

A recent Hillel lounge day — a weekly event held Wednesdays in a sparsely furnished rented room at Ryerson's Oakham House — brought together, over bagels, students from a variety of programs: photography, nursing, and business management, to name a few.

David Shuken, a 23-year-old photography student, said that most of his friends at school are not Jewish. He stopped in at the lounge "primarily for social reasons," he said. Actually, his mother thought he should meet more Jewish girls, he admitted, blushing slightly.

Hillel is "nice because you have a common bond right away," he said.

Like many of the regulars, Shuken considers himself "not very religious." A perception that Hillel is geared for religious students, however, still keeps some away.

Robyn Burnstein, in her third year of social work, is one of those students. She was there with fellow social work student Amy Reinsilber, who is Ryerson's UJA on Campus representative.

"Whenever Robyn comes it's always [been] geared around the religious aspect," said Reinsilber.

Tammy Weisz, a first year New Media student who serves on Hillel's planning committee, is one of the few observant students. "That's fine," she said. "I spent last year in Israel studying. I knew that when I came back I'd want to get involved in the Jewish community here. I wanted to help out. I would love to see 100 new faces here. Every new member is so significant to us."

Aliza Derrick, an Early Childhood Education student, confirmed that she has been made to feel welcome.

"You can always find someone to talk to," said Hanna Mengistu, a nursing student who also serves on Hillel's planning committee.

Ivan Sandor, a student in the Hospitality and Tourism program, makes time for Hillel despite holding down a full-time job and attending classes 18 hours a week.

"It's an outlet to get to know people," said Lyndsay Wise, a student in administration and information management.

As well as increased on-campus activity, including Holocaust Education week programming, a recent Tu b'Shvat "Green Day" and participation in a campus "Cultural Caravan," Ryerson Hillel — as one of the student groups served by Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto — has benefited by an increased number of city-wide programs.

The events are part of a trend on the part of JCS to bring programs to the students, particularly those who commute, "rather than expecting them to come to us," said Sitcoff.

Eyal Lewin, Hillel's treasurer, has noted increased attendance and enthusiasm at Hillel since he signed up as a first-year student in 1994.

Hillel's on-campus facilities, however — the weekly lounge rental and a minuscule shared office — are pretty skimpy, given the estimated number of Jewish students.

In fact, space has been tight for all student groups at least since the early 1980s, when then-journalism student Suzanne Wintrob started Hillel's precursor, the Jewish Student Council (JSC), shlepping kosher bagels and her mother's coffee urn downtown once a week.

"I wanted to have that connection and there wasn't one," she said. "I'm really glad they're still going strong."

Ryerson Hillel students organized and staffed this Shabbat table display as part of the university's Cultural Caravan. [Tammy Weisz photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Rambam to address CJC Ontario region plenary

TORONTO — American private investigator Steve Rambam will be among the keynote speakers at the 29th Plenary Assembly of the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), to be held April 5 and 6 at the Lipa Green Building.

This is Rambam's first Toronto appearance since the story of his finding Nazi war criminals in Canada broke in the international media.

Prof. Irving Abella, chair of the CJC national war crimes committee; Ontario region legal counsel Ed Morgan; and *Toronto Star* reporter David Vienneau will join Rambam in the plenum of Nazi War Criminals, Nazi Gold. The theme of the Plenary is Congress: Connecting the Community.

CJC Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen also announced the appointment of Marlene Sklar as plenary chair and Cary Green as program chair.

The plenary, which takes place between CJC national assemblies, held every three years, provides the opportunity for public discussion on major issues of interest and concern to Ontario's Jewish community.

Marlene Sklar, a member of the CJC Ontario region executive, and vice-chair of its political liaison committee is a member of the board of the Jewish Women's Federation (JWJ) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, a member-at-large of the Markham Conservative Riding Association, and is active in Adath Israel Congregation.

Cary Green is a CJC Ontario region officer and chair of its political liaison committee. The Toronto businessman has been involved in community activities such as not-for-profit housing, youth organizations and the movements assisting Soviet and Ethiopian Jewry.

Joining Sklar and Green on the regional plenary committee are Ruthie Zaionz, Simon Rucker and Dr. Fred Ball of Thunder Bay.

A meeting of the CJC Ontario Region Council will be held following the conclusion of the plenary on Sunday afternoon.

Steve Rambam and Irving Abella will address the plenary.

For further information call Jennifer Turack, plenary coordinator, at 416-635-2883, ext. 152 or ext. 154; or fax 416-635-1408.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

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Mazel Tov to Sally Laufer on your 85th birthday. Love, best wishes & good health from your children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren.

Jessica, daughter of Janet & Neal Temple, celebrated her bat mitzvah Dec. 7. Grandparents are Bronia & Morris Waksbaum and Frances & Harry Temple; great-grandmother is Ida Rotstein.

Happy 90th birthday to Grete Hahn on Jan. 16. Love, Sam, Eveline, Ellie, Cheryl & Larry and family and friends.

Aimée Stricker, daughter of Dori & Saul, and Harold Abbou, son of Miriam & Armand, are engaged. Family and friends join in their happiness.

Smadar Meiri & Leon Ordynans wed in June 1996. Proud parents are Miriam & Avner Meiri and Sala & Jack Ordynans.

Sharron Miller and Paul Lungen were recently married. Proud parents are Al & Diane Miller of Toronto and Ben and Clara Lungen of Winnipeg.

Happy 50th anniversary, Feb. 9, to Sidney & Sarah Glass from Renee, Phil, Stan, Fern, Ian, and Carolyn, Jennifer, Jordan, Corey, Brandon and Justin.

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Greater Toronto Area

JIAS business English course helps newcomers

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Exactly one year ago last month, Alex Varshavsky immigrated to Canada. A native of Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, he arrived in Toronto with training and experience as an electrical engineer, first in the former Soviet Union (FSU) and more recently during a three-year stint in Israel.

Varshavsky, 34, is once again employed in his field, for which he gives much credit to a business English course he took through Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS). His job as a maintenance electrician at Formulated Coatings, an electro-coating company in Brampton, is "exactly like" the job he held in Israel and "almost like" the one he had in the FSU.

The course he took is a relatively recent addition to the JIAS roster of English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, which are offered at seven levels of difficulty and held at the B'nai Brith Canada building on Hove Street.

Barbara Pasternak, a Toronto businesswoman and JIAS ESL teacher, initiated the business English course a year ago for higher-level students. "I saw there was a need to create an acculturization for students coming from Eastern Europe into the Canadian workplace," she said.

Unlike the other courses, this one includes an optional three-month co-op program where students gain practical Canadian experience and a Canadian reference.

The co-op program follows a four-month language course, where students learn workplace vocabulary and discuss cultural differences.

Elena Shaevich, a native of Lvov, is now employed as a travel consultant at YYZ Travel Services, where she completed her co-op placement last year. Her husband, Eugene, opened Alef Monuments with a partner after taking the business English classes.

"Barbara taught us about Canadian lifestyle and how to open a business," said Elena. "She was like an example for us."

A recent class led by Pasternak focused on body language, including facial expression and eye contact, and how they affect credibility at job interviews.

"This is useful for everybody. It's a new experience to get a job [through] an interview. I think it's the same in Russia in general, but some things are different," said Siberian native Grigori Soummer, a 38-year-old mechanical engineer who immigrated last summer.

About 75 to 80 percent of the graduates have been placed in permanent jobs where they began as co-op students, said Pasternak. Last September, 90 students registered for the business English classes. Of those, almost 30 entered the co-op program, almost double the number in the summer program.

Many of the initial placements came about from Pasternak's own contacts through the industrial manufacturing business she and her husband have; more recently, Jewish Vocational Services came on board to help place students.

Matching the students' co-op places to their backgrounds can be a challenge. Among the participants thus far have been bookkeepers, doctors, mechanics and even a nuclear physicist.

"It's a total cross-section of professions," said Pasternak. (Employers interested in offering a placement to a well-trained student volunteer should call Pasternak or Roz Greenberg at 635-7044.)

Varshavsky found the course very helpful. "English from the notebook and English in life and English in an interview are not the same thing," he said.

His co-op placement with an electrical contractor was particularly useful in improving his technical English. Because his co-workers spoke no Russian or Hebrew, Varshavsky picked up the lingo quickly.

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Greater Toronto Area

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary

With love from your family and friends

Taube espouses 'right' view in his new publication

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Michael Taube is part of a growing cadre of "young Turks" squarely and proudly on the right of Canada's political spectrum. Taube, just 26, espouses a no-nonsense mix of less government and unbridled free enterprise, slashing taxes, dismantling the modern welfare state, and instituting a two-tier health care system.

Taube sees no contradiction between his beliefs and his being Jewish. Indeed, he's quick with several reasons why it's time Jews, so long associated with liberalism and social justice, should finally shed their perceived bias against the domestic right and embrace it as society's last hope.

Michael Taube

(Taube ruffled some feathers last summer when the *Globe and Mail* published an opinion piece of his, in which he argued that Jews are losing out by not supporting the Tories and Reform in Canada, and the Republicans in the U.S.).

But first, Taube has a product to sell: He's recently published the first issue of *From The Right*, a quarterly he describes as Canada's "only real" national conservative newspaper. As editor/publisher, Taube speaks excitedly about his venture, a much-needed counterweight, he says, to the rampant liberalism that shoots through Canada's media.

The inaugural issue, a serious-looking, 12-page tabloid, eschews graphics and advertising and concentrates instead on articles by sundry conservatives, including Taube and his father Stanley, a lawyer. Endorsements for the maiden edition come from Taube's own mentors: conservative guru David Frum and writer Michael Coren. Sprinkled throughout the publication are Tory maxims from such noted thinkers as William F. Buckley, author Ayn Rand and U.S. talk-radio host Rush Limbaugh.

Taube printed 2,000 copies of the first issue, published out of his parents' Forest Hill home and financed by his family. Some 1,700 copies were circulated through newsstand sales. It's a modest start, he allows, but he's already hooked up with a national distributor, and the spring '97 issue is firming up, with more big-name conservative writers on tap. Taube is also putting out feelers for sponsors and/or grant money.

Although *From The Right* reads like a Reform Party tract (Taube openly supports Reform,, as do some of the contributors), the editor says his paper is open to conservatives of all stripes.

"It doesn't matter what I represent," Taube told *The CJN*. "I want all kinds of conservatives, red and blue, to take part. It's an open forum." It is open too, he adds, to liberals with something to say.

A self-described libertarian conservative, Taube identifies most closely with Frum. Taube feels Preston Manning's Reformers are "honest, intelligent and non-racist," and says the party has handled extremists effectively by expelling them right away.

Armed with a master's degree in political science from the London School of Economics, Taube launched *From The Right* partly because he felt a need to correct certain public misconceptions about conservatism.

For one, many young people are coming on side: "The [conservative] Fraser Institute says that over the past few years, a lot of 18-24 year-olds have become very conservative." He pauses to clarify that. "People are becoming more aware."

By aware, he argues that more and more people believe Canada's social safety net needs radical fixing; that the federal Tories and Reform need to merge to keep the conservative flame kindled; and that Jewish voters have nothing to fear from the right.

While it's true that historically, Jews have generally shied away from right-wing parties because of their associations with fascism and assorted hatreds, Taube says it's time we gave the right a try.

"Jews have to look more introspectively at what conservatism means today," he says. "We should have an interest in what it represents: a free market and individual freedoms. So for us, conservatism can have a feel-good message."

One has only to look around to see many high-profile Jewish conservatives, he adds: Apart from Frum, there's Barbara Amiel, Hugh Segal, Larry Grossman and Charles Harnick. In the U.S., so-called neo-cons like Irving Kristol and Norman Podhoretz are enjoying heightened statures.

While polls consistently show that 80 percent of Canadian Jews and 85 percent in the U.S. do not vote for right-wing parties, "a lot of young people are coming around," Taube says, "and that's good."

Reform Party is "honest, non-racist"

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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From coast to coast

NCSY appoints director to bring youth out

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), the 40-year-old international youth wing of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, has appointed a full-time director in Montreal in an effort to revive flagging affiliation at a local level.

Although Orthodox in its orientation, NCSY will focus its initiative on building on its base of support of 230 members by "reaching out" to young people of all religious sensibilities, emphasized Ya'acov Blanshay, who took on the job last fall.

NCSY is divided into a "juniors" group for students in grades 6 to 8 and a "seniors" group for grades 9 to CEGEP.

"We want to build up up from the junior core of supporters," said Blanshay, 26, "and keep them right through to the senior level. We're looking for a comeback."

Already, said Blanshay, a graduate of Yeshiva University who grew up in Dollard des Ormeaux, several new initiatives have been launched.

A new local publication, the *NCSY Scroll*, is being published weekly and being piled high at local synagogues affiliated with NCSY, including the Beth Tikvah, Beth Ora, Beth Israel Beth Aaron and Beth Zion.

In January, NCSY in Montreal also instituted a program that's seen success since its 1993 launch in other cities: a Hebrew Culture Club aimed at Jewish students attending public schools. The program, being introduced at Lauren Hill School, uses a multimedia approach, guest speakers and other devices to expose the students in a "fun and informative" way to Jewish topics and issues.

In addition, said Blanshay, NCSY, beginning Feb. 3, began a bimonthly "TN'T" (Teens N'Torah) program at the Beth Ora Synagogue (and later at other synagogues), which will also use multimedia and other approaches to give young Jews more knowledge about their Jewish identity.

A fourth new initiative locally will be NCSY's (Life & Values Education) program, which uses popular videos as triggers for discussions on Jewish themes.

Complementing all of the above will be traditional local and regional Shabbatons (the next regional Shabbaton will be Jan. 31 to Feb. 2 at the Beth Zion) and social programs that have been the hallmark of NCSY.

Attracting new local members and financial support, Blanshay freely acknowledges, presents a unique set of challenges in Montreal, where NCSY, with a worldwide membership of 20,000, has never had the same level of success enjoyed in Toronto.

NCSY has also had to depend on the selfless support of a number of local individuals, such as Susan Portnoy and Leibel Wolfe.

The reasons for this "hit and miss" situation, Blanshay said, may be due to the fact that individual synagogues have their own youth groups, that Montreal families have moved to Toronto and the previous use of only part-time coordinators.

There may be another reason, too: the false perception that the NCSY agenda is to make Jewish youth Orthodox.

This is simply not the case, Blanshay said.

While one of NCSY's main thrusts is indeed to stem the tide of assimilation, it is to do so by instilling an overall sense of Jewish identity, to show that it can be fun, interesting , educational and even "cool" to feel Jewish, Blanshay said.

"That's why we reach out to both the affiliated and the non-affiliated," he said.

One of the strategies to make NCSY's newly revived presence known, Blanshay said, will be to take part in individual synagogue youth group events and develop a "synergy" that will later draw participants to specific NCSY activities.

More information on NCSY can be obtained by contacting Blanshay at the new NCSY number, 369-6999.

CELEBRATION IN THE SAULT

Students at Beth Jacob Congregation's Hebrew school in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., participate in Tu B'Shvat services and a celebration organized at the school to mark the holiday. Jennifer Turack, CJC, Ontario region's director of community services and youth activities, came to attend the event. [Jennifer Turack photo]

Senator apologizes for Hitler reference

OTTAWA — A Liberal senator's apology for saying Canadians should take their cue from Adolf Hitler when it comes to banning hazardous materials has satisfied Jewish groups.

New Brunswick Senator Joseph Landry, 74, shocked members of the Senate's energy committee during hearings last week into Bill C-29, which would ban the import and interprovincial trade of MMT, a potentially hazardous fuel additive.

"If [Hitler] wasn't sure on MMT, he would ban it outright," Landry said, adding that the Nazi dictator would not have hesitated to ban anything to block the building of a "supernation."

Canada should not take chances with material like MMT, he said.

"Maybe we should have a bit more Hitler in us."

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) expressed outrage at the comments. BBC called on Landry to resign and on Prime Minister Jean Chretien to remove him from the Liberal caucus.

Landry issued a written apology the next day:

"I made comments that were, upon reflection, wrong and unacceptable. Citing Adolf Hitler to make a larger point was inappropriate, even though I intended in no way to imply support for Hitler or any of his own policies, which were repugnant and evil.

"I apologize without reservation for the comments I made."

CJC's Bernie Farber said Congress accepts the apology, which is "a good learning experience" for other politicians because it came quickly and shows that Landry is sensitive to language.

BBC's Ruben Friedman said his organization is satisfied with the apology.

"I wish he had reflected on it before he said it, rather than after," Friedman said.

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CJC-P takes anti-racism program south to Idaho

By MAURICE LUCOW
Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — A group of anti-racism fighters from Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P) are taking their outreach program to two towns in northern Idaho, near the Canadian border.

Idaho is recognized here as an area of neo-Nazi activity and it is feared that the group will look to the mountainous, sparsely settled region near British Columbia and northern Alberta for recruitment of followers.

The CJC-P group will be lead by associate director Marilyn Berger and will include Holocaust survivors, Bronia Sonnenschein and Robert Waisman, as well as Sandy Dore, a representative of the B.C. Teachers Federation, Program Against Racism.

Using a grant from Multiculturalism B.C., the group has already travelled to five B.C. towns, speaking to high school students and to adult members of the communities.

In November they spoke in Creston, B.C., a region, according to Berger, "of particular concern because Holocaust deniers had moved to the area due to its proximity to white supremacist strongholds in northern Idaho. Hayden, Idaho, a few miles from Creston, is known as the centre for Christian Identity and the Phineas priesthood, both of which preach anti-Semitism."

Despite a raging blizzard, representatives from Bonner's Ferry and Sand Point in Idaho, both near Hayden, came to hear the CJC-P program and then shared the information with the city councils of their towns. Authorities invited the CJC-P to bring the group to the two communities and high schools in March. The Sand Point school is also inviting high school students from surrounding districts to participate.

According to a publication of the Coalition for Human Dignity in Portland, the white supremacist *Identity* calls for "all hybrid Jews to be repatriated from the (U.S.) republic territory, all their wealth be distributed to restore our people, and it shall be a capital offence to advocate or promote Jew Talmudic anti-Christ communism in any manner, or other crimes against nature."

Christian Identity, says the coalition publication, sees the Pacific Northwest as "the geographical space where God's kingdom will be established."

Together with other white supremacist groups, Aryan Nations and Christian Identity "seek to merge their groups with a nation state, a white controlled area purged of people of color, Jews and racial enemies." Creation of such a nation "will logically require formation of an army...."

Berger says her region is pleased that "its program is so highly regarded as to be invited into such an important region to confront racism and Holocaust denial." The Anti-Defamation League in Seattle had been trying to show a program in Northern Idaho for several years but with no success, she said.

Julian Bucher of Bonner's Ferry, who is the CJC-P contact in Idaho, told *The CJN* because of the few Jews living in the area, Christian Identity is not as violently anti-Semitic as it is further south, but he welcomes the presentation "so that our young people will know what went on during the World War II period. It's the last chance for our younger generations to get an education about the era."

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Calgary school expands program

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — Akiva Academy recently announced plans to launch its own junior high program beginning with Grade 7 in 1997-98, followed by grades 8 and 9 in the two subsequent years.

The new independent program will replace the joint Akiva Academy-Calgary Jewish Academy (CJA) junior high program, which has been in effect since the 1988-89 school year. Under the joint program, students were taught the Alberta curriculum at the CJA, and had the option of pursuing the Judaic studies program at either school.

"We're very excited about this," said Akiva's president Richard Steinberg. "This marks an important milestone in the history and growth of Akiva Academy."

Steinberg pointed out that some Akiva parents felt the Judaic portion of the joint junior high program did not meet the philosophical objectives of the school, largely because of a lack of instruction time. Whereas students now receive 6.5 hours per week of Judaics instruction, the Akiva junior high program will offer up to 15 hours.

"Our mission is to give a quality education based on Torah values," said Rabbi Allen Saks, principal of Akiva Academy.

The new program, he added, with a 50-50 split between Judaic studies and the provincial curriculum, will allow the school to provide a fully integrated Jewish-secular curriculum, in keeping with the goals and objectives of the school.

For the Akiva board, one of the primary considerations in going ahead with the junior high program was fiscal responsibility. In analysing all the information gathered, the board concluded that the school would not have to go to Akiva or to the community for additional funds to run the program.

Some upgrades to the school are planned to accommodate the incoming class and arrangements are being made to gain access to a science lab.

Additional secular staff with prior junior high experience will be hired to teach math, science, language arts and social studies, and a Hebrew language teacher is being sought.

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From coast to coast

Former director seeks return to war crimes unit

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"I believe they felt I shouldn't have used numbers at all" or attributed some of the cases to Deschenes, he said. The criticism, Hobson claims, was engendered by "a combination of laziness and fear."

The loss of the Finta case, a criminal prosecution, and the publication in 1989 of *Old Wounds* by Harold Troper and Morton Weinfeld, describing the divergent views of the Jewish and Ukrainian communities, created a sense of fear among some in the department, he said.

At that time, the unit had not yet registered its one and only accomplishment, the deportation of Nazi collaborator Jacob Luitjens to Holland. The presiding judge Frank Collier did not release his judgment for two years.

"I didn't have that arrow in my quiver" to counter the skeptics, Hobson said.

In the intervening years, thanks in large part to the Supreme Court decision in the Finta case, which made criminal prosecutions virtually impossible, the unit has come over to Hobson's way of thinking.

A veteran litigator with a host of high profile successes under his belt, Hobson believes counsel must employ the proper case strategy to ensure success. When he and co-counsel Arnold Fradkin and Joe Rikhof took on the Luitjens case, they immediately set a court date eight months down the road. They spent the intervening time working on the case day and night.

Many believed it would be impossible to prove Luitjens lied when he entered Canada, because entry documents had been destroyed. But by laying the proper groundwork, Crown counsel were able to establish that Luitjens must have lied, Hobson said.

The war crimes unit has now given up on criminal prosecutions. In their place, it has promised the commencement of 12 deportation cases by March.

Hobson remains critical of counsel's strategy in current cases. He has written to those in authority pointing out what he sees as their errors. He pulls no punches in saying that despite the Luitjens precedent, prosecutors are not adopting the lessons from that case.

In the Luitjens proceeding, the first thing prosecutors did was set a court date, thereby giving a time frame for the resolution of all interim matters. Yet that lesson was not applied.

In one current case involving three alleged war criminals, Crown lawyer Christopher Amerasinghe

Bill Hobson

filed motions seeking directions from the court and asking for the appointment of a commission to take evidence abroad. A court date was never set, thus creating conditions in which defence lawyers would be able to delay matters to the advantage of their clients.

Seeking directions from the court "takes time and it gives the opposition a crack at you and the opportunity to delay, delay, delay. When you look at the age of the people, that's [their] best strategy."

Hobson also questioned why Amerasinghe was assigned four cases, noting that each case entails voluminous work and time. Since Amerasinghe can take only one case to court at a time, the last one may not be heard for as much as four years down the road, he said.

Hobson's record as a lawyer, going back to the days before he joined the war crimes unit, is an impressive one, serving as the "go-to" guy when things got dicey for the government. He served as head of the legal services department of the Department of Transport and as counsel to the Mississauga Rail Inquiry in the 1970s.

His first involvement in war crimes cases took place in the early 1980s, when then solicitor-general Robert Kaplan pushed for the extradition of Nazi war criminal Helmut Rauca.

"It was a horrific case just in terms of the numbers and the principals and more important, we got the government to move on the case. I think Kaplan had to fight for a good number of years to get the Liberal government to show any interest in dealing with the case," he recalled.

When he left the unit, Hobson, still a senior counsel in the Justice Department, took on two of the toughest commercial tax cases he could find as a sort of way of proving himself. He won both.

In June 1995, he left the Department of Justice and opened his own office. Immediately he was involved as counsel in a highly publicized case involving alleged sexual assault by a high profile psychiatrist. He won that case as well.

For Hobson, prosecuting war criminals is a matter of principle.

"I used to feel about the issue in these terms: I live on a cul de sac. What would we think as a country if trucks rolled up in the middle of the night, loaded up the children and grandparents and took them away and no one asked about it anymore.

"It's the quintessential human rights issue," he said.

Campbell won't run

OTTAWA — Liberal member of Parliament Barry Campbell, one of three Jewish MPs, will not seek re-election in the next federal vote.

Campbell announced his "very difficult decision" in a recent letter to Prime Minister Jean Chretien. He's represented the Toronto riding of St. Paul's since 1993.

Dr. Carolyn Bennett, who ran unsuccessfully for the Liberals in the last provincial election, has announced she will seek the Liberal nomination in St. Paul's.

Details in next week's *CJN*.

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Early detection of speech problems is crucial

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Speech and language difficulties are the most common disorders affecting Ontario children and early intervention is crucial to their development, says a specialist in communication therapy.

"Acquiring appropriate speech and language skills early in life enables children to progress academically, socially and vocationally," said Sharon Cooper Cherniak, in an interview.

If disorders are left untreated, children are at risk of lifelong problems. A significantly higher percentage of school dropouts and an overwhelming number of adolescents who are in prisons demonstrate sub-normal speech and language abilities, she said.

Cherniak, who received a masters of health from the University of Toronto and is the mother of two children, was on staff in the speech and language pathology department at Brampton's Peel Memorial Hospital from 1989 to 1996. Government cutbacks last year led to the dismissal of all full- and part-time practitioners serving the pediatric population in the hospital's communications disorders department.

Due to the cutbacks, department closures and staff layoffs, some children will not be seen until they arrive at school, where intensive and individualized treatment is not always available, Cherniak said. Many children on hospital waiting lists must wait more than a year for an assessment or treatment.

Cherniak said mothers usually know there is a problem when the child is very young, but they are frequently told by family, friends and physicians that the youngster "will grow out of it."

Some of the early signs of difficulty, Cherniak said, are poor clarity, stuttering, difficulty following directions or finding words, hoarseness and a lack of attachment and responsiveness to caregivers.

Speech pathologist Sharon Cooper Cherniak in play therapy session.

She uses a chart outlining the signs to look for in the development of children from eight months to five years. As an example, an 8-month old baby who does not laugh, respond to familiar faces or startle to loud or sudden noises, should alert the parents to the possibility of hearing or speech/language difficulties.

Cherniak takes a holistic approach to therapy, which includes working on behavior and the child's interaction with peers. "Often therapy is geared to working with parents who learn a better interaction style, which facilitates their child's language development.

"Parents must advocate for services for their children," she stressed. To cope with the cutbacks, a group of parents has rallied for services for their children. The Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communicative Disorders now has many local chapters and the groups have been instrumental in preventing and delaying some departmental closures in the past two years.

In her private practice, Cherniak receives referrals from pediatricians, psychologists, family and other doctors, private schools and parents. She works directly with the child and the parents while communicating with the doctors and teachers.

"Many lifelong problems can be reduced or eliminated if parents will seek professional help when they first suspect that there is a problem and when they work together with the therapist."

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AIDS research at Weizmann

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A gene that plays a vital role in the process of infection, the activation of the immune system and, perhaps, in the maturation of the HIV virus that causes AIDS has been discovered and cloned by Weizmann Institute researchers.

Their findings, which many other groups of scientists abroad have been trying to achieve, appears in the latest issue of the British journal, *Nature*.

Prof. David Wallach of the membrane research and biophysics department discovered the gene, called NIK, with help from doctoral students Nikolai Malinin, Mark Boldin and Andrei Kovalenko.

NIK helps remove a molecular "brake" that keeps the immune response in check.

Its discovery, said the Rehovot scientists, could lead to the development of drugs to regulate the immune system in a variety of diseases.

Drugs that enhance NIK's effects could be designed to boost immunity in immune-deficiency diseases, while drugs that block its effects might be developed to inhibit unwanted immune responses in autoimmune diseases, such as juvenile-onset diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis or multiple sclerosis.

"NIK activation is a crucial, first step in triggering the immune response," said Wallach. "Our findings hold potential for the design of future drugs to block or enhance the effects of NIK, although we still need to clarify the exact reactions that this molecule sets off."

It has been known for about 20 years that a protein called NF-kB belongs to a class of proteins, known as transcription factors, which "switch on" certain genes. NF-kB is a major molecule involved in the immune response, switching on several genes involved in immune and inflammatory responses to disease and infection.

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'Amicable' ceremony marks launch of new talks

BY DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) recently launched negotiations near Jerusalem aimed at broadening Palestinian self-rule in the territories.

The ceremony by Foreign Minister David Levy and PA senior negotiator Mahmoud Abbas, at the Kibbutz Ma'aleh Hahamisha guest centre west of Jerusalem, was described by participants as "amicable." Both Levy and Abbas expressed optimism that the ensuing eight parallel sets of negotiations on security and civilian matters would be resolved amid goodwill.

A one-on-one meeting between the two followed the opening ceremony.

"The two sides have taken upon themselves to uphold the agreements amid reciprocity and responsibility and to create an atmosphere that is conducive to the peace process," Levy said after the meeting.

Despite the optimism and amid general agreement that each set of talks should be held twice a week, concrete dates were not set to deal with the key Hebron pullback follow-up issues: the establishment of a Palestinian airport and sea port in Gaza and safe passage for Palestinians between Gaza and the West Bank.

Israel's concern in those talks is security, and it aims for provisions to prevent the smuggling of weapons into the territories or people into Israel.

The IDF will head the Israeli team for the airport and sea port, while the Internal Security Ministry will head talks on safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza, Foreign Ministry officials say.

One panel scheduled to be launched is "people to people," intended to increase encounters between different segments of Israeli and Palestinian societies.

Two panels addressing ongoing issues are to meet in Jerusalem. One is dealing with the Allenby and Rafah crossing points and is headed by the IDF. The other is the civilian affairs panel.

After the recent session, Levy declared that he and Abbas would meet monthly so as to supervise the different panels. However, it remains unclear what authority Levy will wield since the Palestinian track largely has been run out of the Prime Minister's Office. Furthermore, the IDF is to run several of the key panels.

Officials say they are confused by the differing titles on the Israeli side.

Cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, who flew back early from accompanying Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the United States to attend the Ma'aleh Hahamisha opening, has been named coordinator of talks with the Palestinians. According to foreign ministry officials, Levy aide Ya'acov Bardugo has been named co-coordinator. Levy himself is called head of the steering committee, a title that some describe as honorific.

To add to the confusion, the person who is considered the dominant Israeli negotiator on the Palestinian track is attorney Yitzhak Molcho, a friend of Netanyahu's.

Molcho headed the Hebron talks and officials say he will head the talks on the final disposition of the territories which begin next month and are scheduled to conclude in May 1999.

The next big date on the Palestinian track is March 7, when Israel is slated to stage the first of three additional pullbacks in the West Bank that are to be completed by the middle of next year.

Confrontation with Iran predicted

BY MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jeruslaem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Confrontation between Israel and Iran is inevitable, Labor Party leadership candidate MK Ephraim Sneh said recently.

Speaking to several dozen senior reserve officers at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel, Sneh said that within a few years Iran will have nuclear weapons and will pose a threat to Israel.

The reserve officers included major-generals Uzi Narkiss, Doron Rubin, Avner Hermoni and Mordechai Ben-Shach.

Sneh warned that Israel will have to change its overall security concept, in accordance with the strategic Iranian nuclear threat. He noted that the Russian aid to Iran had reduced the time it needs to obtain operative nuclear ability. Iran can achieve this ability within a few years, he said.

Commenting on the situation in Lebanon, Sneh said that given the current situation there is no alternative to the deployment of the IDF and South Lebanese Army in the security zone. "Fighting the Hezbollah, which is supported by the Iranians, is the first — but not last — military confrontation between a western democracy and Khomeinistic Iran," Sneh said.

"The address to any settlement in Lebanon remains Syria. As long as there is no comprehensive agreement with Syria, there is no way but the IDF's direct threat on Syrian economic interests in Lebanon, to pressure them to curb Hezbollah," he added.

Sneh said there is an "unbridgeable gap" at present between the Syrian concept of the security arrangements, and Israel's security needs. He said President Hafez Assad's territorial demands are for the maximum, while his readiness for security arrangements and normalization are minimal.

"The international border proposed by the Syrians in the Golan — the Jordan and Kinneret line — is not defendable. Consequently, the chances for a comprehensive settlement with Syria are slim," he said.

Sneh argued that Israel must build a new Israeli-Jordanian-Palestinian axis in the region, to balance the Syrian-Iranian axis. The key to comprehensive peace in the region was and remains the agreements with the Palestinians, he stressed.

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IDF to adopt new procedures

In wake of helicopter crash

BY ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — While it has not yet been determined why two Yasur (CH-53) helicopters collided on February 4, the Ivry board of inquiry has issued a series of recommendations to change procedures for flights carrying soldiers to Lebanon.

In its 10-page interim report, submitted to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, the commission recommended that helicopters fly separately instead of in formation to reduce the risk of collision.

"We are completely adopting the commission's recommendations and these recommendations will be fully implemented," Mordechai said at a press conference attended by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and air force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu.

Mordechai immediately passed copies of the report to the government and the families of the 73 soldiers who died in the crash.

The report did not lay the blame on any person, but it uncovered a number of faults, from lax safety procedures to ambiguous flight instructions.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was briefed in Washington on the report by Mordechai, said it appeared the report was "reasonable and orderly."

"I hope that this report will help prevent accidents like this in the future," he said, but added that he was not aware of any plans for dismissals in the air force.

The report ruled out harsh weather conditions as the direct cause of the crash and also said it was unlikely that arteriosclerosis discovered in one of the pilots in an autopsy was related to the accident.

Maj.-Gen. (res.) Ran Goren, a former deputy air force commander, told Israel Radio that the accident was likely a result of human error, but cautioned against hunting for someone to blame.

Some parents reacted angrily to the interim report.

Yoram Alpher, whose son Idan died in the crash, said it turns out that the 73 soldiers were killed simply because of utter disorder.

He leveled criticism at the findings of confusion over who records the flight rosters and ambiguous procedures on turning off aircraft lights.

Alpher also speculated that if there had been a co-pilot instead of two navigators, the pilot's mistake could have been averted.

The commission was given 45 days to present its findings, but was asked by Mordechai to submit an interim report after 10 days.

Ben-Eliahu said the Yasur squadrons had returned to full activity, but were now flying under increased safety restrictions.

"The most important thing about the interim report is to read its recommendations, since they are not aimed at giving a complete picture of the incident or level any blame in the incident, but ...to recommend what steps have to be taken as soon as possible and not wait for 45 days before we can start flying more safely and prevent such incidents in the future," Ben-Eliahu said.

The commission questioned 37 witnesses, visited the site of the crash and met with members of the helicopter squadrons in its investigation.

According to the interim report, a number of faults were detected, but it noted that none of them could be determined to have directly caused the accident.

The investigation said the two helicopters were to fly in "open formation," from the Mahanayim air strip to the Lebanon border and then separate, each to its own destination. It said that neither helicopter was designated "leader" of the formation and that neither pilot was sufficiently trained to be a leader.

The pilots were briefed before takeoff on extinguishing aircraft lights, which was to be done before crossing the border.

According to squadron practice, each was to have examined the other by trading places to make sure all lights were out. This policy was instituted to reduce the chance of the enemy spotting the helicopters. The inquiry found that the procedure for extinguishing lights was ambiguous.

The inquiry also found that the officer responsible for registering the flight roster did not arrive at the airstrip, thus no list of passengers remained on the ground. The list of victims was put together from the soldiers' units waiting for them in Lebanon, the inquiry said.

According to the inquiry, the helicopters circled above She'ar Yashuv waiting for permission to cross the border. At 6:56 p.m. they were given the go-ahead and half a minute later radioed back that they were crossing into Lebanon. At that moment, they disappeared from radar screens.

The inquiry found that pieces from both helicopters were located at both crash sites, corroborating eyewitness and radar accounts which reported a collision.

The commission now plans to widen the focus of its investigation, and will examine the makeup and maintenance of the helicopter squadron and flight crews. It will also examine the coordination between ground forces and the air force.

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The Week in Israel

Feb. 10

• Japan, coordinator of the Madrid multilateral working group on the environment, sent an invitation to Israel to attend the March 10 session to be held in Valencia, Spain.

• Politicians from across the spectrum criticized a group of parliamentarians and security officials who met privately last weekend to discuss Israel's policy in southern Lebanon.

Feb. 11

• According to a poll conducted by *Ma'ariv*, 79 percent of Israelis are opposed to a unilateral withdrawal of IDF troops from south Lebanon.

• Israel began the release from jail of 31 Palestinian female prisoners. The release of prisoners was the second approved by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu under the 1995 Interim Agreement.

Feb. 12

• Israel opened an Arab market near the Avraham Avinu Synagogue in the Jewish compound of Hebron, honoring a promise made in last month's agreement with the Palestinian Authority. The market was shut down three years ago after the rampage by Baruch Goldstein.

• Elyakim Rubinstein assumed his post as attorney general.

Feb. 13

• The air force attacked a suspected Hezbollah hideout in southern Lebanon.

• Media reported that Israel, Jordan and the United States are working on an arrangement to send Hamas leader Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzook to Jordan instead of extraditing him to Israel.

Feb 14

• France and Israel agreed to step up cooperation in the fight against terrorism and to hold semi-annual dialogues on strategic issues. The new relationship was announced by visiting French Defence Minister Charles Millon and Yitzhak Mordechai in Tel Aviv.

• Bank workers went on strike as part of their campaign to establish a 5-day work week.

With files from the JTA

U.S. input sought

BY DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's meeting last week with President Bill Clinton strongly contrasts with an unforgettable White House encounter five years ago between then-prime minister Yitzhak Shamir and U.S. president George Bush.

On the heels of the 1991 Madrid peace conference, Shamir spent the entire session with the world's most powerful man discussing which entrances to the State Department the Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese negotiators would use and at what time intervals they would walk through the doors. It was a futile bid to separate the various Arab delegations.

The American officials emerged from that session fuming at how Shamir had wasted his own and Bush's time. But Shamir's insistence reflected Likud's view at the time. It wanted Washington completely removed from the substance of the talks, apparently believing that Israel would thus be better positioned to maintain its ideological opposition to any form of territorial compromise.

During Netanyahu's early trips to the United States last summer and fall, U.S. officials wondered whether he was a younger version of Shamir with an American accent.

After Clinton's first encounter with Netanyahu, the president reportedly commented to those around him that Netanyahu had spoken in the Oval Office as if he were the leader of a superpower and could dictate terms to the Palestinians.

It seems that last week's White House meeting was very different from the early encounters. Even if past Likud leaders wanted to keep the United States out of the substance of the peace process because they believed this would reduce the prospects of territorial compromise, Netanyahu realizes that a new Likud post-Hebron approach in dealing with the territories requires re-evaluating the role that the United States plays.

Having finally reached the conclusion that Oslo makes territorial compromise in the West Bank a fait accompli, Netanyahu now sees that it is critical to bring the United States into the nitty-gritty of the talks. This is what he did the other day at the White House, as he presented maps of his broad outlines for a final-status deal with the Palestinians and articulated his thinking regarding territorial compromise on the Golan, even though talks with Syria still seem far off.

Syria talks on hold

[Cont'd. from page 1]

enemy media are trying to say," Shara told reporters.

"Syria is ready to resume negotiations tomorrow if Israel abides by what was reached during the previous stage," he added.

Shara was speaking after he and Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam had discussed the latest developments in the Middle East peace process with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

In two meetings with Netanyahu in Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said she has no intention of going overboard in coaxing Damascus back to the talks, an Israeli official said.

Netanyahu, in his address, cautioned Anwar al-Assad to rein in Hezbollah, but did not condition the resumption of negotiations on such a move.

"We have not made the cessation of the proxy war against us... a precondition for the resumption of the talks. I could fairly well do that. I could say, 'We will not begin the talks unless Syria stops the proxy war that it can stop against us,' " Netanyahu said.

"If President Assad has taken, truly, a strategic decision for peace, we would expect him to disavow war as an option. But he has not discarded the option of violence in Lebanon, and we expect him to do so.

"And if President Assad does decide, soon I hope, that he chooses the path of peace, he will find us reasonable and cooperative partners. If he chooses the path of violence, he will leave us no choice but to defend ourselves and to defend our interests. I think such a choice on his part will be a prescription for tragedy."

Mideast Analysis
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CJN4

Swiss restitution promised...

BY DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — When the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) met in New York, recently, discussions about Switzerland and the issue of missing Jewish assets took a new turn.

Strategizing over how to bring international pressure to bear on Switzerland will give way to dealing with the mechanics of transferring Swiss francs into the pockets of Holocaust survivors, officials said.

"Essentially, we've now moved into a situation where we are no longer trying to prove that restitution is due, but we're now at the point where restitution is beginning to happen, where the funds are actually being shifted," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress (WJC).

In 1992, the WJC and other leading Jewish organizations created the WJRO to secure compensation and restitution of Jewish property and assets confiscated during World War II.

Recently, three Swiss banking giants, under fire from critics over their handling of Holocaust victims' assets, transferred 100 million Swiss francs — $71 million (US) — into a Holocaust memorial fund.

The action marked the first concrete move to begin compensating Holocaust victims and their heirs whose families transferred their wealth to Swiss banks for safekeeping during the World War II era.

Jewish organizations claim Swiss banks hold up to $7 billion in such assets, but the banks say initial searches of their archives turned up only $32 million in unclaimed accounts.

Several Swiss businesses are now beginning to make their own contributions to the Swiss humanitarian fund. The industrial group Alusuisse-Lonza Holding AG said it would contribute "generously," and the Swiss Foreign Ministry said other business leaders were soon expected to make similar pledges.

The Swiss government and the Swiss National Bank have also given assurances that they will contribute to the fund in coming months.

At the WJRO meeting, officials said they turned to practical questions posed by a new phase in the struggle for moral and material restitution.

Meanwhile, New York politicians have gone ahead with plans to probe the issue of missing Jewish assets.

The New York City Council decided to examine ways to help Holocaust victims reclaim their wealth, and the New York State Assembly is set to hold a similar hearing.

The two bodies backed down from earlier threats of punitive steps to be taken against Swiss financial institutions after Credit Suisse, Swiss Bank Corp. and Union Banking of Switzerland set up the humanitarian fund.

Jewish groups also ruled out a boycott.

"We're now in a new mode of cooperation in winding down this unfortunate chapter in a manner which finally, in a symbolic way, seems to address the grievances of the Holocaust," Steinberg said.

...as anti-Semitism increases

BY FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ZURICH — Swiss Jews are confronting a mounting wave of anti-Semitism in the wake of international pressure on Switzerland to compensate Holocaust victims and their heirs for funds deposited in Swiss banks during the World War II era.

At the same time, however, Swiss Jews have found support from a largely sympathetic press and from Christian groups.

The surge in anti-Semitism was prompted by remarks made by Jean-Pascal Delamuraz on Dec. 31, the eve of his departure from the rotating Swiss presidency.

In an interview with the daily Tribune de Geneve, Delamuraz said the Auschwitz death camp " was not in Switzerland," adding that the growing demands of international Jewish groups to compensate Holocaust survivors and their heirs was nothing less than "blackmail."

While Delamuraz apologized after an international outcry, his New Year's Eve interview already had become something of a mobilization call to the country's anti-Semites, many of whom had been dormant in recent years.

The majority of Switzerland's 20,000 Jews support the WJC's efforts, despite the feeling by some that a more aggressive communal stance on restitution would fuel anti-Semitism.

The Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland, the communal umbrella group, though preferring a more passive role on the restitution issue in the past, has voiced its wholehearted support for the WJC and its "hard-liners" in New York.

Members of the country's Orthodox community, however, feel uncomfortable with stands taken by the federation and the WJC.

In a recent statement, six rabbis called on Swiss Jews to be very careful about their public statements.

There was some basis for their caution. In recent weeks, the offices of Jewish communal groups, along with other organizations and individuals, have received hundreds of anti-Semitic letters daily.

In comparison, "in normal times, we got one or two such letters a month," said Sigi Feigel, honorary president of Zurich's Jewish community, the country's largest.

Such letters usually are anonymous, but now they are arriving signed and include the addresses of the senders, Feigel added.

In addition, the Swiss newspapers contain pages of anti-Semitic letters to the editor, though their editorial pages are calling for the government to clarify the Swiss role during the war years.

Observers familiar with Swiss anti-Semitism say most of the anti-Semites are from the older generation. Many of them served in the Swiss army and still believe that the only reason Hitler did not invade Switzerland was because he knew of the Swiss army's full resolve to fight back, the observers say.

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Story of 'Golden Peacock' coming to stage

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The life and times of Itzik Manger, the "Golden Peacock" of Yiddish literature, author of *Oyfn Veg Shteyt a Boym*, will be recreated on the stage of the Leah Posluns Theatre March 16.

That performance of *Reflections of a Golden Peacock* by New York actor Avi Hoffman is a gala in support of the University of Toronto Yiddish Studies Program. (Call 787-0526 for more information.)

Hoffman, who enthralled Toronto audiences with his one-man show, *Too Jewish?*, refers to Manger as "the lost poet" and hopes to restore the author's reputation in the new show.

Manger, a Romanian who-escaped the Holocaust, wandered the world and died in Israel in 1969 at the age of 68. He was a colorful character and Hoffman portrays him warts and all.

"He survived several love affairs and a lot of hard living, but he produced a rich body of work," said Hoffman.

Molly Picon sang Manger's lyrics in *Yidl With His Fiddle* and a series of his poems was the basis for *The Megillah of Itzik Manger*, which was a Broadway success.

The book for *Reflections* was written by Hoffman's mother, Miriam Hoffman, who is a professor of Yiddish at Columbia University in New York.

Hoffman himself considers *Reflections* a labor of love, since he grew up in the Kingsbridge area of the Bronx, where a vibrant Yiddish culture reigned and where he learned the writings and songs of Itzik Manger.

Besides the gala, *Reflections* will be presented at the theatre twice on March 18 for a matinee and evening performance.

In addition, Hoffman is repeating *Too Jewish?* at the theatre the evenings of March 15 and 17, and for a matinee on March 16.

Tickets for all shows, except the gala March 16, are available from Olive Eye Productions, 324-9413, Lasting Impressions, 635-0720, and Ticketmaster, 872-1111.

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Just Clowning Around

Children's performer the Sphere Clown Band (above) will celebrate its 20th birthday with two concerts at the Minkler Auditorium, Seneca College on Feb.23 at 11 a.m and 2 p.m. The band's four albums have earned them plaudits from the press and their young fans. Their first album, *I Can Do Anything*, was a finalist for a Juno Award and their most recent tape *Clowntown*, earned the U.S. Parent's Choice Foundation Approval. The band is led by producer, performer and composer Patricia Silver. Silver designed the Children's High Holiday Services for the Beach Hebrew Institute and sings and plays for most holiday celebrations and services. She was also involved in last autumn's production of the children's Holocaust opera *Brundibar* at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Tickets for the birthday bash can be purchased from the Minkler Box Office at 416-491-8877.

Hapoalim offers notes

TEL-AVIV — An issue of up to $200 million (US) of guaranteed floating rate notes is being offered to foreign residents by Hapoalim International N.V, a subsidiary of Bank Hapoalim.

The first notes were recently issued on the London Stock Exchange, Rafi Ben-Ami chief representative for the bank in Canada said. There will be five other stages through July 1997. The final redemption of the Hapoalim notes is July 2006, with an option for earlier redemption in 2002.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

N.Y. Yiddish Singer Gives Master Class

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• New York actor-singer **Adrienne Cooper**, known for her sensitive interpretations of Yiddish song and poetry, is teaching a vocal master class for Toronto vocalists, including **Teresa Tova**, **Lenka Lichtenberg**, **Gloria Valentine**, **Stella Walker** and **Honey Novick**.

Presented by Ashkenaz, Friends of Yiddish and the Workman's Circle. Open to the public, $5 at the door. 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Sun. Feb. 23, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Chai Tea, presented by Friends of Yiddish, features music by guitarist **Brian Katz** and clarinetist **Martin Van der Van**, and readings in Yiddish and English by **Hindy Abelson**, **Richard Bassett** and **Blema Steinman**. Downstairs at the Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, Feb. 23, 3 p.m. Members *bupkis*, non-members $5. RSVP Sandy Bokser, 416-736-8073.

Musical Events

• The **Lachan Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir**, conducted by **Cantor Benjamin Z. Maissner**, sings Hebrew, Ladino, Yiddish and English melodies, accompanied by **Wendy Humber Bornstein** on oboe and **Nadyah Adler** on piano. Music for a Sunday Afternoon. Leah Posluns Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, Feb. 23, 3 p.m. $5 at the door. 416-636-1880, ext. 354.

• The Jewish String: A Hebrew Melody is a recital featuring the **Apollo Duo**. The husband-and-wife team of **Daniel Domb**, a principal cellist with the **TSO**, and **Carey Domb**, a classical guitarist, "create a unique and haunting sound of Jewish music." Holy Blossom Temple. March 2, 3 p.m. Adults, $15. 416-789-3291, ext. 503.

• Music Toronto presents **Pascal Roge** playing the music of **Faure**, **Satie**, **Debussy & Poulenc**. Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre, Mar. 4, 8 p.m. Sponsored by Joey & Toby Tanenbaum & Loblaws. 416-366-7723.

• **The Amadeus Choir of Greater Toronto** presents Handel's Israel In Egypt in the Weston Recital Hall at the Ford Centre, North York. Considered one of the composer's greatest oratorios, the work offers mighty choral ensembles depicting the seven plagues and the flight of the Israelites across the Red Sea. April 27, 8 p.m. Tickets $24 or $28, 416-872-2222.

Benefits & Galas

• Israel Cancer Research Fund and Characters Theatre Troupe present *The Sisters Rosensweig*, Vaughan City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster Dr., Thornhill. Reception following. Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Tickets $25 and $40. 416-487-5246.

Film Notes

• Toronto film buff **Shael Stolberg** has produced a 230-page guide to more than 300 film festivals worldwide. The International Film Festival Guide is available at select bookstores or by direct mail. 416-410-0867. E-mail: festival@interlog.com.

• The Israeli film *Under the Domim Tree*, which had an unprecedented engagement (for an Israeli film) of nine weeks in Toronto, recently opened in a Vancouver cinema, following the success there of the prequel, *Summer of Aviyah*.

Lectures & Learning

• Behind-the-scenes visits to Judaica museums, a series offered by Shaarei Shomayim's historical and exhibitions committee, continues March 3, 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Rabbi Avraham Kubayov**, a noted collector of Judaica, discusses rare books, Jewish ritual objects, old maps and Jewish art.

Registration limited. Single programme, $8. Carol, 416-789-3213.

• The Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture offers a Klezmer Music Course at the beginner/intermediate level. Eight sessions with instructor **David Buchbinder**, starting March 31, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Bloor JCC. Members $100, non-members $130. 416-924-6211.

Gloria Valentine

Theresa Tova

Travel, Arts & Business

Collecting names and more names thriving industry of the future

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — What's in a name? To those companies looking to increase sales and market share, a name could mean the difference between becoming a market leader and corporate collapse.

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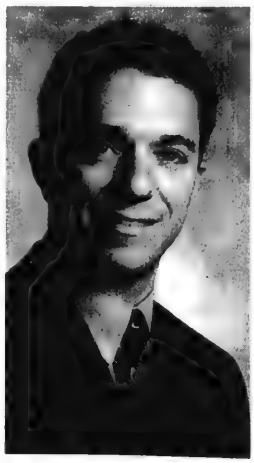
Syntony's system also ensures that a company's client or prospect list is as up-to-date as possible. Companies can ensure they are not calling a special "do not call" list administered by the Canadian Direct Marketing Association (CDMA), he says.

Latsky says Syntony has been servicing "almost every major direct marketer in Canada" and is sporting 100 percent growth. Clients come from the telecommunications, catalogue, financial and publishing industries.

He describes his approach as "focussed diversification." Being focussed, he says, refers to Syntony's ability to provide data-base solutions to its clients and by diversification, Latsky refers to Syntony's ability to deliver in three product areas: list provision; a list update through merging and purging techniques and data entry and analytical services.

Latsky also helped put together many of the policies and structures that guide and govern Canada's information products industry. He founded the Database and List Council, a committee of the CDMA, of which he is a director.



Jonathan Latsky

The growth of the information products industry, says Latsky, is in part a by-product of the decline of print and electronic media as a vehicle for marketing. Companies have discovered that direct mail and telemarketing have proved successful when using up-to-date and targeted lists.

The key to list selection is identifying who is the most likely target to purchase a product or service. With approximately 100,000 lists on the market, this is no easy task, Latsky says. If you can narrow your target group by geography, income, or historical buying patterns, there is an increased opportunity for increasing market share, he says.

Among the company's 1.3 million business names are dentists, doctors, lawyers and veterinarians. Syntony can also direct a company's mailing campaign to 460,000 survey respondents across North America who have indicated that they operate a home business.

Syntony uses *TargetSource*, which includes hundreds of facts about two million Canadian households. All data was obtained by means of a direct mail survey.

In January, Syntony was purchased by GETKO Group Inc. a leading North American provider of publishing and information services for direct marketing companies. GETKO's objective was to enhance the presence of its existing Toronto office by pulling the two organizations together.

Bruce Dulberg, vice-president of GETKO Direct Response Group, who oversees operations of GETKO Group Canada, says "The acquisition makes GETKO one of Canada's largest data suppliers.

Founded in 1962, GETKO has established itself as a specialist in the home buyer market. Its divisions include Getting to Know You, the target home buyer welcoming program in North America.

GETKO is part of the CUC International family of companies which currently provides more than 60 million customers with access to a variety of services including home shopping, travel, insurance, auto, dining, home improvement, financial, and discount coupon programs. CUC International is a New York Stock Exchange-listed company, with more than 11,000 employees and revenues of over US $2 billion.

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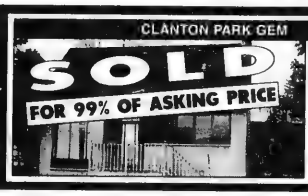

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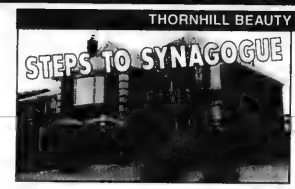

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330 OBITUARIES

BUDD, Mort - on January 29, 1997, late of 695 Block Line Rd.
CUTLER, Hy - on January 31, 1997, late of 126 Gorman Park Rd.
GOLDSTEIN, Barry - on January 31, 1997, late of 1 Vermont Ave.
MOGILNITZKY, Clara - on January 31, 1997, late of 544 Delaware Ave.
SNOBEL, Alfred - on January 31, 1997, late of 16 Ivanhoe Crt.
VALENSKY, Betty - on January 31, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
GRUSHKA, Chana - on February 2, 1997, late of 271 Ridley Blvd., #1104.
MOYSE, Albert - on February 2, 1997, late of 265 100th Ave.
WARGON, Joel - on February 2, 1997, late of 21 Portree Cres.
PASCOE, Elsie - on February 3, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
WASSERMAN, Martin - on February 5, 1997, late of 48 Bluffwood Dr.
GARBER, Sanford - on February 6, 1997, late of 840 Eglinton Ave. W., #306.
PERLY, Gary - on February 6, 1997, late of 711 Markham St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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POTTEN, Amelia - on February 5, 1997.
MULLER, Helena - on February 7, 1997, late of 7 Geddes Crt.
BERNIKIER, Sandra Hilary - on February 8, 1997.
BLINDER, Alexandra - on February 9, 1997, late of 86 Larratt Lane.
FELLEGI, Olga - on February 9, 1997, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
DAITER, Mona - on February 10, 1997.
GASBERG, Jack - on February 10, 1997, late of 630 Roselawn Ave.
SHARGORODSKY, Yankel - on February 10, 1997, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
LEVY, Esther - on February 11, 1997.

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Features

Jews have come long way in field of journalism

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Charles Lazarus

Peter Newman

TORONTO — When I dreamed of being a reporter, one of my inspirations was Nettie Magder, the Sudbury stringer who was the only reporter to cover the arrival in 1937 of the king and queen in White River in the far north.

The *New York Times* carried her report on its front page with a special citation about the quality of her writing. Soon after that, I got my first full-time job on a daily newspaper, the *Ottawa Journal*, 56 years ago.

At the time, there were few Jews in mainstream journalism and I became the first Jewish general assignment reporter ever hired by the *Toronto Star* in 1944. What a change in the picture today!

The mainstream media are alive with Jewish reporters, editors and columnists and in advance, I'm apologizing to those whose names I have inadvertently omitted.

Since I started with the late Nettie Magder, it's apt to report that she married Ted Harris, now deceased, editor of the defunct *Montreal Herald*. Their three children followed in their footsteps: Leon and Lewis are editors on the *Montreal Gazette* and Rosa Harris Adler of Ottawa is a magazine writer.

The journalism program at Ryerson Polytechnical University, the oldest in Canada, has always attracted a number of Jewish students, according to Paul Rush, acting chair. The one that comes to his mind instantly is Tamar Satov, editor of the *Ryerson Review of Journalism*.

It's heartening that Jews have sprouted like bean sprouts in a field in which as a Jew, I felt rather lonely at one time.

Those known far beyond Canada's borders include Morley Safer, of TV's *60 Minutes*, Reuven Frank, retired head of *NBC TV News*, whose father was an editor of the *Toronto Daily Hebrew Journal*, Peter Newman, author and former editor of *Maclean's* magazine, Mordechai Richler, a journalistic gadfly and world famous author and Barbara Amiel, *Maclean's* columnist and wife of press baron Conrad Black.

Three Jews who made it to the top of the ladder were the late Martin Goodman, a reporter who became a top officer of the *Toronto Star*; Mark Harrison, onetime *Star* reporter who went on to be managing editor of the *Montreal Gazette*; and Shirley Sharzer, originally of Winnipeg, now retired, who was deputy managing editor of the *Globe and Mail*, and who did much to advance the cause of women in journalism.

Jewish columnists read by thousands

Among columnists whose material is read by thousands are Michelle Landsberg, David Lewis Stein, David Frum, Susan Kashtan, Rick Salutin, Adele Freedman, Naomi Klein, Joanne Kates, Ellen Roseman and Andrew Cohen.

Among those who have made their mark as editors and writers are Sydney Katz, Michael Posner, Harry Goldhar, Rabbi Reuben Slonim, Lorrie Goldstein, Rona Maynard, Jack Granek, Mel Sufrin (now director of the Ontario Press Council), the late Wilf Gruson, Susan Cole, Erna Paris, Paul Nowak, Elaine Dewar, Alice Klein and Sandra Gotlieb.

In the ivory towers of the editorial writing sanctum were the late Margaret Gould of the *Toronto Star*, and the late Ben Malkin, *Ottawa Citizen*.

A well-known specialist on the labor beat was Wilf List, *Globe and Mail*, now retired.

Jews in journalism are not confined to Ontario and Quebec. The late Hymie Koshovoy, managing editor of the *Vancouver Sun*, was a legendary figure. Val Werier, onetime managing editor of the *Winnipeg Tribune*, is still writing a column on current events for the *Winnipeg Free Press*, where Gene Telpner was also a reporter. Simma Holt, a *Vancouver Sun* reporter became a Liberal MP in Ottawa and an expert on the Doukhobors.

Three Canadian journalists well known in their own fields who went on to become editors of *The Canadian Jewish News* were Maurice Lucow and Patricia Rucker and the late Ralph Hyman. Among reporters who worked on *The CJN* were Dorothy Lipovenko and Ellie Tesher. In this article, I have not attempted to list the Jews who made their mark in writing for the Anglo-Jewish press, another subject in itself.

Entertainment writing continues to attract Canadian Jews, following on the career of the late acerbic Nathan Cohen, the Maritimer from Glace Bay, N.S., who was entertainment editor of the *Toronto Star* and host of TV's *Fighting Words*. They include Sid Adilman, Henry Mietkiewicz, Martin Knelman, Mira Friedlander, Pearl Sheffey Geffen, Tamara Bernstein, the late Frank Rasky (former editor of *Liberty Magazine* and onetime entertainment editor of *The CJN)*, and the late Hye Bossin, editor of *Canadian Film Weekly*.

Sports writing figures included the late Joe Perlove, *Toronto Star*, the late Bobbie Rosenfeld, *Globe and Mail*, and the late Jack Kofman, *Ottawa Citizen*. Lorne Rubinstein and Al Sokol are more recent recruits.

The late Charles Lazarus was a well known scribe for the *Montreal Star* and a longtime stringer for *The CJN*. Another Montreal reporter, William Weintraub, is now a filmmaker and author.

Other reporters were Arnold Bruner, Bob Cohen, the late Carol Gault, Ed Parker, Sandy Nyman, Sam Crystal, the late Tommy Levine, Judith Knelman, Suanne Kelman, Jennifer Hunter and Stephen Kimber.

Those who left print journalism for TV include Alan Abel, Tom Alderman, Steve Paikin (son of McMaster University chancellor Marnie Paikin), CBC-TV auteur Larry Zolf of Winnipeg, and CBC-TV broadcaster Jason Moskowitz.

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Jean Beliveau

Maccabiah reunion in Montreal

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Just two months before the July 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel, Maccabi Canada will be staging a national reunion in Montreal.

The reunion is for those who have participated since the first Canadian team attended the games in 1950. Invitations will go out to hundreds of past athletes, coaches, trainers and volunteers, as part of a heightened effort to raise the organization's profile before the games begin, said Abe Luxenberg, one of the organizers of the event.

Hockey legend Jean Beliveau, already set to make his second trip to Israel as chef de mission of the Canadian team, has agreed to serve as the reunion's honorary chair.

Luxenberg has been going over Maccabi material and records to get all the names together.

Other Maccabi Canada stalwarts, such as Joey Richman, Abe's wife Mary, Jeannine Harrison and Sammy Rouas, who is tracking down Sephardi veterans, are also doing their share.

"We have to find out where people are," said Abe Luxenberg. "It's a way to bring together the past and the present and to show who we are."

As it happens, "who we are" has grown from a 17-person Canadian team in 1950 (the first games to be held in the State of Israel and led by the late Fred Oberlander), to a team expected to number well over 200 next year.

And as the reunion will demonstrate, "who we are" also includes Canada playing a significant role in the revival of cultural and sports-related Maccabi activities in Eastern Europe, one of the world's most active areas before the Holocaust.

Among the individuals invited to the reunion is Joseph Sterngast, a neighbor of Luxenberg's who also happened to be a member of Maccabi-Krakow's championship cross-country motorcycle team.

Sterngast, along with his parents, six brothers and a sister, were all active in Maccabi-Krakow, but all but four brothers were murdered by the Nazis.

Maccabi-Krakow had over 2,500 members before the Holocaust.

Yvette Hus, a member of Maccabi Canada, was among a delegation of international Maccabi World Union cultural representatives who travelled to Poland last summer to witness the progress made in reviving Maccabi activities in Poland, despite the relatively low numbers of Jewish young people who now live there.

Today, the Maccabi-Krakow centre has 250 members, some of whom compete at the Maccabiah Games.

Individuals interested in participating in the reunion can reach Luxenberg at 514-485-9142.

Canada hopes to send women hoopsters to Israel

TORONTO — For years, Canada has sent a men's basketball team to the quadrennial Maccabiah Games in Israel, but this year, efforts are being made to send a women's team as well.

There are enough Canadian university, ex-university and club players to round out a competitive team, but with women's basketball a potentially new sport, Maccabi Canada has given proponents of the team the task of raising funds, said Chavi Weinroth, a member of the fundraising committee for the team.

The fundraisers' goal is $50,000. Anyone interested in contributing towards the team, or for more information, can contact Neil Rothenberg, administrator of women's basketball for Maccabi Canada, at 416-651-6354.

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THE CHAMP TAKES A BOW

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) recently honored former Canadian heavyweight boxing champ George Chuvalo (left) with its national community service award, presented by BBC's president, Lyle Smordin. The award recognizes Chuvalo's determination and courage in overcoming personal tragedies and educating young Canadians about the dangers of drug use. Two of Chuvalo's sons died of drug overdoses while a third son committed suicide.

The Inside Back

Jewish groups hail verdict

BY CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Jewish groups are hailing the federal jury conviction last week of Lemrick Nelson Jr. in the killing of a chassidic scholar during the Crown Heights riots in 1991.

They also called for greater racial tolerance.

Nelson, 21, had earlier been acquitted in state court of killing Yankel Rosenbaum, prompting demands for a federal inquiry which led to the new trial.

"We are thankful that finally justice has been served," said Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union.

"Justice at last has been done," echoed Howard Teich, president of the American Jewish Congress Metropolitan New York Region.

"Our common task in light of this verdict remains that of building a more racially tolerant community."

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) also applauded the jury ruling. "The decision puts an end to five years of injustice," said an ADL statement. The riots "in which cries of 'Kill the Jews' rang through the streets of Brooklyn, resonated in the hearts of all of us."

The convictions "begin to put closure on these events."

The jury in the nationally publicized case, which included two Jews and three blacks, found Nelson guilty of violating Rosenbaum's civil rights. He reportedly buried his head in his hands and wept when he heard the verdict.

A co-defendant, Charles Price, 43, was charged with aiding and abetting the civil rights violation by inciting mobs to exact revenge on Jews for the accidental death of a 7-year-old black boy by a Chassidic driver.

The incident sparked four days of rioting, and the most serious outbreak of ethnic violence in New York in years.

Both men could face life sentences, though that is unlikely. Their lawyers argued they had been framed and set up as scapegoats.

One of the lawyers for Norman Rosenbaum, the slain man's brother, and for his family, joined the chorus of those welcoming the verdict.

"We are gratified at least a small measure of justice was done," Roger Adler said.

"All Americans, not just Jewish Americans, owe a debt of gratitude" to the justice system, he added. "We hope the government's efforts will continue to bring the others involved to justice."

Adler was not alone in seeking more prosecutions.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, president of the Coalition for Jewish Concerns-Amcha, issued a statement saying the verdict "was just the beginning."

"There was an entire mob which surrounded him," Weiss said, referring to Rosenbaum. "We will not be silent until all those responsible will be brought to justice."

SUPERDONOR MARKS 100TH BLOOD DONATION

A milestone last week for Toronto-area resident Peter Seligman, who made his 100th donation to a community blood bank. The 40-year-old father of three has been donating since high school. "This is an easy and important way to help hospital patients in our community," he said.

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CARMELIZED KUGEL

1/4 cup pareve margarine	4 eggs beaten
1/2 cup dark brown sugar, packed	1/4 cup pareve margarine, melted
1 cup whole pecan halves	1/3 cup sugar
1 lb. medium noodles, cooked & drained	1 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 350°F. Melt 1/4 cup margarine in 10" bundt pan. Sprinkle brown sugar at bottom and around side of pan. Press pecan halves firmly into bottom of pan. Mix other ingredients into noodles. Pour into pan and bake 1 hour. Cool and unmould. Preparation time: 20 minutes. Baking time: 1 hour. Serves: 6.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About Life

Dear Ella,

I'm 33, single, and have recently met an interesting man (which is no easy feat these days). I have been dating him for about a month. We speak on the phone almost every night, but so far have only seen each other on weekends. He always takes me to new restaurants and we spend the evening having dinner and talking.

My problem may seem silly, but it is annoying and I don't know how to go about fixing it without seeming petty. Jerry is always eating off my plate. Whether I order an appetizer, entree or dessert, I can always expect Jerry's fork right in there with mine, sharing my dinner. It's not as if he doesn't order his own food and I don't understand why he has to eat mine.

At first I thought it was strange, but now I don't want to go out to dinner with him because I become focused on this annoying habit and it ruins my evening.

Can you suggest an acceptable way of telling Jerry my problem. I don't really want to lose this guy.

Food Fight

Dear Food Fight,

Your problem doesn't seem so strange. You are a person who is territorial about your food. I can also understand that you may find it unappetizing to have someone put their used utensil into your meal.

On the other side of the coin, however, what Jerry is doing is not that unusual. Many people find sharing food a good way of trying out different dishes without ordering everything on the menu.

This is what I would call a "shtick" or quirk. We all have them and couples both married and newly dating have to learn to deal with them.

At your next dinner, when you see his fork coming towards your plate, tell Jerry that you are not the food sharing type. Don't make a big deal out of it — maybe you can bring it up in an almost joking manner. I'm sure he'll take the hint.

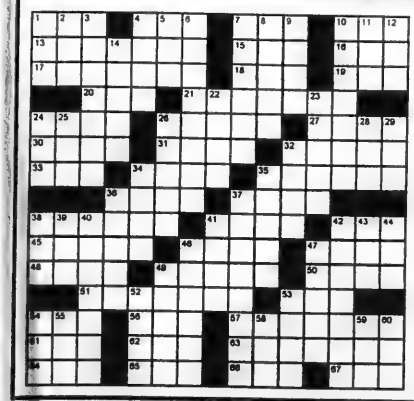
Remember, if it works out between you and Jerry you'll be sharing a lot more than just meals!

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Apple computer
4. Sin (Eng)
7. Tisha B'av mood
10. Israeli shipping line
13. Babylonia
15. Girl's name
16. Levin
17. Israeli ministers
18. Mazel __
19. Over to Bialik
20. Travel club
21. Needs a mikveh
24. Roseanne
26. Nuremburg presentation
27. Schindler tally
30. Moses Ibn Ezra specialty
31. Comedian Sandler
32. General Dayan
33. Genesis starter
34. King of Israel
35. Passover mark locale
36. Alias Joel Katz
37. Teva add-on
38. DJ, __ the "K"
41. Emcee Parks
42. Rosenblatt move
45. Tu B' Shevat plantings?
46. Actor James
47. Speechless
48. Needed at Ellis Isle
49. Pianist Victor
50. Einstein specialty
51. High priest
53. Arkia posting
54. Koppel
56. Shikker's choice?
57. Magic Carpet operation
61. Usurous instrument
62. Meshugge (Eng)
63. Chanukah story
64. Gaza to Jerusalem
65. Arkia milieu
66. Miriam to Aaron
67. Vote yes

Down

1. 1,200
2. Got ya!!
3. Joel Grey musical
4. Writer Ferber
5. Prophesize
6. Shabbat
7. "Cheers" or "The Nanny"
8. Hitler
9. Pianist Brubeck
10. Ben-Gurion or Meir
11. Anger
12. Damage
14. Fabricators
22. Japheth's dad
23. Moses on the mount
24. Guitarist Dylan
25. Fruit drink
26. CBS exec
28. Her
29. __ Aviv
32. Kamen or Freidman
34. Byzantine and Roman
35. "Bonanza" dad
36. Alexander the __
37. Bronfman company
38. Cable station
39. Geller
40. Temple ashes
41. Actress Theda
42. Jewish curios
43. Enjoyed the Seder
44. "Maude" star
46. Mel Brooks specialty
47. "__Pass" (Uris)
49. Balaam's boss?
52. "High" trefs
53. Gabbai catch
54. Delilah act
55. Long period
58. Patriarchs
59. Travel with El Al
60. Herman Barron need

The CJN is pleased to introduce for our readers a new weekly crossword puzzle. These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Answers next week)

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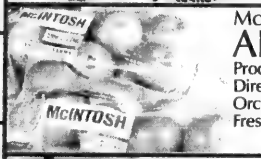

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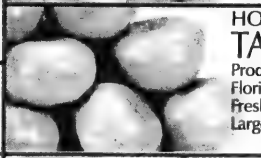

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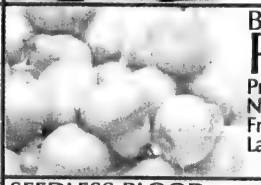

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Zareinu, a special needs school, joins the Board of Jewish Education. *Page 7*

Child poverty in Canada. *Special Report by Gordon Wolfe, executive director JF & CS.* *Page 20*

Coast to Coast

Concordia University prof. is going to fight to save honors Jewish studies. *Page 33*

International

Bar-On "affair" may reach into Netanyahu's office. *Page 38*

Health

SAD in winter is a seasonal affective disorder. *Page 45*

Sports

USDS Bayview wins day school hockey tournament for the second year. *Page 50*

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Shabbat: Ki Tissa
Candlelighting: 5:45
1 Adar 21, 5757
Havdalah: 6:50

Israeli PM meets Hussein

Sensitive Jerusalem issues discussed

BY DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

AMMAN — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last weekend informed King Hussein that Israel intended to announce the plans to construct an estimated 2,600 Jewish housing units on Har Choma and an "approximately equal" number of Arab units in the Jerusalem area, according to participants in the talks.

In remarks at the joint news conference at the Raghdan Palace, the monarch sought to be diplomatic, but urged all to act "responsibly" to ensure that peace prevails.

When asked about his views on Har Choma, King Hussein replied, "I know how sensitive the issue of Jerusalem is. I hope nothing will happen that will explode emotions [in the city]. We have to think with our minds and hearts."

While trying to play down differences, when pressed further, King Hussein added, "Our principal position is to oppose any change [in eastern Jerusalem] that would affect or threaten the peace process."

Though he also admitted that differences existed, Netanyahu sought to allay King Hussein's fears, insisting Israel is committed to building both Arab and Jewish housing in the capital.

"It is true we have our respective positions. We also want to see Jerusalem as a city of peace between Israelis and Arabs," Netanyahu said.

"We do not view developing the Jewish parts and leaving underdeveloped the non-Jewish parts. We don't accept it. We have committed substantial amounts of money. Two weeks ago, we committed about $50 million to the Arab communities of Jerusalem. This same policy

Continued on page 39

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left) chats with Jordan's King Hussein before their meeting last week in Amman. Netanyahu and King Hussein held talks on a number of bilateral issues as well as housing on Har Choma. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Budget may benefit charities

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Last week's federal budget has garnered lukewarm support from Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), but much praise in Jewish fundraising circles, where it's believed that changes to rules on charities may reap new benefits.

The budget unveiled by Finance Minister Paul Martin provides new tax breaks to entice individuals and corporations to donate to charities.

The government has proposed changes to the tax structure to make it more attractive to donate publicly traded stocks and bonds to charities.

Ottawa is also raising the limit on donations for which a tax credit can be claimed, from 50 percent to 75 percent of net annual income. The cap was raised to 50 percent from 20 percent in last year's budget.

Martin said the changes will be uniformly applied to all charities, and will help smaller charities, such as food banks and shelters.

'tremendous comprehensive help'

At the same time, the budget cut the limit on donations to Crown and Crown designated foundations, such as museums and universities, from 100 percent to 75 percent of yearly income. The move effectively places all charities on equal footing, and on par with those in the United States, Martin said.

The budget's moves on charities are a "tremendous, comprehensive help" on stimulating gifts, said Robert Kleinman, director of the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal.

Kleinman said the raising of the cap will help, especially when it comes to large gifts, but "key" will be the ability to donate public securities.

To stimulate those kinds of gifts, the budget cut in half – from 75 percent to 37.5 percent – the taxable portion of capital gains from the donation of publicly traded stocks and bonds to charities.

"We see that as a very positive message," Kleinman told *The CJN.*

The changes will also help spur large endowments, he said.

The budget is "evidence" of the government's retreat from social programs, while providing breaks for the public to fill in the gaps, Kleinman said.

He called on Quebec, which collects its own taxes, to "mirror" the changes in the federal budget. The

Continued on page 36

INSIDE

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Concern expressed over conversion bill — please see page 37

The News in Brief

CANADA

Mohawk Peace Message

VICTORIA — Chief Jake Swamp, one of the spiritual leaders of the Mohawk people and founder of the Tree of Peace Society, travelled to Israel recently on a mission of peace that coincided with Tu b'Shvat.

"Tree planting ceremonies bring people of all ages and diverse cultures together...The symbolism of tree planting helps people to understand how to be responsible in the world."

Michael Bloomfield, founder and executive director of Harmony Foundation, accompanied Chief Swamp.

Tanenbaum Honored

TORONTO — Joey Tanenbaum, was one of 10 winners, the only Canadian, of the international Montblanc de la Culture Award.

The Montblanc awards are an annual event to recognize support for the arts and culture.

ISRAEL

Israel, Mexico Join Forces

JERUSALEM — Israel and Mexico have signed an agreement to fight drug trafficking between their countries. The accord was signed last week by Foreign Minister David Levy and his visiting Mexican counterpart, Angel Gurria.

The signing ceremony coincided with an announcement by Israeli police that they seized more than 30 pounds of pure cocaine from Mexico last month at the port of Haifa. Seven Israelis suspected of involvement were detained.

Israel, China Boost Trade

JERUSALEM — Israel and China have agreed to boost bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky met last week in Jerusalem with Chinese Vice-Premier Li Lanquing.

Israeli exports to China totalled $81 million (US) last year. Chinese exports to Israel in 1996 were $160 million.

The two sides agreed to set up joint committees to explore possible cooperation in agriculture, electronics, medical equipment and telecommunications.

Palestine Bourse Opens

NABLUS — The Palestinian stock market officially opened in Nablus last week.

Exchange officials broke into applause when the bourse's $2-million screen flashed the completion of the first transaction – 100 shares of the Arab Insurance Co. sold for four Jordanian dinars ($5.60) each. The exchange will be open for only one trading session a week during its introductory phase.

"This is an exciting moment," said Palestine Securities Exchange general manager Safwan Bataina, who promised to publish a market index, to be called the Jerusalem Index.

WORLD

Camp For Deaf

NEW YORK — Kesher Family Camp, a program for Jewish families with deaf or hard of hearing members, will be returning for its second season. A five-day program run under the auspices of Camp Ramah in the Poconos, it begins June 29.

For registration information contact: Camp Ramah in the Poconos, 101 Greenwood Ave., Suite 290, Jenkintown, PA 19046. Telephone: 215-885-8556.

Appeal For Photos

WASHINGTON — The Photo Archives of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., is looking to borrow and copy original family photographs and personal documents of pre-war, wartime, and immediate post-war Jewish life in Europe, Palestine, the Far East, and the Americas (1920 - 1953).

Anyone interested may contact Teresa Pollin or Sharon Muller at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, D.C., 20024-2150. Telephone: 202-488-6128 or 6124.

Daf Yomi Siyum

NEW YORK — The tenth Daf Yomi Siyum HaShas is scheduled to take place on Sept. 28. The siyum will be dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust victims.

Refuge To Nazis

BUENOS AIRES — The newspaper *La Nacion* reported that former Argentinan leader Juan Peron had set up a commission in the decade after World War II to find former Nazi leaders in Europe and offer them refuge.

Israeli Film a Hit

BERLIN — An Israeli film documentary by Avi Mugrabi, *How I Stopped Being Afraid and Learned to Love Arik Sharon*, is one of the hits at the Berlin Film Festival.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday Feb.25, 1972

SADAT GETS COLD SHOULDER

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, whose recent trip to Moscow was less than a resounding success, has suffered another rebuff at the hands of his Arab friends. The presidents of Syria and Sudan declined to attend an Arab summit meeting Sadat had arranged in Libya, apparently to entice the Sudanese into joining the Egypt-Libya-Syria Federation.

When Sudan's president announced he would not attend, Hafez Al Assad of Syria cancelled his visit. Observers said the incident spelled a further decline in Sadat's prestige at home and abroad.

MONTREAL GETS FIRST FREE HIGH SCHOOL

Some 30 young people from the Jewish and regular school systems registered at the Snowdon "Y" last week to enroll in the Jewish Free High School – the first of its kind in Canada.

Modelled after the Jewish Free University, the 11-course free high school reflects current Judaic concerns among youngsters aged 8-17. The courses were determined by a core group of students involved in the free high from its beginning four months ago.

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Judge handling war crimes cases reprimanded

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian Judicial Council has fired "a shot across the bow" of the Federal Court of Canada, censuring a judge who presided over three war crimes cases. The reprimand should serve as a warning to the court to get its act together, a senior spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress said.

The Judicial Council confirmed a longstanding Congress contention that Justice James Jerome conducted cases involving alleged Nazi war criminals much too slowly, said Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee. Their critique came at a time when the minister of justice has asked the auditor general to consider merging the Federal Court with the Tax Court.

"I hope the Federal Court uses the war crimes cases to show they can proceed rapidly with their caseload," he said.

In a letter to Jerome, a panel of the Judicial Council's senior judges said his "handling of the conduct of the proceedings...fell short of the standard of diligence which could reasonably be expected of a case management judge...The fact remains that at the end of a year only one day of argument, on what was then one of three outstanding motions, had been heard and no decisions rendered. This reflects a lack of initiative in carrying out your case management responsibilities."

The Judicial Council rejected the suggestion that Jerome had a "biased motive," adding the judge's conduct was not serious enough to warrant a formal investigation.

The Judicial Council had been asked to look into allegations there was "serious delay in the conduct of the citizenship revocation proceedings" involving alleged Nazi war criminals Helmut Oberlander, Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobiass.

Jerome removed himself from the cases last spring following a controversial meeting between Ted Thompson, assistant deputy attorney general, and Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac. At the meeting, Thompson complained about the slow pace in Jerome's court. That meeting became subject of a stay proceeding launched by lawyers for the three men. Justice Bud Cullen granted the stay on the grounds of judicial interference, saying proceedings were advancing at a normal pace. That decision was subsequently overturned by the Federal Court of Appeal.

While not criticizing Cullen directly, the Judicial Council quoted from the Appeal Court decision that blasted Cullen's finding as "patently wrong. The pace of the proceedings...had been so slow as to certainly give rise to a suspicion that justice was not rendered with reasonable diligence."

Former Ontario chief justice Charles Dubin, in a report prepared last August for the minister of justice, came to the same conclusion, noting that "over a period of 13 months, only one day had been assigned for the argument of these three pending preliminary motions." He pointed out that "in cases such as these, delay is welcomed by the [alleged war criminals] who do not want to lose their citizenship and be deported."

The Judicial Council suggested Jerome's conduct in the cases might be "symptomatic of larger problems, possibly of a systemic nature, in the trial division of the Federal Court."

In other developments, the case involving alleged war criminal Joseph Nemsila went before the Federal Court of Appeal in Ottawa last week. Nemsila's lawyers were appealing a decision by Jerome in which he ruled that Nemsila could not be protected from deportation proceedings simply because he had been domiciled in Canada for five years. Earlier, an Immigration adjudicator had ruled that Nemsila could not be deported — even if he lied on entering Canada — because he had acquired domicile under Canada's old Immigration Act.

Three Jewish organizations, Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai Brith Canada and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, intervened in the case on the government side.

Congress lawyer Ed Morgan argued that protecting a domiciled individual from deportation, if he lied on entry, would be contrary to Canadian policy. Parliament couldn't have intended to give such a "bonus" to people who enter Canada by fraud, he said. Rather, they should be penalized if they entered Canada by lying.

Furthermore, immigration law should not be interpreted to give domiciled individuals greater rights than citizens, such as Jacob Luitjens, who was stripped of his citizenship and deported for lying about his wartime role as a Nazi collaborator, he said.

Finally, he argued that Canadian law must be interpreted in light of its international law obligation not to give asylum to war criminals.

The Appeal Court reserved its decision in the case.

See JN

Reflections in Shaarei Tzdec, Toronto photo by Tobi Asmoucha

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The concern for unity among Jews occupies us more and more.

The peace process in which Israel has now been involved officially and publicly for almost five years has been the catalyst. It has forced us to confront issues that penetrate to the very essence of the beliefs we have held unchallenged for millennia, which helped sustain us in our dispersion, beliefs about ourselves, our purpose — God's purpose for us — on this earth.

Two governments of different stripes and three prime ministers have now sat at the table with Palestinian "partners" who not long ago were reviled as murderers, and who are still reviled as such by a great number of our people.

The internal Jewish debate over the nature and even the wisdom of the peace process has raged, more or less, since "the handshake" 3½ years ago in Washington even to the point, alas, of the shedding of blood.

The negotiations are slowly, but inevitably, bringing us to a watershed in modern Jewish history. Readers of *The CJN* do not need me to elaborate upon the gut-wrenching uncertainties, the risky compromises, the many-layered complexities or the epoch-making ramifications with which Israel's negotiators must deal.

Nor do our readers need me to elaborate upon the individual and national anxieties that lie in wait, unwelcome, unsettling, unfamiliar possibilities, on either side of that historical divide.

Looking to the future, as the negotiators and the people of Israel are forced to deal with increasingly "ultimate" issues, we can expect the rage within the debate to intensify, the division within the people to become more entrenched and our unity even further fractured, God forbid.

The concern for unity among Jews occupies a great number of people. *The CJN* receives numerous letters, phone calls and written submissions expressing the same concern.

More than once, I have been referred to the writings of Rabbi Abraham Isaac Hacohen Kook.

Some *CJN* readers may remember that aspects of Rabbi Kook's teachings have been twice discussed in the pages of *The CJN* by Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University.

Lockshin wrote two deeply insightful essays about Rav Kook, expounding upon some of the core beliefs of the late first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Palestine, while at the same time dispelling some of the more romanticized notions about Rav Kook's teachings that have arisen, undoubtedly through longing and wishful thinking, over the past six decades.

So moving is Rabbi Kook's verse, so uniquely touching is his style, so ever more vital today are key parts of his beliefs, that we again offer to our readers some of his writing.

Hearken O My People, one of the many haunting poems written by Rav Kook, speaks directly and unabashedly of his particularistic love for the Jewish people. It is an uncompromising message of Jewish unity. The late Rabbi Morris Silverman provided the translation.

"Hearken, O my people!
From the very depths of my soul
I speak unto you;

From the core of life where lies the tie
That binds us one to the other,
With devotion, deep and profound,
I declare unto you

That you, each one of you,
All of you, the whole of you,
Your very souls, your generations,
Only you are the essence of my life.

I live in you, in each of you, in all of you;
In your life, my life has deeper, truer meaning;
Without you I am as naught."

The poem contains 10 more stanzas. I have never encountered a poetic equal that expresses such unrestrained tenderness, love and mystery for the profundity of the feeling of Jewish kinship.

Recently, a friend of mine, Thomas (Tommy) Goldstein gave me a four-page compilation of notes prepared by Dr. Moshe Klein on a small but inspiring sampling of some of the writings of Abraham Isaac Hacohen Kook. I am pleased to reproduce two small portions from Klein's notes given to me by Goldstein.

I am aware that the concepts themselves in Klein's notes require background familiarity and explication. But I am not, nor do I wish to leave the impression, in any way, that I am a student of Rabbi Kook. Would that I were. But I am not. I do not presume to interpret his writings, or explain them or place them in any scholarly or comparative context.

I simply wish to share with the readers of *The CJN* what was generously shared with me: something beautiful and special, aspects of "the spiritual and humanitarian teachings of Rav Abraham Isaac Hacohen Kook."

Even without any background, even if the reader understands the brief excerpts only at the first, most superficial level, they stand alone. They are worthy contributions to the hope for unity among Jews.

(The notes are in Hebrew. The translation is by The CJN *alone with apologies for any shortcomings to Klein and, of course, to the integrity and rare beauty of Rabbi Kook's writing.)*

"When Man grasps that unity pervades all of Creation, and that he is connected through true unity to all that has been created, then will he love his fellow Man...

"The awareness of the spiritual unity of our world...can inspire the soul to good deeds.

"Through these good deeds Man elevates and 'improves' himself; in the process he will also 'improve' mankind, indeed, he can 'improve' the entire world because he stands with a sense of oneness to all of Creation.

"The world is ultimately elevated and made better by individual acts of goodness.

"The highest form of good deed is love, the love of other beings and the love of all that was created...

"We must therefore be alive to the fact that such an all-encompassing grasp of life perceives the unity coursing throughout all of creation; it obliges Man to seek heightened spirituality all his life, to grow in love and in good deeds, and to strive constantly for self-improvement and for the improvement of the entire world through individual acts of goodness."

At a time when the concern for unity among Jews occupies us more and more, Rav Kook's teachings are important to read again. *MBD*

CORRECTION

In the issue of Feb. 13, the photo accompanying the obituary for Gerry Morris inadvertently misidentified Red Buttons as our late colleague. We apologize.

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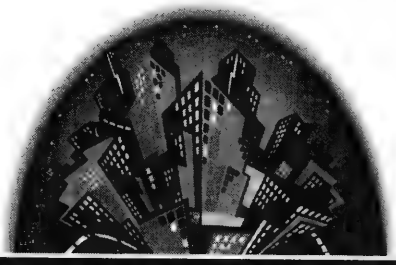
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Greater Toronto Area

Columnist lays bare the 'secret' of domestic violence

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Many people deny it, but violence against women does exist in the Jewish community, says *Toronto Star* columnist Michelle Landsberg.

"Jewish women are like Cleopatra — Queen of Denial," she quipped recently at Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's third annual Women for Women breakfast. The goal of Women for Women, a project of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, is to raise public awareness of battered women.

Domestic violence is a Jewish secret, Landsberg said. "Every persecuted minority would rather hide a secret than betray men. We are, however, no longer persecuted. We are not in danger in Canada, so it is safe to come out of the closet with the truth.

"There is just as much abuse in our community as in any other, yet I still get calls from women who said that when they described their abuse to a rabbi, he told them to keep peace in the family. I have received letters from men denouncing me for saying that men in power could be abusers. This is typical of the silence that is going on and this silence must stop," said Landsberg, a board member of Lanark Interval House and Women's Global Issues Directory.

She praised Hadassah-WIZO for speaking out and saying "that this level of violence is not acceptable. Behind every successful Jewish man, I want a Jewish woman to say, 'Don't you dare shut us up.'"

Joan Grant-Cummings, president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and a women's health activist who deals with such issues as violence, poverty and all forms of discrimination said it is "frightening that so many women in Ontario stay in abusive relationships because of a fear of poverty... We must connect as a community of women and understand that the goal is equality and peace."

The whole act of working with women and drawing strength from them "is what leads me from day to day. Women give a lot of nourishing and counselling, but we never fill back our own wells after we have given and given. It is like that in every culture — women are taught to give," she said.

"Today's event," said Landsberg, "makes me happy that ... the passion for justice is bubbling up in the Jewish community."

Presentations were given to ASTEH, Alternative Short Term Emergency Housing, operated in partnership by Jewish Women International and Jewish Family and Child Services of Toronto; and North York Women's Shelter which provides short-term emergency shelter for assaulted women and their children.

CONGRESS PLENARY CHAIRS

CJC Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen recently announced that Marlene Sklar (left) will chair the region's plenary, to take place at the Lipa Green Building April 5 and 6. Cary Green (right) was named program chair.

Zero tolerance policy urged

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's up to individuals and schools to institute a "zero tolerance" policy on violence, a leading expert said here recently.

Society today not only condones violence, it "celebrates" it in sports, culture and even pastimes, psychologist Peter Jaffe told over 250 educators, counselors and social workers at a day-long conference on violence prevention, co-sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

Jaffe, director of the London Family Court Clinic and an authority on violence and youth, painted a grim picture of the amount of violent acts today's teens are exposed to.

Young people see violence everywhere: in professional hockey, movies, television and even video games, 95 percent of which depict violence, Jaffe said.

Violence "is seen as a proper resolution of disputes."

Prime time TV shows average five violent acts per hour, he said. But Saturday morning cartoons depict 25 violent acts each hour. Teens spend up to four hours a day in front of the tube, he added.

By the time a child graduates from elementary school, he or she sees 8,000 murders and 100,000 acts of violence on TV, Jaffe noted.

The correlation between excessive viewing of violence and violent behavior "is as high as the correlation between smoking and cancer."

And every year, society's threshold for tolerating violence is ratcheted up.

"The good old days are gone. There's a whole new culture that reinforces all the wrong values. We need 1997 solutions to 1997 problems," Jaffe said.

The good news, though, is that the "majority" of young people — as individuals — want to end violence.

Jaffe called on educators to institute zero tolerance for violence, and promote safety and violence prevention programs for young people.

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Greater Toronto Area

Campbell stepping down after one term as MP

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One thing that will occupy Barry Campbell after he steps down as the MP for St. Paul's is to figure out why young Jews don't seem attracted to public service.

Campbell, one of just three Jewish members of Parliament, announced recently that he won't seek re-election in the next federal vote. He's bowing out for personal reasons, saying he wants to spend more time with his wife and two young sons.

An ace Bay Street lawyer who specialized in trade law, Campbell, 46, won the bellwether riding of St. Paul's in 1993 when he defeated Isabel Bassett, now a Conservative member of the provincial legislature.

He joined veteran Jewish MPs Herb Gray and Sheila Finestone, all on the government side of the House of Commons. After the '93 vote, the number of Jewish MPs fell from five to three.

Campbell served as vice-chair of the Commons' powerful finance committee, but gave that up a year ago to become Parliamentary Secretary to Finance Minister Paul Martin, a position in which he'll continue until the federal election.

Campbell is worried that Jewish representation at the federal level will drop after he leaves.

"Parliament is a microcosm of Canada," he told *The CJN*. "When a Jewish voice is lost, it matters. Our sensibilities and perspective are lost."

Campbell's not sure what he'll do after he steps down, but he will examine why there seems to be little interest in the Jewish community in serving at the federal level.

He says he'll work with Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith on "how we can spur young Jews to political activity. [Jewish] organizations do leadership training. Why not in politics?"

Some have argued that Jews have become more complacent politically because they are wealthier, more secure and more assimilated than a generation ago, Campbell points out. "But if that is so, why is 10 percent of the U.S. Congress Jewish?"

Campbell's "very difficult decision" not to run again was outlined in a letter to Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who responded by thanking Campbell for his service. Chretien ends the typed letter with the handwritten sentence, "And I hope that you will be back one day."

Barry Campbell

Campbell's decision "was not about lack of job satisfaction. It was a tough job, but I found it enormously rewarding.

"To those who wonder whether [being an MP] can make a difference, after just one term, I can say, 'unequivocally, yes.' "

Campbell says the community shouldn't be too worried about fewer Jewish MPs. "I'm happy to report that issues which are important to the Jewish community — Nazi war criminals and hatemongering — also matter to the entire community. They're not exclusively our issues anymore."

Dr. Carolyn Bennett, a Metro physician and health care activist, has announced she will seek the Liberal nomination in St. Paul's.

In the last provincial election, Bennett was the Liberal candidate in St. Andrew-St. Patrick, which was won by Bassett.

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Zareinu becomes affiliated with BJE

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Zareinu, a school for children with special needs, has become officially affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education (BJE).

Zareinu serves children from infancy to 11 or 12 with a variety of special needs, from the learning disabled to those with greater difficulties, such as cerebral palsy, autism and Down syndrome. There are currently 34 students at the school, with a waiting list.

It has an active infant intervention program. In fact, it's part of the M.E.D.E.K. program, which has shown remarkable results with children with cerebral palsy.

While the affiliation will have no immediate financial benefit for the school, it will mean that Zareinu will have full access to BJE services, such as its media centre, audio-visual collection, pedagogic library and specialized personnel.

What's more significant, according to Rabbi Irwin Witty, executive director of the BJE, is that the school is "now recognized as being part of the mainstream – that it is seen as part of the Jewish community by the Jewish community, through its educational arm."

The community recognizes there is a need for such a school, Rabbi Witty said, and "welcomes and supports it, and is ready to acknowledge what is being done there, not just by a group of parents, but as a part of the community."

The affiliation of Zareinu, like that of Shearim Hebrew Day School, a school for those with learning disabilities, and like the report on special education that is winding its way through the UJA Federation offices, is "all part of the growing recognition of the necessity in a large community like Toronto to provide for those with special needs," he said.

Danny Gordon, president of the board of directors of Zareinu, told *The CJN* that he is very excited by the development.

"It is a very important step, because it shows that we are more and more accepted in the educatable community."

Zareinu, he said, is "still Toronto's best kept secret. We have had to spend so much time fundraising, that we haven't gotten the word out about what we actually do."

Gordon said he hopes the increased profile the school will have through affiliation with the BJE will have an impact on "the core number of people who support United Jewish Appeal, and perhaps will help us [financially]."

Co-principal Carol Goldman said the affiliation will have the greatest effect on the parents, who will feel that at last "their kids are recognized and valued – a part of the community. That is important, because they have felt so isolated."

Jewish education urged as top priority

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Ensuring that youngsters receive a Jewish education should be one of the top priorities of all Jews, a panel of educators recently agreed.

The panel, sponsored by Nishma, a centre for Torah study, consisted of Rabbi Aaron Hoch, educational director of Aish HaTorah; Martin Lockshin, professor of Judaic studies at York University; Rabbi Mordechai Sevy, educational director of Or Haemet Sephardic School; and Rabbi Moshe Yeres, rosh hayeshivah at Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim.

Raising children who want to keep Torah for emotional, rather than merely intellectual reasons, said Rabbi Hoch, should be one of our main concerns.

"Imagine a society where a majority of the people relate to mitzvot as an opportunity for growth."

This can be done, he said, by introducing studies that leave the children with "a passionate desire to be shomer Torah. If tzedakah is a pleasure then there are no pressures."

Rabbi Sevy agreed that educators must create a situation "where kids are nurtured constantly so that they know what choices to make when they grow up.

"What constitutes a proper education is debatable, but what we do know is that people who are educated have a strong identity, are socially acceptable and they speak the language well. When we are educated, we understand each other," he said.

Numbers show that graduates of Jewish educational institutes have more commitment to Judaism and less intermarriage, said Rabbi Yeres.

A 1994 study done by Yeshiva University, he said, showed that the home environments of graduates of Jewish schools are more Jewish oriented.

"There is a correlation between the level of Jewish commitment and Jewish education. Even graduates who come from non-observant homes have an increased level of observance if their Jewish education continues through high school," he said.

He added that 15 percent of American Jews have visited Israel, compared to 89 percent of day school graduates.

Lockshin said that although Halachah should not be changed, "if Orthodoxy would change its message, it would become more relevant.

"Orthodox Judaism does not speak the language of other Jews. It talks to itself, of its own issues and does not address the issues of society at large."

We must talk about the issues that everyone thinks about, such as poverty, he said. "We can say Jewish things about these subjects. Orthodox Judaism needs leaders who talk the intellectual language of the world we live in. We must be willing to go out to society and talk their language figuratively and literally.

"I am not suggesting changing Halachah, but it would be a wonderful message if we promoted an agenda that included more respect for women.

"If Orthodox institutes cannot have men and women sitting on their boards together, why not have an all-women board?" he asked.

Ron Hoffman knows the importance of family.
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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Atmospheric pressures

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu seems to travel constantly under conditions of politically stormy weather. Even as he was in the skies last week, winging back from what was widely viewed as a successful trip to Washington, new and potentially explosive atmospheric pressures were building above his office in Jerusalem.

The ill winds from the "Bar-On affair," in which allegations swirl of a sinister, odious, back-room deal linking the Hebron redeployment with the easing of criminal charges against Aryeh Deri and the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general, were rising higher and higher. The police are investigating. The breezing toxins may yet asphyxiate the government.

More immediately pressing, however, was that Netanyahu had to navigate the turbulence surrounding Har Choma.

Har Choma is the picturesque hilltop of pine trees, low-lying spikes of grass and pink cyclamen on the southern slopes of Jerusalem between Kibbutz Ramat Rachel and Bethlehem, which has been earmarked for a new housing project of some 6,500 homes.

Accompanying the prime minister's return home was the rumor that he had promised to defer if not cancel the housing project. Despite his denials, publication of the rumor seeded more clouds of controversy. Pressures are gathering from all sides:

• Some coalition partners are threatening to leave the government if the project does not proceed.

• In typically ambiguous and ominous fashion, Yasser Arafat told reporters that "patience has limits." He compared the plan for Jewish housing on Har Choma to "laying a siege against the Palestinian people." Faisal Husseini, for his part, escalated the rhetoric saying the Palestine Authority (PA) would view a decision by Israel to build on Har Choma as a "decision of war." The threats cannot be dismissed. Israel's security officials have confirmed the possibility of a violent Palestinian reaction. If the tunnel-related violence of last September is any precedent, a new outbreak would likely result in even greater casualties, including possibly, the peace process itself.

• Not surprisingly, other Middle East countries are also warning the government of Israel. In his meeting last week with Arafat, Turkey's Prime Minister Necmettin Erbekan stated: "Jerusalem is an issue not just for the Palestinians, but for all the Muslim world."

• Judging by their unmuted criticism of the decision last week by Israel's cabinet to speed up the building of roads in and around East Jerusalem, the Americans too would likely condemn any new housing built on Har Choma.

As usual, and as ever, the problem is complex, the issues are many and interwoven and the implications far-reaching. In Israel, discussion is divided, heated and lively.

Netanyahu cannot ignore the "counsel" of allies; nor can he cede Israeli policy-making over to them. He cannot ignore the sensibilities of the Islamic world toward Jerusalem; nor can he disregard Judaism's first call on Jerusalem. He cannot ignore the possibility of Palestinian violence; nor can he surrender to such threats. He cannot govern with unreliable coalition partners; nor can he unilaterally rescind coalition promises.

Sometime during the next few days, one may perchance notice the silhouette of a man walking purposefully and pensively on Har Choma's ancient slope. It could be Benjamin Netanyahu looking with care and with courage, amid the pines, the grass and the flowers, for a peace of Solomon's wisdom.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"There will be no question of intrigues, secret interventions, and devious methods in our ranks, but only of unhampered utterances under the constant and complete supervision of public opinion."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

1997 IS ZIONISM'S 100TH BIRTHDAY
AND THE SURIANS ARE JUST ABOUT THE ONLY ONES LEFT...
WHO STILL THINK THAT THEY CAN...
BLOW OUT THE CANDLES!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb.27, 1838 Samuel David ws in charge of the cavalry escort at the swearing in of Sir John Colborne as Governor-General. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Objects to use of "non Jewish" Jew

Re: "Czech Community Threatened With Extinction." (Feb. 6) I was born in the Czech Republic and I come from Yaacov Glickman's "non Jewish" Jewish variety, being a practising Roman Catholic. So are, and were, the great majority of so called Cesky Zide (Czech Jews), wherever they lived and live!

I graduated in medicine from Prague's university and from one in Paris. But I also graduated from 43 months of concentration camps and was liberated by the International Red Cross.

May I explain to Glickman his misunderstanding of the Jewish question in the Czech Republic or former Czechoslovakia.

In 1918, the Czechoslovakian Republic was formed: Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia had western culture and religions; Slovakia, semi-eastern culture and different languages; and Carpath Ukraine, eastern Russian culture and language.

Glickman visited the Czech Republic. The population of this republic is: Bohemia 76,301, Moravia and Silesia 41,250 people of the Jewish religion. Out of these 117,551 Jews, 43,000 declared Czech nationality, 37,000 declared Jewish nationality and 35,000 German nationality. Glickman's article speaks about 357,000 Jews. He erred by including Slovak and Ukraine Jews.

The Slovak and Ukraine Jews were influenced by eastern culture. A great majority were Orthodox Jews who spoke a Jewish dialect and the "educated" language, Hungarian. On the other hand, the "Czech Jews spoke primaily Czech (some of them German). the "non"-Czech Jews in the west spoke German. That means 43,000 Jews spoke Czech and 72,000 spoke German.

As the "Czech Jews" considered their religion a secondary issue, they mixed freely with the Czechs and intermarried with the Christian population. This had never been done in the eastern part of the country. It is therefore not uncommon, that the president of the parliament is from a mixed marriage and doesn't practise the Jewish faith; nor does the minister of culture.

Therefore, I very strongly object, Yaacov Glickman, that you call me a "non Jew" of Jewish variety. I had suffered a long time for this injustice, lost my parents and sister, but I object to being called by a Jewish man, a "non Jewish" Jewish variety.

Dr. Georges F. Novak
Beaconsfield, Quebec

Serious flaw tarnishes *Shine*

The film *Shine* is the story of my younger brother, David Helfgott, a prodigious pianist and a very endearing person. His triumph as a performer over the adversity of mental illness is a story which deserves to be told, and the film *Shine* tells this story admirably.

However, there is a serious flaw regarding the true facts. This regards our late father, Peter Helfgott, who is depicted in the film *Shine* as a violent and destructive man, a portrayal far from the truth.

The cinematic license of tailoring facts to heighten the story has caused suffering to living members of Peter's family, and to all those who knew and loved him.

Margaret Helfgott
Beersheva, Israel

Looking for Churchills, not Chamberlains

Today much of the Jewish world is euphoric about the fact that the state of Israel has either given away, or promised to give away, strategic parts of its territory to Yasser Arafat in return for scraps of paper. In 1938, British prime minister Neville Chamberlain returned from Munich, after appeasing Hitler and giving him the Sudetenland for peace, waving a scrap of paper and saying "peace in our time."

We all know the results: the most destructive war in human history, in which 1½ million innocent Jewish children perished.

At the time, most of the British people believed Chamberlain and were quite euphoric. Winston Churchill, however, realized that the road of appeasement taken by Chamberlain was the road to war, not to peace, but Churchill had a minority of supporters. Today among the Jewish people, we have no shortage of euphoric Chamberlains, but where are our Churchills?

Herb Landis
Toronto

Tragedy leaves an emptiness

As I read the names of the 73 Israeli soldiers and crewmen killed in the helicopter disaster over Shaar Yashuv in Israel's Northern Galilee, I was overcome by a tremendous feeling of loss and emptiness at such a senseless tragedy.

Once again I ask myself the same difficult question. How could this have happened? These were young brave soldiers in the prime of their lives. Once again, Israel and Jews around the world must mourn and grieve as one family. As the years pass, the casualties are increasing and the statistics are frightening. Let us all hope and pray that the recent tragic events will be the last as we continue to strive for an everlasting peace in the Middle East.

Akiva Gitelman
Cote St. Luc, Quebec

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Israel cannot let its guard down

Looking at tomorrow's IDF

By MICHAEL MARGOLIAN

For David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, protecting the Jewish state was first and foremost a matter of ensuring its survival. As leader of a small, vulnerable country surrounded by hostile Arab neighbors bent on its destruction, Ben-Gurion faced an uphill struggle.

The fact that, nearly 50 years after its establishment, Israel's survival is no longer at stake suggests that Ben-Gurion and his successors have laid a firm foundation for the country's long-term security. Emphasizing self-reliance and close ties with the United States, particularly over the last two decades, Israel has acquired the freedom to act when challenged and to prevail militarily should conflict erupt.

The New-Old Middle East

Sustained efforts to build a strong defence and changes in the regional balance of power have left a favorable legacy to the current prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu. The Arab world is divided and lacks a military benefactor. Defence expenditures across the region are on a downward trend, marking an end to the conventional arms race that fuelled Arab-Israeli wars over several decades. The peace treaty between Israel and Egypt remains intact, supplemented by agreements with Jordan and the Palestinians. Syria has joined the peace process, albeit reluctantly, after failing to realize its goal of "strategic parity" with Israel. For their part, die-hard rejectionist states like Iraq, Iran and Libya have been marginalized as Israel makes diplomatic inroads in North Africa and the Arabian peninsula.

All this is good news; yet the Middle East remains a rough neighborhood, fraught with dangers. Relations with Jordan's King Hussein aside, there is scant evidence that the peace process constitutes genuine reconciliation. For many, Israel is still perceived as a foreign presence in the Middle East, a state built on the conquest of Arab land. Moderates have chosen the path of accommodation with Israel, but this decision is more a political strategy than a change of heart, derived from a healthy respect for Israel's strength, as well as general war-weariness after years of conflict. Should Israel fail to maintain military superiority in relation to its regional rivals, its security situation could deteriorate rather quickly. Thus, despite the absence of an existential threat, Israel cannot let its guard down. It must still contend with a range of challenges, from terrorism to the proliferation of mass destruction weapons. Moreover, it must begin preparing now for the threats likely to arise in the early part of the 21st century.

Missiles, Poisons and Bugs

Throughout its history, Israel has placed a premium on offensive warfare. Compensating for lack of strategic depth and limited resources, Israeli military doctrine has emphasized sufficient firepower to achieve a decisive victory against any combination of Arab forces. The priority has been to destroy the enemy's offensive capacity and ensure that hostilities take place as far away from Israeli territory as possible. Israel's offensive capacity also serves to deter attacks from occurring in the first place, threatening opponents with devastating retaliation.

Iraqi SCUD attacks against Israel during the Gulf War and the knowledge that these missiles could have been armed with chemical or biological warheads have had a profound impact on Israeli defence planning. The Gulf War experience highlighted the vulnerability of Israeli population centres in the missile age and the limits of relying on offence alone to safeguard the country's security. The next war could see more reliable, accurate missiles carrying much deadlier explosives. Indeed, Syria's ambassador to Egypt recently warned that his country would retaliate with chemical weapons if Israel threatened to use its nuclear arsenal. Libya has been building a huge underground factory that reportedly will be able to produce hundreds of tons of mustard and nerve gas annually. Iranian attempts to obtain nuclear weapons technology are also a serious concern. While offensive weapons are still necessary to deter such threats, Israeli military planners now believe that protecting the homeland is equally necessary to assure victory into the next century.

Despite new technology and advanced weaponry, the core strength of the IDF will always remain the character of its soldiers. Seen here is a young officer standing before the monument to Mordechai Anielewicz and the Warsaw ghetto uprising at kibbutz Yad Mordechai. [Israpet photo]

Offence and Defence

In the coming years, Israel will receive new F-15I fighter aircraft that will enhance its long-range strike capability. Israel is continuing development of the Jericho II ballistic missile, as well as unmanned aerial vehicles for reconnaissance and targeting purposes, and highly accurate precision-guided weapons. Israel is also reported to possess a substantial nuclear arsenal, and statements by Israeli leaders threatening "massive retaliation" in response to a chemical or biological attack have reinforced this belief.

So much for the offensive side of the equation. As far as defence is concerned, substantial resources are being allocated to systems that offer the hope of protecting key military installations and the civilian population from missile attack. The Arrow theatre missile defence system, funded jointly by the United States and Israel, is critical to the success of this approach. Unlike the Patriot, which came to prominence during the war, the more capable Arrow is designed to intercept incoming missiles far from Israeli territory and be effective against chemical and biological as well as conventional warheads. Fully operational by the turn of the century, it will be the world's most advanced missile defence system deployed in the field. While no system can provide an impenetrable shield, the Arrow should significantly reduce the level of damage and casualties, in the event of an attack.

Arrow is one of several high-technology investments that Israel is relying on to enhance its future defence posture. For example, the Amos satellite program may one day provide Israel with an early-warning capability from space, lessening Jerusalem's dependence on U.S.-supplied data. The Tactical High-Energy Laser, a collaborative effort with the United States, is intended to destroy short-range rockets like the Katyusha. Israel also plans to purchase new fighter aircraft to supplement its current fleet of F-15s and F-16s. Additional hi-tech initiatives include a new anti-tank weapon, a pilotless plane that locates and destroys enemy missiles just after they are launched and a training facility in the Negev that can accommodate state-of-the-art equipment.

An Expanding Universe

Evolving military doctrine and equipment modernization aside, Israel's defence relations abroad are another important element of its overall security. The peace process has broken down longstanding barriers with friends and former enemies alike. Now, in addition to Israel's traditionally close ties with the United States, Israeli companies have signed or anticipate defence contracts with Russia, China and India. Britain has upgraded its defence relations with Israel, signalling a more even-handed approach to the region. Israel and South Korea are considering joint production of F-16 components.

Perhaps the most significant bilateral relationship established in recent years is that with Turkey. Two military agreements were signed in 1996: The first provides for joint training and manoeuvres as well as intelligence-sharing, while the second oversees cooperation between the countries' respective defence industries. Despite opposition from Islamic Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, the agreements have survived, allowing Israeli pilots to train in Turkey's vast airspace and, according to media reports, carry out reconnaissance missions along Turkey's borders with Syria, Iraq and Iran.

One Step Ahead

To safeguard its security into the 21st century, Israel will need to stay ahead of the competition on a variety of fronts. In the past, efforts to gain the upper hand have included surprise attacks against distant targets, such as the raid against Iraq's nuclear reactor or the bombing of PLO headquarters in Tunis. At home, the government has instituted a program to outfit every Israeli with a gas mask, an initiative no other country has attempted. In December, Israel revealed yet another innovation, the establishment in July 1995 of the Egoz Unit (egoz is Hebrew for walnut) specializing in anti-guerrilla warfare. Over the last 18 months, the unit has launched dozens of operations against Hezbollah in South Lebanon. Adopting the tactics of its enemies, Egoz carries out ambushes of the Iranian-backed terrorists before they can strike at Israeli forces. Egoz members are in Lebanon for the entire length of their service, know the terrain extremely well and can therefore respond to events on the ground with maximum speed and flexibility.

Since the state was founded in 1948, Israel has done whatever was necessary, first to survive and ultimately to defeat its enemies. Israel is secure today because its forces are superior to those of any potential rival, whether in terms of the calibre of its soldiers, the capabilities of its equipment or the inventiveness of its strategy and tactics. In the years to come, these advantages will be more important than ever, as the politics of the region continue to be volatile and Israel's adversaries acquire increasingly sophisticated weapons. One hopes that by the turn of the century, negotiations will bear fruit and Israel will finally be at peace with its neighbors. That said, given the threats which are bound to persist, a certain amount of vigilance is only prudent.

Michael Margolian is a defence analyst with the Department of National Defence in Ottawa.

Opinions

Israel's new battle: the environment

ISRAEL DIARY V

In Israel everyone talks about religion, but only recently are Israelis beginning to talk with concern about their environment and the impact the expanding population and economy are having on nature.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

The Israel Union for Environmental Defence (IUED) is an environmental advocacy group of lawyers and scientists, which, since its inception in 1990, has grown from two lawyers and a secretary to a staff of 20, including seven lawyers and six scientists.

"We don't do academic papers; we go out and solve environmental problems. We give free legal and scientific aid to anyone or any group who requests it," explains spokesperson Daniel Fish.

They go to court armed with the scientific background to argue the issues. "About half our complaints come from the public, half we initiate." Complaints range from a noisy neighborhood to the stewardship of Israel's coastline.

An activist organization, it has as a main target the actions of private industry and government. How is the government reacting to this new challenge?

Governmental ministries that have the greatest direct impact on the environment are the ministries of Agriculture and the Environment, combined under Raphael Eitan, and the Ministry of Infrastructure, headed by Ariel Sharon, which controls the creation and sustaining of industrial parks, the building of roads, the water supply and all major projects which have a direct impact on the environment.

One very clear problem is that, in Israel, agriculture and the environment have long been opponents, since farming techniques are among the greatest polluters. While the previous Labor government wasn't keen on challenges, "we had them going in a positive direction," says Fish. "Now that has all but disappeared. The bottom has fallen out. There is a completely negative governmental attitude. Like the 104th U.S. Congress, they are very anti-environmental." And what of the future? "Looking around, in four or five years, we will reach the point of no return."

Some victories in their six years? One concerned the development of marinas along the Mediterranean coastline. Beach front belongs to the public, yet regulations permit the privatization of beach front where hotels are built close to the beach. They then open marinas, closing off the public use of beach front and polluting the water. Two such projects were stopped, one in Tel Aviv, one in Haifa.

Another was a huge case against Haifa Chemicals, which dumped 1½ million tons of toxic waste into the Kishon River leading into Haifa Bay. The company wanted to pump untreated waste directly through a pipeline into the water. The IUED stopped the pipeline and forced the company to find a land-based solution, requiring treatment of the waste. There is presently only one treatment plant in Israel.

A third forced controlling toxic waste by suing government agencies and forcing them to adopt the stricter standards of the United States. "In fact," Fish notes, "we have strict laws but they are not enforced."

And victories of the common man? "We went to court on behalf of the residents in Hadera who lived near a firing range that blasted away at all hours of the day or night. We won that — the firing range now has to have acoustic protection, and they have limited and reduced the noise levels."

Failure? "The trans-Israel highway, a road that will cut a swathe of asphalt the size of a mid-size city. We brought a suit in the Supreme Court and lost on technical grounds. The road is now under construction. You can see it at Beit Shemen, but we are still fighting.

"We are also fighting the construction of a huge industrial park smack in the middle of the Galilee. After a four year legal battle we thought we had won, but the last government approved its construction at the last minute. There is an injunction to halt work at the moment and we think the government will back down" (Other groups have joined this fight, including both Arab and Jewish residents of the area and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. The park, already sprouting a huge smokestack of the Phoenicia Glass Works, would sit above two huge water reservoirs, part of the National Water Carrier, as well as near many tourists sites such as the mishnaic centre of Tzipori. A recent *Jerusalem Post* article on the controversy points out ironically that Rabbi Judah HaNasi, redactor of the Mishna, moved to Tzipori for its clean air.)

A tale of kidnapping

A portion of my year is spent travelling to various places where I have been invited to lecture. I have met a lot of people and become acquainted with many of their life stories — but none was stranger than what I heard on my last journey to New Jersey.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I was the Shabbat guest of a family who are very involved in the synagogue. The father, John Heidema, had a terrifying experience, for last summer, he had been kidnapped while vacationing in Ecuador.

A former professor of chemistry turned computer scientist, Heidema had treated his older daughter to a birding trip — first to the Galapagos Islands and then to the rain forests of Ecuador. That is where the tour members were attacked and overcome by armed bandits, who took Heidema prisoner in the hope of obtaining a ransom for him.

The family was not remotely capable of raising the $5 million demanded, but they did obtain some money and Heidema's wife flew to Quito to see whether somehow the people holding her husband could be persuaded to let him go for less than they had demanded. Needless to say, it was a harrowing time for her and the family, something that was more than matched by what John himself endured.

Dragged through the woods, underfed, recaptured after a failed escape, John began to doubt that he would ever come out alive. His ability to communicate with his captors was minimal and thus his solitude was increased. They had an obscure novel in English which they gave to him and which John read several times from cover to cover; then he analyzed the words, their structure — anything to keep him mentally alive. His inner strength was his anchor.

Perhaps, he said, he might have established some bond with his captors, but his inability to converse fluently with them kept this possibility to a minimum. Shut off from all outside contact for 38 days, ill and emaciated, he let his mind take control of his weakened body, and that is how he persisted against all odds.

A telephone call by the captors — uneducated men who had no knowledge of modern tracing techniques — led to John's rescue. The call was traced, and eventually a special unit of the Ecuadorian police stormed the hiding place, killed the kidnappers and freed John. He is a modest person and was at first reluctant to share the experience. As with many tales of suffering and persistence, one can only listen and wonder. It seemed to me that, in circumstances of this kind, we discover new resources — call them religious, call them psychological, call them basic instincts. Perhaps they are a combination of all of these.

Kidnapping is not just a modern curse. The Torah already knew of it and the rabbis construed the eighth commandment, "You shall not steal," as referring to the theft of persons rather than things (a crime that is covered elsewhere). "I was stolen from the land of the Hebrews," says Joseph (Genesis 40:15), and I remembered that story as I listened to John, relating his own experience in his gracious New Jersey home.

Adults who seek encouragement

Our son Noah, now 24, was born with Down syndrome. Despite some serious physical impairments and the obvious mental limitations, he has grown into adulthood with a rather normal emotional range and happily, a well-honed sense of humor.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

If he doesn't know something or doesn't want you to know something, in answer to the question, he emphatically and confidently answers, "You tell me!"

For example: "Noah, did you solve the world's financial problems and take your shower today?"

"You tell me!"

As the years have passed, like so many similar children who have grown into adulthood, his status within the community has changed. In official reports, we have seen him variously described as Mongoloid, retarded, special, disabled and the currently more acceptable term, challenged.

To him and his family, the only name for Noah that counts, is Noah. It is the only description that fits.

It has always been easier to raise consciousness about the young without employing similar strategies for the elderly. There are laws in place for children in need of protection from parents who practise abuse and neglect. There is no such effective legislation to safeguard adults from their children.

While society will set up programs for the disabled and disadvantaged while they are young, they are too often abandoned in terms of their needs and dignity as these people become older.

There are no Help Wanted signs out there for people like Noah, despite a desire to have adults in his situation contribute to the society around them. Entertaining these people with outings and the like isn't enough to give them the sense of worth they want and deserve.

In Ontario, there is a changing governmental policy toward variously handicapped adults. Like others, Noah benefitted from an enlightened and compassionate educational program that included special classes and some integration with the regular students both in primary and high schools. However, while regular students may proceed to further education and training, current laws and funding only provide for Noah and his former classmates to go to school until age 21.

All those years, our son, like similar children, were being groomed to function as adults in sheltered workshops. Noah, for one, enjoyed his time in training and was very proud of his work and the camaraderie of his co-workers. This has all changed as the sheltered workshops are rapidly being phased out.

As part of the philosophy of allowing these adults to be integrated into the larger community, they are being encouraged to find jobs in standard workplaces. Finding the right work for Noah wasn't easy. He was let go from two jobs because he either couldn't do the work consistently quickly (washing dishes in a restaurant) or he considered the job inconsistent with his own image ("I don't do floors!").

Fortunately, for a few hours a week, Noah has found employment for the past two years as a volunteer stamping store logos on bags at a bakery and helping prepare lunches at a retirement home thanks to the patience and kindness of those involved.

There are well-meaning and sincere people on both sides of the debate regarding adult workshops versus low or non-paying jobs at conventional job sites. Only the latter is now possible.

These people are among us and thirst for validation as adults and as human beings. Like everybody else, they need signs and words of encouragement indicating that their abilities and accomplishments are important and valuable.

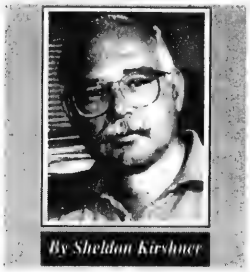
So if you are in a position to employ any of these adults, even if it's only as voluntary work for a couple of hours a week, remember that some mitzvot are easy.

You can call the appropriate department of your federation or contact the Canadian Association for Community Living at 416-661-9611 for information about providing work. Job coaches are often available to provide supervision and training during the initial period at no cost to the employer.

The Kirshner File

The Rosenstrasse incident is recounted

On Feb. 27, 1943, the week-long Rosenstrasse incident exploded. Fifty-four years on, it is now recognized for what it



By Sheldon Kirshner

was — an unprecedented and successful protest of open German resistance to Nazi anti-Semitism, as well as a remarkable example of civil disobedience.

The incident was triggered when the Nazis decided to round up and deport the remaining Jews of Berlin so that the Final Solution could be completed. Ten thousand Jews were arrested, and within days, the vast majority were deported to their deaths.

Two thousand of these Jews, wed to Christians, were temporarily spared. They were locked into a holding centre on Rosenstrasse, in eastern Berlin, to await developments. Their fate hung in the balance. By 1943, the Holocaust was in full swing. The year before, 2.7 million European Jews had been murdered, and now the Gestapo thirsted for more blood.

But this was not to be, as the German wives, husbands and children of the incarcerated 2,000 Jews converged on Rosenstrasse to plead for their lives. The demonstrators were scattered by the police, even threatened with being shot, but they persisted. In the face of their indomitability, the Nazis backed down, and the Jews were released.

The Rosenstrasse incident, a telling footnote in the annals of Nazi Germany, is the subject of *Resistance of the Heart* (W.W. Norton & Company, $40), written by Nathan Stoltzfus, an American scholar.

Based on archival material and reminiscences, *Resistance of the Heart* transcends the event which is at the centre of this fine new book. In essence, it is a story about intermarriage and the bizarre permutations of Nazi policy toward Jews.

In the decades leading up to the Third Reich (1933-45), Jewish assimilation in Germany took the form of intermarriage. At the turn of the 19th century, 9.3 percent of Jewish men and 7.7 percent of Jewish women married outside the faith. By 1933, the average rate had swollen to 44 percent. The figure fell by 39 percentage points in 1934, but by 1935 some 35,000 Jews lived in intermarriages.

In 1943, intermarried Jews, of whom there are estimated to have been 27,000, were virtually the only officially registered Jews still left in Germany. That they survived was due not only to their German spouses but to the capricious character of the regime's racial regulations.

Under the 1935 Nuremberg Laws, anyone with four Jewish grandparents was considered a Jew, while anyone with four grandparents not on Jewish community rolls was deemed a German. Those who did not meet these criteria were categorized as *mischlinge*. In general, a person with two Jewish grandparents was defined as a *mischling* of the first degree, while a person with one Jewish grandparent was known as a *mischling* of the second degree.

In the Nazi scheme of things, *mischlinge* of the second degree were allowed to keep their citizenship but were kept out of positions of power. They could join the Hitler Youth and serve in the armed forces, but were disqualified from receiving promotions.

Stoltzfus cites the case of Werner Goldberg, a *mischiling* of the second degree who was baptized at birth. Goldberg, whose photograph had appeared in a newspaper with the caption " The Ideal German Soldier," was in the German army when it attacked Poland in 1939. But in 1940, as a German of Jewish origin, he was expelled from the Wehrmacht. On Hitler's order, however, *mischlinge* soldiers who had distinguished themselves in battle were excused from this provision.

These divergences caused a great deal of confusion. The Nuremberg Laws, for example, banned further marriages between Jews and Germans and tolerated existing German-Jewish unions. But when a number of Jews in such marriages were victimized during Kristallnacht in 1938, a prominent German professor whose wife was Jewish lodged a complaint with a senior Nazi official, and the rules were modified.

Thereafter, intermarriages were divided into two separate categories. In "privileged" intermarriages, the children had been baptized as Christians. In "non-privileged" intermarriages, the offspring had not undergone baptism.

The regime also doled out special dispensations to so-called *Schutzjuden*. Numbering in the hundreds, they were classified as protected Jews whose skills were required by the nation.

These "equalizations" had no overall effect on Nazi policy with respect to the vast majority of German Jews, and did not endure. In January 1941, the Nazis agreed to treat *mischlinge* as Jews. And in September of that year, all Jews over the age of six, save exempted *mischlinge*, were forced to wear the bright yellow Stars of David on their outer clothing.

Late in 1942, Nazi zealots resolved to solve the "Jewish problem" once and for all. A decision was made that intermarried full Jews, as well as intermarried half-Jews who wore the Star of David, were to be separated from their partners and deported. This included Jews in so-called privileged intermarriages.

Massive arrest of Berlin Jews

German industrialists who employed such Jews were not pleased. They regarded Jews as reliable and conscientious workers and were loath to lose them. Hitler was not moved. On Feb. 2, 1943, Joseph Goebbels, the propaganda minister whose fondest wish was to render Berlin Judenrein, ordered the massive arrest of Jews in the capital. By that point, Jews in intermarriages and their spouses were extremely vulnerable, having been forced to register with the Jewish community.

On Feb. 24, Hitler commemorated the founding of the Nazi party with a speech promising again that the war would lead to the annihilation of the Jews. Four days later, the roundups commenced, touching off the Rosenstrasse protests.

Under pressure from the demonstrators, Goebbels released the intermarried Jews and *mischlinge*. Astonishingly enough, 25 who had been shipped to Auschwitz were sent back to Berlin. Two months after the hue and cry of Rosenstrasse, Goebbels declared Berlin Judenfrei.

Why did the Nazis succumb to the protesters? There are at least two reasons. They feared that the deportations would sow unrest and disunity at a time when the war was going badly. In January, U.S. bombers had attacked Germany for the first time. And in February, the Stalingrad debacle had occurred.

Furthermore, Stoltzfus speculates, there was an increasing need to conceal the Holocaust, the revelation of which would have damaged public morale. As he puts it: "A public discussion about the fate of the deported Jews threatened to disclose the Final Solution and thus endanger the entire effort."

Hitler supported Goebbels' decision to call off the deportations. Goebbels, he declared, had responded correctly to the "psychological" pressures of the protest.

So the Jews of Rosenstrasse survived the war. But most German Jews who had not emigrated were hardly as fortunate.

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Wednesday, May 21, 1997 at 7:00 p.m.
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Please contact Rose Shapiro at
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(416) 664-6881

MEGACITY REFERENDUM '97

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It's easy.
- Watch the mail for your Megacity Referendum '97 Voter Information Package.
- Find your Personal Identification Number (PIN) and the number to call. (A TTY number will be provided for teletypewriter users.)
- Read the instructions.

Voting starts Saturday, February 22 at 8 a.m. and ends Monday, March 3 at 8 p.m.
Vote from any phone, anywhere, 24 hours a day, during the voting period.
Voting is available in English, French, Italian, Mandarin and Cantonese.
The secrecy of your vote is guaranteed.

Who Can Vote?
- You must be a Canadian citizen.
- You must be 18 years of age on or before March 3, 1997.
- You or your spouse must live, rent or own property in North York any time between January 16, 1997 and March 3, 1997.

Help line – (416) 395-0411
For information in English
Pour des renseignements en français
Per informazioni in lingua italiana

Not on the list?
If an eligible voter in your household does not receive a Megacity Referendum '97 Voter Information Package by February 22, go to any of the Revision Centres listed. Be sure to bring some identification with you.
February 22 to March 2 ..... Weekdays 5 - 9 p.m. Weekends 12 - 6 p.m.
March 3 ..... 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Revision Centres
North York City Hall, 5100 Yonge Street
City Clerk's Dept., Main Floor
Ward 1 Bradstock Plaza, 6 Bradstock Road (Weston Road & Bradstock)
Ward 2 Amesbury Community Centre, 1507 Lawrence Avenue West
Ward 3 Driftwood Community Centre, 4401 Jane Street
Ward 4 Glen Long Community Centre, 35 Glen Long Avenue
Ward 5 Roding Community Centre, 600 Roding Street
Ward 6 Armour Heights Community Centre, 2140 Avenue Road
Ward 7 Irving W. Chapley Community Centre, 205 Wilmington Avenue
Ward 8 Banbury Community Centre, 120 Banbury Road
Ward 9 Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive
Ward 10 Don Mills Arena, 1030 Don Mills Road
Ward 11 Cummer Valley Middle School, 70 Maxome Avenue
Ward 12 Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove Boulevard
Ward 13 Cummer Park Community Centre, 6000 Leslie Street
Ward 14 Oriole Community Centre, 2975 Don Mills Road West

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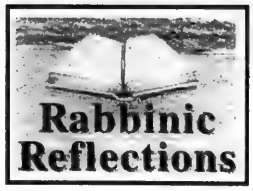


'Good' has won the day

By RABBI MARK DRATCH

That Moshe broke the first set of tablets of the Ten Commandments is a biblical fact. His motivation in doing so is the subject of widespread rabbinic speculation. Perhaps it was out of anger at the sin committed by the children of Israel when they worshiped the golden calf. Perhaps it was out of despair and resignation as he viewed their betrayal of God and His commandments. Perhaps it was to protect the people by destroying the *luchot haedut*, the tablets of testimony, the only written evidence of their covenant with God. Perhaps it was only a physical manifestation of what the people had themselves already done: broken the Torah and its commandments. The lessons are many and all are instructive.

I am not bothered by why Moshe broke the first set of tablets. I am puzzled by why he didn't break the second tablets as well! After all, the people sinned time and time again — idolatry, murder, promiscuity, interpersonal strife and challenges to God's authority. Why weren't the second tablets broken in response to any of these sins?

While our sages offer many insightful answers, one in particular is most instructive for us today. A comparison of the two times that the Ten Commandments are recorded in the Torah, once in Exodus 20 and once in Deuteronomy 5, reveals that there are a number of words and phrases that are different.

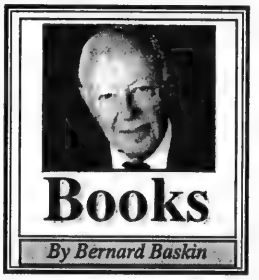
One of the differences is that the word "good" appears in the second version. (See Deut. 5:16 where we are promised that as reward for honoring our parents *lema'an yitav lach*, "it will go good" for us. Pardon the grammar, I'm making a point.) This word is absent from the first. It has been suggested that this word is the secret of the survival and endurance of the second tablets,

How? Questions, doubts, challenges to authority and disobedience are natural elements of human behavior, especially as it relates to religion and God. If, in response to these challenges, religious authorities, teachers and parents respond only with *midat hadin*, the cold and harsh letter of the law, the results are often disastrous. Such was the nature of the first set of tablets. Moshe realized that imposing the law on a wayward people, as represented by the cold tablets of stone, would be unsuccessful.

If, however, he could show his people *lema'an yitav lach*, how good it is to be a Jew and how beneficial and meaningful the observance of *mitzvot* really are (as represented by the word "good" on the second tablets), then he might be more successful in wooing them from the attractions and seductions of idolatry.

In fact, despite many challenges and setbacks, the "good" has won the day and the mitzvot inscribed on those tablets and the relationship between God and the Jews that they represent have endured for more than 3,000 years. Whether they will continue to endure is up to us. Do we appreciate the goodness of our heritage? Are we teaching our children the goodness of Jewish life and Torah observance? Are we living according to the psalmist's prescription, "consider and see that God is good; happy are those that take refuge in Him" (Psalms 34:9)?

Rabbi Dratch is spiritual leader of the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto.



A question of faith

Permission to Believe: Four Rational Approaches to God's Existence;
***Permission to Receive: Four Rational Approaches to the Torah's Divine Origin*, by Lawrence Kelemen (Feldman Publishers (paperbound)).**

Is it rational to believe in God? Is atheism logical? Is murder always wrong? Who or what gave design and order to our astonishing universe? Is evolution more than a popular theory? Why are the Jewish people still alive when other religions and peoples have disappeared? Why do good people suffer? Is the Torah of Divine origin? Do archeological findings confirm the Torah's authenticity?

These complex but axial questions are among others that are posed in these two slender volumes by an Israeli professor of philosophy at the Neve Yerushalayim College of Jewish studies in Jerusalem.

Dr. Kelemen, an exponent of Orthodox Judaism, and well versed in the findings of modern science, maintains that although proof is impossible in answering most basic religious questions, there is for the intellectually curious and open-minded individual, "permission to believe."

Several of the reasons that the author posits for the existence of God seem reasonable and cogent. For example, he suggests that "one who wishes to affirm eternal, universal ethics such as 'murder is always wrong' must admit the existence of a supernatural moral arbiter, a God. There is just no other source for such ethics."

In addition, he asserts that the widespread acceptance of the Big Bang Theory of the origin of the universe means that time had a beginning and implies Divine intervention. Perhaps 16 billion years ago, the universe started at a fixed point in space and exploded outwards creating the galaxies and other space objects. There is nothing incompatible with this view and with a Supreme Being as Creator.

Moreover God is manifest in the almost unbelievable complexity of the universe. "Man has never succeeded in building a computer that can match DNA's data-storage and reproductive capabilities. Neither has he ever constructed a television camera that can mimic the human eye's brightness range, focal flexibility, and image processing abilities. Nor has he yet assembled a communications network with as many specific connections as a single human brain. The human body dwarfs in complexity any object man has ever designed."

The eminent scientist, Fred Hoyle, made the statement that believing the first cell originated by chance, is like believing a tornado ripping through a junk yard full of airplane parts could produce a Boeing 747.

When the author, however, deals with the matter of evil, many readers will be bewildered and dismayed. Why do Jews suffer persecution and martyrdom? Because they have assimilated to the outside culture and have forsaken their Covenant with God. Are we to believe that this includes one million innocent children who perished in the Holocaust?

The author argues for the Divine Origin of the Torah and insists that God spoke to the entire people at Mount Sinai. He maintains as well, that Jews achieve ethical superiority by following the revealed precepts of Torah. "Jewry's incomparably high marriage and low divorce rates, uncommonly tight-knit family structure, peerless emphasis on and success at educational pursuits, wildly disproportional contributions to technical advancement, unprecedented achievements in charity and benevolence, extreme underpresentation in criminal activities, and indefatigable commitment to altruistic politics and social action place them among the leaders of the human march towards civilization."

The author's conclusions are, of course, controversial — and in the end, a matter of personal faith. All readers, however, will profit from pondering supremely important concepts that are presented in a manner both lucid and stimulating.

Jewish Life

www.moviebuffs.database/nirvana

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The nominees have been announced, the tuxedos are on order and the Oscars are all gleaming. So as Hollywood gears up for its annual extravaganza, I thought this would be a good time to look at the many resources for Jewish movies on the Internet.

Sure, you've seen *Yentl*, *Fiddler* and *The Jazz Singer* and you wonder how much else is out there. Much more. Did you know that Elizabeth Taylor played the daughter of a Jewish merchant in *Ivanhoe* (1952)? Or that Rosalind Russell played a Jewish war widow who falls in love with wealthy Japanese widower Alec Guinness in *A Majority of One* (1961)?

Those are just a couple of the hundreds of films with Jewish or Israeli themes that you can learn about on the World Wide Web.

Two excellent places to start are the University of Idaho's Films, Videos and TV Programs of Jewish Interest **[http://www.uidaho.edu/~mschreck/j-film-a.html]** and the Jewish Film Archive Online **[http://members.aol.com/jewfilm/index.html]**.

Once you've found a movie that interests you, I recommend consulting TV Guide's Movie Database **[http://www.tvguide.com/movies/database/]** and the massive Internet MovieDatabase **[http://us.imdb.com/search]** for detailed movie credits and links to film reviews. You can even use the IMDB's advanced search engine to look for movies filmed in Israel or about Jewish subject matter.

If you prefer to see movies on the big screen, there are many excellent Jewish film festivals run throughout the world. And even if you can't attend one, you can still be a virtual visitor via the Jewish Highway. The Toronto Jewish Film Festival maintains its site at **[http://websights.com/tjff/archives.html]**; New York/Los Angeles **[http://www.bway.net/israel/]**; Boston **[http://bjff.cyways.com/]**; San Francisco **[http://www.sfjff.org/]**; South Bay (Silicon Valley) **[http://www.best.com:80/~sbjfs/]**, London [http://www.music-festival.demon.co.uk/films.htm] and Jerusalem **[http://www.jer.cine.org.il/html/festival.htm]**.

Israel, of course, has its own vibrant film industry. For a very good overview of filmmaking in Israel, visit the site created by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs **[http://www.israel.org/facts/culture/fcult8.html]** and *Ariel — The Israel Review of Arts and Letters* **[http://www.israel.org/mfa/ariel/cinema.html]**. Israel also boasts several large film archives dedicated to preserving that country's motion picture heritage. Take a look at the Jerusalem Film Centre's Archives **[http://www.jer.cine.org.il/html/archive.htm]** and the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive at the Hebrew University **[http://www2.huji.ac.il/www_jcj/jfa.html]**.

OK, reading about the movies is fine but what about the stars. I don't have the space to write about all the Internet websites devoted to Jewish stars. But if you want to find out the latest news and rumors about Jews in Tinseltown and elsewhere, take a look at Kochavim: Famous Jews in the News **[http://www.virtual.co.il/arts/kochavim/]**.

Speaking of Jews and Hollywood, Marlon Brando shocked the public with his comments last April on *Larry King Live*. Brando said that "Hollywood is run by Jews; it is owned by Jews — and they should have a greater sensitivity about the issue of people who are suffering." Writer Ben Stein responded to Brando in his article *Do Jews Run Hollywood?* **[http://e1.eonline.com/Hot/Specials/Jews/index.html]**. Stein's answer: "You bet they do — and what of it?" (For the record, Brando did apologize for his remarks. **[http://pele.nando.net/newsroom/ntn/enter/041096/]**.)

If you are still looking for more movie-related sites, try the Jewish/Israel Culture-Link Launcher Film Links **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/culture.html#film]** and Maven's Jewish/Israel Index **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/maven/subjects/idx199.htm]**.

So the next time you wander into the video store, skip the latest blockbuster. Pick up a film that will show you how Jews see the world and the world see the Jews.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE CHANGE

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 27 is deadline for March 13 issue. Then deadlines change to Mondays, 10 days prior to publication date, i.e. Monday, March 10 is deadline for March 20 issue and Monday, March 17 is deadline for March 27 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, March 1

30TH ANNIVERSARY

London Community Hebrew Day School is having a 30th anniversary celebration and fundraiser 7:30 p.m. Features silent auction and comedy show with *Larry Horowitz* and *Lou Eisen* from Yuk Yuk's. Includes hors d'oeuvres, desserts and cash bar. Cost $25. Call 519-858-0311.

MELAVEH MALKA

Mizrachi Bayit, 296 Wilson Ave., is holding a Melaveh Malka/lecture 8:45 p.m., featuring **Rabbi Shlomo Jakobovits**, principal, Eitz Chaim Schools who will talk on The Israeli-PLO Peace Process in Historical Perspective. Cost $5; refreshments.

Sunday, March 2

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen or tell, $3. Call 440-1330.

SJA

Secular Jewish Association continues its adult education series with Humanism in the Talmud, 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill. Pot-luck dessert. Non-members $8. RSVP 364-7002.

AFTERNOON RECITALS

Holy Blossom Temple music committee is holding a recital with Apollo Duo featuring **Daniel Domb** on cello and **Carey Domb** on guitar, 3 p.m.at the temple, 1950 Bathurst St. Call 789-3291, ext. 503.

BOOK DISCUSSION

True North by **Jill Conway** is the featured book at the next meeting of the Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, 2-4 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd. Call **Ruth Goldsmith**, 782-6414.

Monday, March 3

JUDAICA COLLECTOR

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, historical and exhibitions committee features **Rabbi Avraham Kubayov**, Judaica collector and vendor, 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave.

DIABETES ASSOCIATION

Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA), Jewish chapter meeting, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave. Topic, Healthy, Tasty Passover for People with Diabetes. CDA members $1, non-members $2. Call **Esther Schwartz**, 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt**, 225-1989.

Tuesday, March 4

WELLNESS LECTURE

National Council of Jewish Women's next lecture in its Wellness Series features dietician/nutritionist, **Rosie Schwartz**, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst. $5 members, $8 non-members. Call **Rosalie Moscoe**, 636-1560 or Council House, 633-5100.

LUNCHEON MEETING

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood's luncheon meeting, 12:30 p.m., features a guitarist/humorist/singer. To reserve call **Ruth Fruitman**, 905-731-6660 or **Ruth Mintz**, 633-7190.

PARLEZ VOUS FRANÇAIS?

Il existe à Toronto une loge du B'nai Brith de langue française, qui se réunit tous les premiers mardis de chaque mois. La prochaine réunion, 8 p.m., 15 Hove St. 255-6086.

Wednesday, March 5

SENIOR CARE

Workshop for caregivers, 6:30-8 p.m., Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave., fourth floor. Topic, Ethical Concerns that Arise When Caring for the Elderly. Call **Jackie Fabian** 635-2860, ext. 460.

ROMANIAN B'NAI BRITH

Romanian Language B'nai Brith Lodge, meets at B'nai Brith building,

[Cont'd. on page 15]

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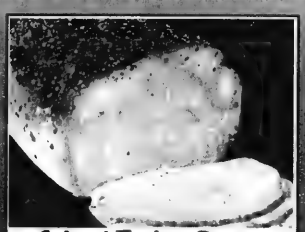

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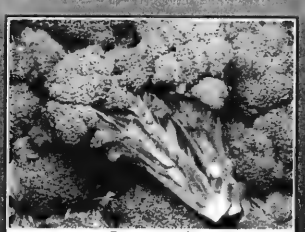

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Choose Your Favourite
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 14]

15 Hove St., 6 p.m. Program includes talks on the Jewish Reality of Today and Jewish stories. Open to everyone, no charge.

READING THE MEGILLAH

Rabbi Moshe Stern, Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue, will deliver an in-depth halachic analysis on the issue of women and the reading of the Megillah, 8 p.m., at the synagogue, 3600 Bathurst St. Men and women invited; no charge.

WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

The Women's Institute of Torah Study continues its series on Feminine Images of the Bible, 8-9 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, Edinburgh Drive, $4 per class. Call 905-881-2012.

FILM SERIES

Holy Blossom Temple's fourth annual winter film series continues with *The Jazz Singer* (1953) starring **Danny Thomas**, 8 p.m. at the temple, 1950 Bathurst St. Call **Michelle Katz**, 932-0730.

PIRKEI AVOT STUDY

Next Pirkei Avot study session led by **Rabbi Bagley**, Beth Radom Congregation, 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 18 Reiner Rd. Free admission.

Thursday, March 6

KABBALAH CENTRE

Lecture, discussing the mysteries of Life, Death, Good, Evil, Success, Failure, 7:30 p.m., Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. Call 631-9395. Free admission.

And What Else Is New

DEALING WITH ANGER

Group to explore anger and to help men understand their feelings of anger begins March 19. Call **Gail Gould**, Jewish Family & Child Service, 638-7800.

MEANING OF JUDAISM

Dr. Elliot Malamet presents a Sunday morning lecture series on the Relevance and Meaning of Our Judaism, 10:15 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Open to the public, $10 a session.

BEREAVED FAMILIES

Self-help group provides support following the death of a child. Groups held weekly for eight weeks. Call **Maureen Feder,** Jewish Family & Child Service for information on Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario, 638-7800, ext. 202.

SPRING CAMP

Richmond Hill Country Club is running a spring camp program March 3-14 and a Passover program for Jewish day school students, April 21-30. Call **Michael Silverman**, 905-731-2800, ext. 244 or **Wendy Rom**, ext. 240.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

Jewish Family Life Groups sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service include: Single Again: Building a New Life, begins March 20; The Challenge of Anger For Women, begins March 17; The Self-Confident Woman, begins March 18. Call **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

SENIOR CARE

Volunteer opportunities at Senior Care include delivering Kosher Meals on Wheels, visiting an isolated senior, or providing transportation to medical appointments. For information call **Arnold Foss**, 635-2860.

STRESS REDUCTION

Beth Tikvah adult programming presents a three-part series on Stress Reduction Techniques — Roads to Relaxation with **Dr. Danny Glick**, Thursdays, beginning March 6, 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave. Call 221-3433.

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 20 item on Purim Baskets offered by Medrash Torah Vehayim, the phone number given was incorrect. To order, call 905-669-7600.

JASS LECTURE SERIES

Jewish Artists Scholarship Society presents A Positive Approach to a Healthier You, Wednesdays March 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Chicken Soup for Mind, Body and Soul takes place Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20 and 27, 7:30-9:30 p.m. All lectures held at Earl Bales Community Centre. Fee $50 per course.

CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

Volunteers needed in Metro nursing homes to help with friendly visiting, social and recreational programs and assisting staff. Call **Toby Maskowitz**, coordinator, chaplaincy Services, Jewish Family & Child Service, 638-7800, ext. 287.

For Seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, musical *Dames at Sea* in Buffalo, Sunday, June 1; *Camelot*, Stratford, Sept. 17. In the planning are presentations on kosher trips to Ottawa and Rochester. **Lena**, 785-5773 or **Ruth**, 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield,** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 6 is an Israeli movie; March 22, Purim party, 7:30 p.m., features music and singer. Tickets $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka**, 630-5771.

Club Hadar meets Mondays and Thursdays 1-4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, Meeting Room 2 for Tai Chi, painting, discussions, bingo. Call **Viola Landman** 886-2695.

Wagman Centre bereavement group for recently bereaved seniors meets every other Friday morning. Call **Mona Monro**, 785-2500 ext. 2299 or **Paula David**, ext. 2271.

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement presents **Steven Shulman,** who will speak on The Canadian Agenda and the War Criminal, Wednesday, March 5, noon. Bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and cookies served. Cost $1.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Memberships due for the coming year, $12; blood pressure clinic, Tuesday, March 4, noon to 2 p.m., free to members; Scarborough Town Centre, bus departs centre, Thursday, March 13, 10 a.m., $5 per person; Thornhill Square, bingo with prizes, coffee, cookies and senior discounts, $2 members only; dance to live music, Sunday, March 23; Atlantic City and Cape May, March 31-April 4; shuffle off to Buffalo, Thursday, April 3, 395-7881.

Bloor JCC presents a naturopathic physician who will speak on the uses of herbal products and Glucosamine Sulfate, a herbal remedy for arthritis, 2 p.m. in the Chapel. Call **Judy**, 924-6211.

Senior Chaverim, meets Monday, March 3, 1:30 p.m., boardroom, Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Topic is Justice Without Civil Courts: Alternative Dispute Resolutions. Bring a friend.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., 225-2112.

Music appreciation in partnership with North York Board of Education Mondays, March 3, 17, 24, 31, 1 p.m. in the Synagogue.

Historical Psychology, From Moses to Early Rabbinic Literature with **Arkady Kovelman**, Tuesdays, March 4 to April 15, 10-11:30 a.m., synagogue. Members $1, non-members $3.

Sunday night dances, March 2, 16 and 30. Dance to the exciting music of the Creative Band, 7:30 p.m. Call for information.

Etrog, Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. March 5 is a movie. **Anna**.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Successful Slimming, Tuesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, 12 noon-1 p.m. in the Cultural Room.

Explore natural remedies and alternative health approaches, Thursdays, March 6 and 13, 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the Synagogue.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, March 4, 1:30-3 p.m. in the Music Room.

BATHURST JC

BJC Senior Adult Services, Purim Luncheon, entertainment by **Mickey Lewin**, Tuesday, March 11, 1 p.m. Call **Teme** 636-1880.

Register for spring session at Koffler Centre School of Visual Art, adult classes including pottery, drawing, life drawing, watercolor. From beginners to experienced artists. Evening and daytime classes. Call **Raylene**, 636-1880, ext. 270.

After school classes in drawing and painting or pottery for teens. Sunday classes in children's art and ceramics for ages 6 to 17. Call Raylene, 636-1880.

Gimme a Break, a March Break program for kids ages 4-12 runs March 10-14. Includes programs in dance, drama, music, arts and crafts, sports and swimming. Call camp office 636-1880, ext. 378.

About People

WALDMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Andrew Knapp, a graduate of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) is the 1996-97 winner of the Dennis Waldman Scholarship. Andrew participated in a number of school and community activities including being part of the Ontario delegation to the American Regional Mathematics League competition in the United States. Also, an athlete, Andrew was involved in basketball for CHAT. He is currently a mathematics major at the University of Waterloo.

SPORT-A-THON

United Synagogue Day School, Bayview Campus Middle School students raised $1,000 for Israel Children's Centres, which provide after-school sports and recreational facilities as well as academic assistance for Jewish and Arab youngsters. Presenting the cheque to Kevin Green, centre, are, from left, Amanda Suchter, Jennifer Rudnick, Jonathon Sherman and Matthew Naiberg.

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Greater Toronto Area

Seniors go online at Wagman Centre Computer Club

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Thanks to Henry Campbell, president of Toronto-based Perceptix Inc., a group of seniors at the Wagman Centre has been introduced to the world of e-mail and the Internet.

Campbell realized that if seniors had the ability to use electronic mail, they could communicate with their children, grandchildren, other family members and friends, and could join interest groups anywhere in the world.

The David and Vivian Campbell Family Foundation donated six computers to the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care. The Wagman Centre Computer Club was formed when Henry Campbell volunteered to present a series of hands-on classes.

"It was hard for the seniors in the computer group to believe that they could send a message anywhere in the world instantaneously and receive a reply within minutes at a minimal cost," he said.

At a recent class, 12 seniors in the computer club listened intently as he explained the process.

Club member Ida Kestenberg then sent a message to her granddaughter Ryann Miller, a student at the University of Victoria.

She received a reply, which began with, "Dear Bubbie, Wow! I can't believe I got an e-mail from you! That was very surprising, I have to say."

And Evelyn Quitt, who sent e-mail to her grandson Mark Miller in Vancouver, received a reply prefaced with, "Good morning and what a surprise! Hello backatcha."

Campbell was born and raised in Montreal. After receiving a bachelor of commerce at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, he worked in the family business in Montreal and later in Toronto until it was sold in 1986.

He then established Perceptix Inc., which provides interactive learning materials, computer software applications, videodisks and CD-ROMs to provincial departments of education and school boards, as well as libraries and universities. It also provides training and support to customers.

He said the seniors at Baycrest will have a personal identity code and access to computers 24 hours a day, and they will not have to be at the computer or have it on in order to retrieve their messages.

"With a phone call, you have to consider the different time zones and you have to be at home to receive the call. With e-mail, there is no urgency to speak as you do with a clock-ticking long distance call. And you can take your time composing your messages."

He says he got the idea when he watched his children having a great time communicating on the computer and thought, "Why not seniors? It would be wonderful to help them expand their links with others through the computer."

Ida Kestenberg gets instruction on e-mail from Henry Campbell at the Wagman Centre's Computer Club.

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Romance revisited

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Torah emphasizes the importance of male-female relationships and recognizes that the emotional issues which ensue are unavoidable, says Elliott Malamet, a local Jewish educator and writer.

He spoke recently at the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre (RJCC) on love and relationships in Judaism. The lecture was part of a havdalah program jointly sponsored by the RJCC and the Davisville Chaverim.

"One can't hide behind religion when it comes to emotional issues," Malamet told the group, describing Judaism as "relationship affirming."

He stressed that a person finds fulfilment and growth by being in a relationship with another, pointing out that as early as Genesis, chapter II, the Torah says it is not good for human beings to be alone.

At the end of the chapter, the Torah instructs men and women to leave their parents and lead independent lives, he added.

"Judaism's attitude to marriage is broad-based," Malamet said. "It's not simply a matter of having children. Spiritual, emotional and physical intensity is very important."

He noted that while many people have difficulty associating Judaism with the "spontaneous combustion" of romantic love, the Torah in fact offers different models of relationships.

Citing the relationship between Isaac and Rebecca as an example

[Cont'd. on page 17]

Greater Toronto Area

Social worker confronts life's 'terible secrets'

'Important to provide women with forum to dialogue'

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Gail Solish knows firsthand that the Jewish community is not immune to any of life's "terrible secrets."

As a social worker for Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), Solish is based at the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre, a children's mental health centre that provides a day treatment program to youth ages 11 to 17 who have a wide range of emotional or behavioral problems.

Gail Solish

Services include an education program accredited by the Toronto Board of Education, therapeutic group activities and individual, family and group treatment.

As the co-leader with Karen Wynnychuk, of an incest survivor's group, Solish says that incest is "kept so private that most people never have the opportunity to encounter others with the same secret. People need to realize that the Jewish community has the same problems as the community at large. The problems are just difficult to talk about."

Originally from Michigan, and a graduate of Michigan State University and Rudgers University in New Jersey, she has worked at JF&CS for 23 years. She started the group about five years ago after working with incest survivors on an individual basis for several years.

"It is important in terms of healing to provide women with a safe forum in which to dialogue and connect.

"They do however, have to be emotionally prepared for the group and to ensure that they are ready, we invite them in for an assessment. It is a therapy group and we try and determine if it is a good vehicle for our client. If chosen, everyone has the opportunity to talk. Sometimes women choose to talk a lot less than others but listening can also be very helpful – sometimes as helpful as talking. When a woman discovers that her problems are not unique, she begins to feel better."

There are two separate sessions a year, with groups meeting weekly. "We try and discreetly advertise by sending out notices to doctors offices and sometimes people hear about us through others. For now, the group is just for women, but if we had a core group of about seven or eight men, we would definitely consider a group for them."

"People are amazing," says Solish. "It is extraordinary what incest survivors have experienced. To see them change for the better and have hope for the future gives me a lot of pleasure."

Romance in the Torah

[Cont'd. from page 16]

of a powerful romantic attraction, Malamet suggested the two were drawn to each other on their first encounter, which is described in Genesis.

He said Isaac and Rebecca were two very different people, who "did not see eye to eye" on the rearing of their children, but they didn't have an opportunity to explore their differences prior to marriage.

According to Malamet, their relationship provides a model for modern couples who need to be clear-sighted about one another and their vision of marriage.

Another relationship model discussed was that of Jacob and Rachel. Malamet said Jacob, a man on the run, was drawn to Rachel (in Genesis, chapter 29) because he was alone and she gave him a sense of belonging: She was his first cousin, the daughter of his mother's brother, and so he felt a natural emotional bond with her.

Malamet contrasted Jacob's relationship with Rachel to that of his parents, Isaac and Rebecca, pointing out that the circumstances of father and son were very different: Jacob was a stranger without means, while Isaac, passive by nature, married a woman who was brought to him by his father's servant.

The Torah acknowledges that differences in people's experiences and circumstances affect how they relate to one another, Malamet said. "You can't avoid the inescapable issues of emotional baggage that people bring into a relationship. The Torah is aware of this and presents different [relationship] models to learn from."

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A profound confrontation with the life of a book

Guest Voices

By HOWARD ASTER

A publisher sits between the writers, the creators of literature, knowledge, learning, and the readers, those who wish to know, to learn. In that sense, publishers are links in a chain of learning, reading, knowledge.

Imagine a world where the creators were unable to connect with the readers. It would be a world of immense silence, a world of incomplete thoughts, a lonely world, both for those who create and those who want or need to know, learn, read, reflect.

In this day and age, when entertainment has overpowered learning and information passes itself off as knowledge, the act of publishing is becoming increasingly trivialized; ethics, responsibility, commitment are no longer the primary concerns. But to touch, to influence, to change, to enlighten, to provoke feeling, these should be the real objectives of the act of publishing.

In tracking down stories worthy of publishing, I would like to relate a recent experience.

I was in Lviv in western Ukraine with my 12-year-old son, who was to have his bar mitzvah later that year. It was June 1991.

I wanted to go to western Ukraine to visit a village named Koretz in Volynin. Koretz is very important for me because that is where my late father was born in 1910. In the Jewish cemetery of Koretz my grandfather is buried. I needed to see this place.

My son and I visited a shul in Lviv, the one that in 1991 was still open and was being restored. Lviv, or Lemberg, the great centre of Jewish life of southeastern Poland until the turmoils of the 20th century — World War I, the Russian Revolution, World War II, the Cold War — changed borders and cultures, transformed Jewish life in that part of the world.

We visited the small structures adjacent to the shul. The gabbai proudly showed us the newly installed ovens that are now used to make matzot for the remaining 5,000 Jews of Lviv. The place was dark, wet, although some few Jews are trying desperately to bring it back to life. It was the end of the period of oppressive Soviet rule in Ukraine, a time of hope for religious freedom.

Then my son wandered off and I saw him struggling with something under some decaying wooden boxes in the corner. I rushed over to him, the gabbai following. We lifted a few boxes of rubble.

My son found some *survivors* — two survivors. Two books, large books, with leather covers, one published in 1837, the other published in 1858. He pulled them out. They were soaking wet. He gave them to the gabbai, who told him: "No, you found them, you take them. There are very few survivors left in this part of the world, in Lviv. I want you to take them with you. You will find a better home for them."

The life of this leather-bound Mishneh Torah, printed in the 18th century, contains endless stories of families, faith, life, death and devastation, making it a true 'survivor.'

This was my son's most profound confrontation with the life of a book, the life of learning. He now lives with two Holocaust survivors

There are endless numbers of stories that reside in these two books, the stories of families, of people, of hands, of eyes, of faith, of life and hope, of death and devastation.

There are many, many, many other books around the world with names, stories, histories.

And that is why I want to be involved in the act of publishing books. In books, especially for Jews, everybody gets connected — the writers, the inspiration, the readers, the ideas, the survivors.

Howard Aster is the president of Mosaic Press.

The Family of the Late

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"His contribution to the cause will live on forever"

France honors sculptor Sorel Etrog

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Internationally acclaimed Canadian sculptor Sorel Etrog, 63, was recently inducted as Chevalier des Arts et Lettres by the French government at L'Alliance Française de Toronto at the opening of an exhibition, A Tribute to France, which included his figurative works of the 1960s.

In 1994, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Normandy, the Canadian government donated Etrog's sculpture, *Sun Bird II*, to the village of Reviers, near the Canadian military cemetery.

His work is exhibited worldwide and is in the collections of many galleries and museums of modern art. He represented Canada in the Biennale of Venice in 1966 and was commissioned to represent Canada at the Olympic Games in Seoul in 1988.

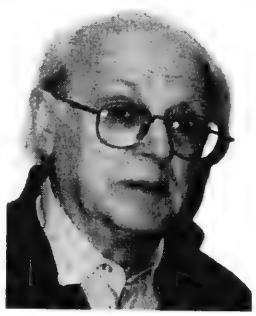
In Toronto, his sculptures can be seen at the Sun Life Centre and in front of Hart House at the University of Toronto. He designed the bronze statue for the Canadian film awards in 1968 – today called the Genie. Etrog received the Order of Canada in 1995.

He is presently working on a new series of works to be exhibited next year.

Etrog told *The CJN* that his works are a reflection of his past, combined with his hopes for the future.

Several months ago, he was invited to return as a guest to his country of birth, Romania. After being away for 46 years, he said, the trip brought back memories of the war years, of the terror and persecution of his childhood — of living under the Nazis followed by the equally oppressive Stalinist regime.

The Etrogs immigrated to Israel in 1950. He served in the Israeli army for three years and received an art scholarship. He studied at the Institute of Painting and Sculpture in Tel Aviv with teachers such as Marcel Janco, one of the founders of the Dada movement.



Sorel Etrog

Etrog's works were first exhibited in 1956 and his first one-man show in 1958 won him a scholarship to the Brooklyn Museum of Art School.

Shortly after Etrog arrived in New York, collector, Samuel J. Zacks of Toronto, purchased his piece titled *White Scaffolding* for $200 and invited Etrog to bring some of his work to Toronto. After arriving in Toronto, Etrog went to Southampton on Lake Huron for the summer to work at a plywood factory owned by Zacks.

With access to wood and power tools at Southampton, Etrog continued his painted wood construction and began his wooden sculptures.

[Cont'd. on page 22]

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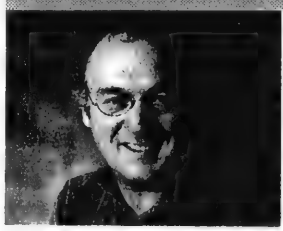

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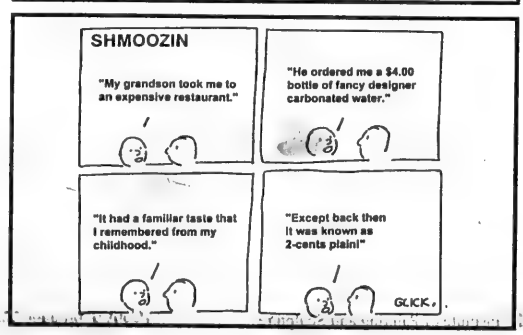
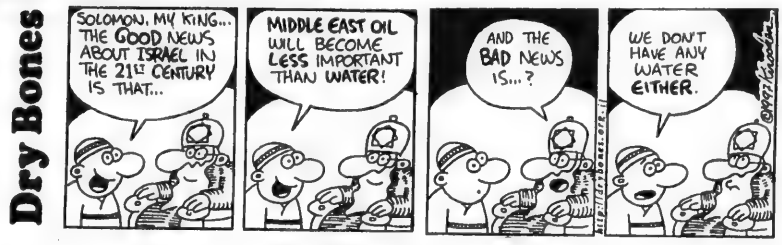
למרות שמו,
The English Patient חוא דווקא סרט הוליבודי ענק ממדים. זהו סיפורו של טייס אנגלי שנכווה קשות בהתרסקות מטוסו באפריקה. זהו גם סיפור משולש אחבה בזמן מלחמה. הסיפור בהחלט מרתק והצילומים יפים, אבל מה - הכל קצת סתמי, לא משאיר שום טעם של עוד, או מחשבה עמוקה , או אפילו סתם מחשבה. קצת אופרת סבון בצבעים יפים. שש בסולם קורן.
The People vs. Larry Flint הוא סיפורו האמיתי של לארי פלינט, פושתאק אמריקאי שהקים מועדון חשפנות ובעקבותיו את עיתון הפורנוגרפיה Husler . במרכז הסרט- מאבקו המשפטי של פלינט על זכותו להדפיס כל זבל אפשרי בחסות חוק חופש הדיבור האמריקני המפורסם. לא, חס ושלום, זכות הדיבור של המדוכאים, המיעוטים, החולים, אלא זכות הדיבור של חזיר עשיר ונהנתן ללכלך את מי ומה שהוא רוצה. כמובן שהדבר אפשרי רק משום שיש לו כסף לעורכי דין ולמשפטים. הסרט עשוי מצוין והוא בהחלט מעניין, אלא שהנושא מטומטם ומחליא כפי שרק אמריקה יכולה. זה נורא יפה שהחוק האמריקני מגן גם על חֻלאות עשירים כמו לארי פלינט, אבל במדינה שבה לארבעים מליון איש אין ביטוח בריאות ושסיכוייו של כושי בהארלם לחגיע לגיל שלושים קטנים מאשר בבנגלדש- וזֹאת לא מעניין אותי לארי פלינט. שבע בסולם קורן,
ואחרון אחרון באמת חביב: **Secrets&Lies** . אחרי כל הבומבסטיות של הוליבוד, בא סרט אנגלי צנוע ושם אותם בכיס הקטן! הבמאי מייק לי יצר פלא קטן ומַרגש. זהו סיפורה של צעירה כושיה בלונדון, שאחר מות אימה המאמצת (גם היא כושית) יוצאת לחפש את האם הביולוגית שלה. לא בא לי לקלקל לכם את הסיפור, רק לרמוז שמחכה לכם סרט יפיפה, עם אנשים אמיתיים. הסיפור עצמו יטלטל אתכם בין צחוק ודמע. הסרט הזה בטח עלה עשירית מ"לארי פלינט" ומאית מ- English Patient , מה שמראה שוב שהקולנוע האנגלי, שמבוסס על יוצרים חכמים ורגישים ועל תסריטים נהדרים, גורם לאחיו האמריקני להֶראות כמו ילד טיפש ומפונק. הסרט זוכה לעשר בסולם קורן.

זכות ההצבעה לישראלים:

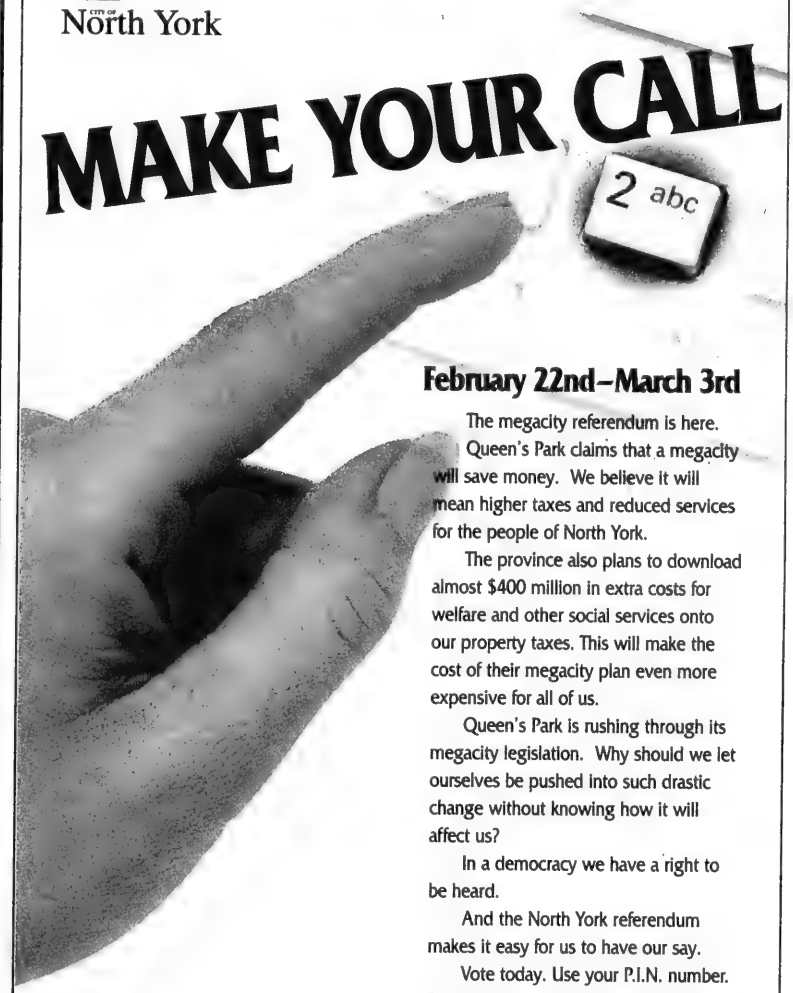
כפי שהבטחתי, להלן התגובות הראשונות לנושא זכות ההצבעה לישראלים בחו"ל. כדי לאפשר כמה שיותר תגובות-קוצרו המכתבים תוך שמירת הרעיונות העיקריים.
"גידי קורן שלום !
שמים לפני ישראלי שמבקר ונכנס לישראל התחייבויות בקשר לכניסה ויציאה כמו מס נסיעות, אישור יציאה מהצבא, פספורט, אישור על ביטול אזרחות, רישום ילדים ועוד ועוד. אבל לא נותנים את הזכויות של אזרחות. אם לא נותנים את הזכות הפרלמנטרית לבחור אז בבקשה לבטל את החובות. אני עדיין מתגעגע מאוד לישראל וחולם לפעמים על הזמנים הטובים. אני רוצה להצביע בבחירות בישראל ורוצה להרגיש שייך. הקורא הנאמן ליכטנטל ירחמאל."
"לגידי קורן שלום !
קראתי את מאמרך בCJN וברצוני להעיר שישראל מחייבת ילדים שנולדו לישראלים בחו"ל לשאת דרכון ישראלי, לא רק כיום. בצורה זאת נוצר מצב שאזרחי מדינות זרות ממוצא ישראלי, גם אם אינם מרגישים כיהודים או מזדהים עם היהדות וישראל יוכלו להשפיע על מהלך העניינים בישראל ולחצביע ואף לחיבחר לכנסת. עד שהחוק המוזר הנ"ל לא ישונה, לדעתי אסור יהיה לתת לנושאי דרכון ישראלי בחו"ל את זכות הבחירה. בברכה שמואל כץ"
אנא המשיכו לכתוב,כי אני מבטיח לפרסם הכל. שלחו את התגובות לפאקס: 416-633-6557.





City of North York

MAKE YOUR CALL



February 22nd–March 3rd

The megacity referendum is here.

Queen's Park claims that a megacity will save money. We believe it will mean higher taxes and reduced services for the people of North York.

The province also plans to download almost $400 million in extra costs for welfare and other social services onto our property taxes. This will make the cost of their megacity plan even more expensive for all of us.

Queen's Park is rushing through its megacity legislation. Why should we let ourselves be pushed into such drastic change without knowing how it will affect us?

In a democracy we have a right to be heard.

And the North York referendum makes it easy for us to have our say.

Vote today. Use your P.I.N. number. Put your finger on the button and make them hear your voice.

It's your call.

If you're eligible to vote but haven't received your P.I.N. number call the City of North York Referendum Help Line **395-0411.**
(Our lines are open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. throughout the voting period)

Vote NO to the megacity

Greater Toronto Area

Child poverty is a moral, political issue for Canada

By GORDON WOLFE
Special to The CJN

"This house...seeks to achieve the goal of eliminating child poverty by the year 2000."

Feature Report

Unanimously passed resolution of the Canadian House of Commons, Nov. 24, 1989.

One frustrating feature of poverty in a country such as Canada is its invisibility. Ours is not the poverty of the swollen belly or dehydration, It is, rather, the type that makes a thousand subtle subtractions from the bodies and minds of people in its grip, draining them of health, hope and opportunity. Canada's poor children are the kids who go to school without breakfast and to bed without supper and get box lunches from food banks.

Social scientists define poor children as those living in families whose incomes fall below Statistics Canada's low income cutoff line, which was $26,232 for an urban family of three in 1995.

Since 1989, the number of Canadian children living in poverty has increased by 46 percent to 1.3 million. Today, in Metropolitan Toronto a staggering one in three children rely on welfare. Though children 19 years of age and under make up 22 percent of Metro's population, they make up 43 percent of Metro's food bank users. Eighty percent of children served by the three children's aid societies in Metropolitan Toronto live on incomes at or below the poverty line. Metro Toronto, with only 45 percent of the GTA's children, had almost 70 percent of the GTA's poor children. Families are increasingly being forced to choose between homelessness and hunger. Monthly food bank use by children in Metro has grown by 64 percent in the past year alone.

In Greater Toronto, 13 percent of Jews live below or near the poverty line. In Montreal, the figure is 20 percent. One in 10 Jewish children under the age of 14 lives in poverty. Persons in single parent families are two to three times more likely to be poor than are persons who lived in husband/wife families. Persons who immigrated to Canada in the past 10 years and now live in Toronto account for approximately 10 percent of the Jewish community; however, they constitute 18 percent of the Jewish poor. Poverty affects almost one in six Jews in Toronto, yet continues to be underrecognized by many Jews in our community.

Impact of Poverty on Children

The impact of poverty on children is dramatic. Children from poor families are at greater risk educationally, and the chance that they will drop out of school is almost twice as high as that of children from non-poor families.

Poverty also undermines families and the well-being of children in other ways. These children are often hungry or inadequately nourished. Many live in over-crowded housing. Poverty also would appear to be intertwined with inadequate parenting skills and inconsistent parental behavior. Poor parents — those working and raising children alone with few supports — become overwhelmed, further lessening the odds of their children developing normally.

Child psychiatrist Dr. Paul Stenhauer recently wrote: "We believe that it costs significantly less, and achieves more, to invest in supporting child development early than it does to pay later for increased health services, remedial education services, police and court services, for custody of young offenders, for foster care or for the cost of supporting — sometimes for their whole lives — adults who fail to become self-reliant and productive members of society."

In a recent speech to a conference on Canada's children, Dr. John Evans, chair of the board, Torstar Corporation, quoted study after study which substantiated the belief that the social environment in which children develop is a key determinant of their quality of life, potential to learn, health, well-being and competence.

"Taken together the results of studies elsewhere and here in Canada provide a coherent and convincing story to explain the importance of social determinants of health and their profound influence on child development," Evans said.

The End of Social Democracy

Political scientist Ralf Dahrendorf believes that social democracy is ending as a major influence in the world. Dahrendorf made this statement in Jerusalem at a conference honoring a leading interpreter of social democracy, Prof. Shlomo Avineri.

Social democracy is a body of ideas that aims to assure everyone a share in the economic and social assets of a society and allows them to participate as fully as possible. In the past 50 years, social democratic ideas have been integrated into the platforms of almost every political party in the western world, but this is no longer the case, Dahrendorf said.

Nations now contend with three concerns, he said: competing in a globalized economy, maintaining social solidarity and assuring political and civil liberties. According to Dahrendorf, society seems able to work at no more than two of these three goals at once.

Britain and the United States, he said, have made their choices — to compete in the global market and to maintain civil liberties. Giving up on social solidarity, they have steadily diminished programs.

In Britain and the United States, the decline in social democracy has had its impact, he added. Earnings and wealth of the upper 10 percent have grown rapidly and incomes at the lower end have declined sharply. The disadvantaged have become more isolated and many exist on the fringes, with little stake in their societies.

Dahrendorf said countries that abandon universal values are now facing serious law and order problems ranging from street crime to guerrilla warfare. He warned that as the state fails to provide safety and security, the majority seek more protection from minorities.

Canada has been somewhere in the middle. It has always held stronger social democratic values than the United States but weaker than those in Europe. Its position has produced some interesting results on the international stage, as demonstrated by a recent report in *Fortune* magazine. The magazine's latest survey of business executives concluded that Toronto is the best place in the world to live and do business. Their reasons included education, culture, health services and public safety, all based on the social democratic values of Canadian society.

Canadians are being told that social programs are an obstacle to success in the global economy. In response, we are reducing communal responsibility in every area — social assistance, education, health, culture and public service.

The challenge we face in Canada is how to participate in the global economy without sacrificing the social solidarity that makes our society attractive.

Help for Poor Children

Now Ottawa is proposing to do something about child poverty, although the target date of July 1998 sounds a long way off. Election goody or not, the child benefit is a fine idea, although the funding falls well short of the $2 billion that was needed if Canada hopes to win the war on poverty by the year 2000. As well, some caution needs to be introduced. The initiative announced by the finance minister should not be fragmented and separated from the fact that poor children are poor because they live in poor families and families are poor because, in many cases, the parents can't find employment. Furthermore, those who can't earn income have had their social support systems drastically reduced. Every job lost to some downsizing or funding cut in the name of reducing the deficit impacts on children in families.

Five provinces with 816,000 of Canada's 1.5 million poor children — British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and New Brunswick — have introduced or plan to introduce innovative child benefits. Unfortunately, Ontario, with one-third of the nation's low income children, has been silent on its plans for child benefit reform. The silence is ominous, since progress toward a truly national benefit will be difficult without Ontario's participation.

As recently stated by Ken Battle, president of the Caledon Institute of Social Policy: "It would be tragic if the national child benefit were derailed by other issues. Now Ontario should dust off the blueprint for the child income program, redesign it to fit its current fiscal reform agenda and join its fellow provinces in building a national system. Forgoing part of the Ontario income tax cut to finance an integrated child benefit for the province's 500,000 poor children would be money well invested."

In the publication, *Unequal Futures*, by the Child Poverty Action Group, we are told that "child poverty in the midst of affluence in this country is a national shame. Poverty is a crime against the human spirit; it denies poor children the chance to develop their knowledge, skills and talents and limits their capacities to contribute to the community. It also breeds a certain intolerance and fear of poor children among the better off, with the consequence that poor kids may receive biased treatment from schools, health and social service agencies, the police and the courts. The vulnerability of children and their helplessness to affect change on their own behalf makes child poverty a moral and political issue in this country."

"Our children are our future" goes the trite saying. But what kind of future are we planning when we subject our children to poverty, poor health care, lack of educational opportunities? If we are serious that "our children are our future," we need to put into place, right now, the guarantees that accept that children are a communal as well as an individual responsibility.

The late Rabbi Leo Baeck reminded us that "Judaism must not stand aside when the great problems of humanity which are reborn in every epoch battle in the societies of mankind to find their way. We must not as Jews deny the problems of our time, nor hide ourselves as Jews in the face of them. We are Jews for the sake of humanity. We have our questions to raise and we have to give our answers. To rouse the conscience of humanity is our best titled deed. We will have to speak often a *no* to much that happens on earth; to speak a *no* for the sake of our great *yes*, of our great demand. We shall often have to accuse, for the sake of justice, of love, for the sake of the promise, to say no and accuse, because we are what we are and should be, the Lord's most loyal opposition on earth, the steadfast and the stubborn for God's sake."

Gordon Wolfe is the executive director of Jewish Family and Child Service in Toronto.

The photos by Joan Miller and William Vandiveri, inset, are taken from The Family of Man.

An Open Letter to the Community.

3560 Bathurst Street
North York, Ontario
Canada M6A 2E1
Tel: (416) 789-7071
Fax: (416) 785-2373

THE Baycrest Campaign
Imagine Our Future Without It

To each and every member of our community:

For as long as I can remember, Baycrest has been here to serve our community by taking care of our elderly. In doing so, it has become a leader of research into aging, and has created systems of care that are recognized world-wide as adding quality to life.

To continue in this fashion, *we* have to be here for Baycrest. Every single one of us. The current Campaign has generated a good response. Now, we are in the final stretch, and we need support from every member of our community to reach our $60 million goal.

Sooner or later, one way or another, every Jewish family will be touched by Baycrest. Right now, Baycrest needs you. As Chair of the "Over the Top" Committee, I am asking you to write a cheque so Baycrest can continue caring for our Jewish elderly. We need you, and your support, because it's your Baycrest.

Sincerely,

Edwin Goldstein

P.S. For over 30 years, I have made Baycrest my personal commitment to the community. Today, I am prouder than ever of the work Baycrest does and the professionals and staff who make it all happen. This is the time to share your pride and commitment. Baycrest is calling on you.

An Academic Centre Affiliated with University of Toronto

THE Baycrest Campaign
Imagine Our Future Without It
416-785-4202

YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

More Savings Now!

Fresh Kosher Meat

Our Meat Department will meet all of your needs including a full variety of smoked products. Now available:
• K'Hal Adas Jeshurun (Breuers) • Shechted and Koshered
• Strictly Glatt Kosher Meat or • Chasidishe Scechita Veal

All Meat is Cor Approved

CHAI KOSHER
Fresh Whole Chicken
Now! 1.99 lb 4.39 kg

GLATT KOSHER
Beef Stew
Now! 5.21 lb 13.21 kg

GLATT KOSHER
Fresh Minced Veal
Now! 6.49 lb 14.31 kg

KOSHER, FROZEN
Empire Chicken Breasts
Now! 5.49 lb 12.10 kg

KOSHER
Aaron's Best Frankfurters or Knockwurst
Now! 3.99 450 g pkg

Fresh Seafood SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Fresh Ocean Perch Fillets
Now! 4.88 lb 1.08 100 g

FRESH, FARM RAISED, SKINLESS
Boneless Atlantic Salmon Fillets
Now! 3.88 170 g portion

More Savings Now!

...on all of your Grocery Needs

SELECTED VARIETIES
Great Canadian Cheese
227 g pkg
Now! 2.99

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Manischewitz Noodles
12 oz pkg
Now! 1.29

Streits Old Fashion Farfel
7 oz size
Now! .69

ASSORTED FLAVOURS
Ceres Nectar
1 L tetra
Now! 2.29

Rippin'Good Chocolate Chip Cookies
325 g pkg
Now! 1.99

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Horowitz Soup Mix
6 oz cello pkg
Now! .99

The Savings Stores
PRICES EFFECTIVE IN ALL DEPARTMENTS UNTIL SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1997

Dominion
291 YORK MILLS ROAD
NORTH YORK

Save a centre
600 SHEPPARD AVE., W. DOWNSVIEW
2760 BATHURST ST., TORONTO

YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

York pulls plug on Islamic group

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — York University has cancelled an Islamic student association's access to a computer mailing service after the group used the computer system to distribute Holocaust denial material.

"The material [the group] was promoting was insulting and offensive to the York community," said Sine MacKinnon, a spokesperson for the university. York shut down the group's access to the computers within a few days of being notified of its misuse, she added.

MacKinnon said undergraduate groups generally don't get access to the university's "listserve," its electronic computer mailing service. Graduate students can get access to the service if it's a prerequisite for academic pursuits but that certainly wasn't the case here, she said.

The university acted quickly after being notified of the material by Canadian Jewish Congress. In a Feb. 18 letter to York University President Susan Mann, Congress pointed out a student group using the name Al-Akhbar was using the listserve to distribute material written by Arthur Butz, an electrical engineer from Northwestern University who calls the Holocaust "a legend."

A publicly funded university should not be used to distribute that sort of material, said Bernie Farber, Congress' national director of community relations. Congress was informed of the computer mailing by Rabbi Reuben Poupko and immediately made its concerns known to the university, he said.

Butz is author of *The Hoax of the 20th Century*, which is published by Noontide Press, an offshoot of the Institute for Historical Review, an anti-Semitic organization that couches its racism under a veneer of academia.

The item distributed by Al-Akhbar, titled *A Short Introduction to the Study of Holocaust Revisionism*, refers to the Holocaust as an "extermination legend," claims Zyklon insecticide (used in gas chambers) was only used for delousing and that the Final Solution referred only to the deportation of Jews to the east.

In the computer listserve, Al-Akhbar is described as "sponsored by the Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP)." The group's website (http://www.iap.org/) stated the IAP was "founded in 1981 [as] a non-profit organization dedicated to working towards a fair, just and comprehensive solution for the problem of Palestine." Its information office is given as a post office box in Dallas, Texas.

The IAP's website published numerous items attacking Israel. One section of the IAP homepage contained an abstract from a recent book by Bassam Jarrar, "one of the most popular Palestinian Islamic thinkers." The book claims the Quran predicts the destruction of the State of Israel in the year 2022. "The result of this research conceal [sic] with Jewish revelations which predict the destruction of Israel in the year 2022," the abstract claims.

Another section of the homepage, titled Al-Akhbar: Press Cuttings, claims "the Arab press has launched a strident campaign against the new [U.S.] Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, as a frustrated Jewish old maid who was promised a husband by President Clinton if she succeeds in toppling Boutros Ghali as secretary-general of the United Nations." The British newspaper the *Guardian* is quoted as a source for that statement.

France honors Etrog

[Cont'd. from page 18]

He was invited to exhibit his work at the Walter Moos Gallery in Toronto and many of his wood pieces were acquired by collectors including, Ayala and Sam Zacks, the John Eaton family, Walter Carsen and the Dunkelman family.

When he returned to Manhattan, Etrog cast his first 10 small sculptures in brass, which were purchased by the Dominion Gallery in Montreal.

In 1961, he had his first bronze exhibition at Walter Moos Gallery and in 1963, he had an exhibition at the Rose Fried Gallery, where the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum, Nelson Rockefeller and other collectors purchased his work.

That year, he returned to Toronto when collectors Ben and Yael Dunkelman offered him a studio in their building.

He later travelled extensively to museums and galleries in Europe and set up a second studio in Florence.

Etrog has been uprooted many times in his life. His style has changed from painted wood constructions to paintings, drawings, woodcuts, graphics and sculptures.

He says, "I have been privileged to have met and collaborated with many important writers who became my lifelong friends, such as Samuel Beckett, Marshal McLuhan, and Eugene Ionesco. They have enriched my life."

Israeli universities form consortium to attract students

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last year Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University (CFTAU) sponsored an information session at York University for students interested in studying in Israel. Seven students showed up.

This year TAU went back to the same campus together with representatives of six other Israeli universities to put on an information fair, and 75 students attended.

Canadian representatives of the seven Israeli universities – TAU, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Haifa University, Bar-Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University (BGU), Weizmann Institute of Science and the Technion – have formed a consortium called Study Israel, which was awarded a $15,000 UJA Federation continuity grant.

The money is underwriting a four-phase program, of which the information fair, also held at the University of Toronto (U of T), was a part.

The project was spearheaded by Mark Rubinstein, director of the Canadian Overseas Student Program at CFTAU and Michael Litvack, academic affairs coordinator of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who came up with the idea about a year and a half ago. None of the other universities in the consortium has a staff person in Canada to deal only with academic affairs.

A similar consortium was also established recently in the United States, said Samantha Feiner, admissions adviser of the New York-based BGU Centre for International Student Programs.

Feiner, who attended the information fairs here, praised the consortium system. "Travelling together brings in a bigger crowd. We all have the same main goal: to get students to go to Israel."

"It's easier to convince students to go study in Israel, and let them pick the university that best suits their needs," said Litvack. "It's a win-win situation."

Phase I of the project consisted of placing a series of ads in washrooms at York and U of T, where students were bound to see them. The catchy messages stressed that studying abroad provides an advantage in today's job market.

Phase II, now drawing to a close, focused on the information fairs, which included talks by alumni and local campus administrators on issues like how to access scholarships. Students also filled out ballots for a free ticket to Israel; the winner is to be announced imminently.

At a time when resources are stretched, it's only logical to work together, Rubinstein explained. "It doesn't make sense to each take out a small ad when we could take one together for more impact."

Consortium members had to "put aside the issues of whose turf you're dealing with," he said. "There are no logos on the ads, no [Canadian Friends] phone numbers. These are things that organizations don't generally give up."

To make things easier for students, the ads list only one phone number, 1-800-567-ISRA(EL), a toll-free line already established for information about Israel Experience programs.

Upcoming phases of the project include more traditional marketing and outreach to unaffiliated students, as well as the implementation of a follow-up program that will provide opportunities for alumni to become involved in the Jewish community here.

Current follow-up programs "are great in terms of continuing the feeling" but don't necessarily involve alumni in the community, said Rubinstein.

The program thus far has been "very successful," said Litvack. "We have the community to thank. [for the grant]. The Study Israel fairs are really models for the future for our recruitment."

GUELPH STUDENTS FOCUS ON GLOBAL JUDAISM

Past presidents of the University of Guelph Jewish Students Organization (JSO) were among those who gathered for the recent annual Guelph Shabbaton, which focused on "Global Judaism." From left were Sara Fisher, Saul Cohen, Jenn Kassie (current JSO president), Matt Stein, Sasha Shekhtman, Cindi Cohen, Leanne Rosen and Michael Sobol, University of Guelph psychology professor and co-chair of Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region's community services committee. [Rob Schaumer photo]

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5715

DATE	EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
MARCH '97				
Mon 3	Chava Alberstein Concert	Beth Tikvah Synagogue & Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Mon 3	"A Healthy, Tasty Passover for People with Diabetes"	Canadian Diabetes Assoc. Jewish Chapter	8:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Tue 4	Raye Horowitz Concert	Jewish Music Toronto	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Tue 4	Judith Dan Dedication	She'arim Hebrew Day School	8:00 pm	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Wed 5 - Thu 27	Study Series	Jewish Artists Scholarship Society	7:30 pm	Earl Bales Community Centre
Mon 10	"The Jewish Discovery of Islam in the Modern Age" with Jacob Lassner	University of Toronto Jewish Studies Dept.	8:00 pm	Koffler Centre for Pharmacy Management
Sun 16	Music of Beth Tikvah - Clarinet, Violin & Piano	Beth Tikvah Synagogue	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Sun 16	Avrum Fried Concert	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto	8:00 pm	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
Tue 18	"Surviving Separation" with Lauren Stringer, Family Lawyer	Na'amat Toronto	7:45 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Sun 23	Junior UJA Purim Party	UJA Federation & Bathurst Jewish Centre	2:00 pm	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Sun 23	"Liberalism or Judaism - A Time to Choose" with Prof. Ruth Wisse	State of Israel Bonds New Leadership	7:00 pm	University of Toronto
Wed 26	"The Sandwich Generation - How Do You Slice It?"	Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem	8:00 pm	Ford Centre - Recital Hall
Wed 26	Middle East Developments with Dr. Joshua Teitelbaum	Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, B'nai Brith & Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda	8:00 pm	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Sat 29	Third Annual Mardi Gras Ball	Reena Foundation	8:00 pm	Hockey Hall of Fame
Mon 31	Jeanette Goldhar Memorial Concert	Jewish Music Toronto	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
APRIL '97				
Tue 1	Women of Achievement	State of Israel Bonds Women's Division & ORT	8:00 pm	Adath Israel Congregation
Wed 2	Installation	UJA Federation Women's Campaign/JewishWomen's Federation	7:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sat 5 - Sun 6	CJC Regional Plenary	Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	8:00 pm & 7:30 am	Lipa Green Building
Sun 6	Music of Beth Tikvah presents Beth Tikvah Choir	Beth Tikvah Synagogue	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Mon 7	Annual Concert with Chazzan Yaacov Motzen	Mizrachi Organization of Canada	8:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Tue 8	Dinner and Draw	Canadian Friends of the Jerusalem College of Technology	6:30 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Tue 8	Concert and Auction	Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim Hospital	6:30 pm	Inn on the Park
Wed 9	Lecture by David Novak	Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute	8:00 pm	Adath Israel Congregation
Thu 10	Spring Sale	Baycrest Centre Women's Auxiliary	9:00 am	Baycrest Centre
Thu 10	"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Art But Were Afraid to Ask"	Ashkenaz	7:00 pm	Lonsdale Gallery
Sat 12	Le Bal Masque	Israel Cancer Research Fund	8:00 pm	Arcadian Court - Bay Street
Sun 13	"The World of Yiddish Theatre in Story & Song"	Friends of Yiddish & Beth David Congregation	7:30 pm	Beth David B'Nai Israel Beth Am
Mon 14	Annual Interfaith Dinner with Rev. Roland De Corneille	Neighbourhood Multifaith Congregations	6:30 pm	Beth Sholom Synagogue
Tue 15	"The Young Offenders Act - Who is the Victim?" with Lawyer Mary Birdsell	Na'amat Toronto	7:45 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Wed 30	Yitzhak Perlman Concert Fundraiser	Temple Sinai	7:00 pm	Roy Thomson Hall
MAY '97				
Sun 25	**1997 Community Walk for Israel - "Steppin' Out For Israel"**	**UJA Federation**	**9:45 am**	**Promenade Shopping Centre**
			12:00 pm	**Bathurst Jewish Centre**
Sun 25	**Community Festival**	**UJA Federation**	**11:00 am**	**North York Centennial Centre**

Community Calendar is published as a community service by UJA Federation which reserves the right to include/exclude listings.

UJA FEDERATION

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HOME 'SUITE' HOME

Lakeview Homes' Cordoba Estates

Since 1979, Lakeview Homes has built 6,500 homes in the Toronto region. Developer Rob Montemarano describes Cordoba Estates, Lakeview's seventh develop-ment in the Bathurst-Steeles area, as a "private enclave with a European theme."

Cordoba's 1st phase is 38 single-family stucco homes, available this March; 70% are already sold. Prices start at $329,000 for a 2,300 sq. ft. home; 3 and 4 bedroom plans are still available.

"Other builder's upgrades," says Montemarano, "are standard features here." Interior features include 9' main-floor ceilings, strip wood living and dining room floors, coffered dining-room ceiling, decorative columns and wood casement windows. Front yards are landscaped; and each backyard has a deck and decorative fence.

"These are custom homes," Montemarano emphasizes. "No two are identical. The quality and craftsmanship reflects the 5,000 sq. ft. custom homes we build in Toronto and Richmond Hill under Barmont and Worth Homes." There is a 2 hr. designer consultation to help you choose interior colours and customize floor plans, and a consultation for kitchen design. There are many elevations and exterior colours to choose from, and several landscape packages.

Cordoba Estates' 2nd phase is a luxury 8 storey, 40 unit condominium building, with sandy-toned marble and stucco, and double-glazed windows. The foyer of the building, finished in marble, has a fountain with lounge area.

The interiors have extra-high ceilings and columns, panelled doors, 4 1/8" pine baseboards, ceramics in main hall, kitchen and bathroom, cornice molding in den and living room, and an outdoor balcony — as well as 5 appliances, oval tub ensuite, and individually controlled heating and air conditioning. Most suites also have a gas fireplace.

There is a choice of ceramics or marble in the entry; designer kitchen cabinetry is available; and there is a selection of lighting packages, as well as a choice of natural-finish wood flooring or upgrade broadloom. A designer also assists you in choosing interior colours, finishings and floor plans which suit your style. "Each condo," explains Montemarano, "is also treated as a custom home."

Amenities include kitchen and bar for private gatherings, guest suite, banquet room, fitness centre, games room, spa with men's and ladies' change rooms, and indoor pool with whirlpool overlooking a panoramic garden. There is underground parking, plenty of storage room, and 24 hr. security with card entry.

Condo sizes range from 990—1,811 sq. ft.; prices start at $189,900. There are also 2 penthouses of 2,723 and 11,800 sq. ft. Occupancy is slated for fall 1998. "Previews have already begun," Montemarano points out.

For a private preview, call soon: (905) 738-6033. Or drop in on the sales centre, on the west side of Bathurst just north of Steeles, opposite Townsgate Drive.

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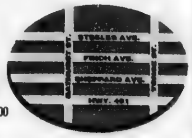

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HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 2 p.m. - 8 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 12 noon - 5 p.m. Closed Thurs. & Fri. Telephone: (905) 738-6033.

*Illustrations are artist's concept. Prices & information correct at press time. E. & O.E.

Lakeview

Eclectic composition: tips on mixing styles

If you have ever had the task of combining furnishings from two different households, you know the difficulties this presents. Mixing the various elements from two different styles of decor can be difficult. Here are a few tips to help you get started.

First take an inventory of all the pieces. Include not only the large items such as furniture, but also include such items as area rugs, lamps, pictures, and even accessories that you may incorporate into the decorating scheme. Once you have your list, go through it and check off the items you definitely want to keep. This may include antiques, high quality furnishings, and items of sentimental value. It even may include that comfortable old chair in which you just love to read.

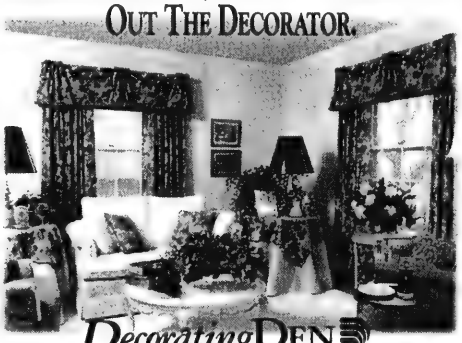
But what if the items do not match? Take heart. The eclectic look is officially "in". Gone are the days when every single piece has to match. There is, however, a difference between not matching and not co-ordinating.

Now for that comfortable, worn out chair I mentioned ... Consider recovering or refinishing some of the pieces to fit a particular room or to match the colour scheme. Large pieces of furniture, such as armoires or cabinets may be converted to hold audio/visual equipment, or even extra linen or clothes.

Finishing touches can do wonders to unite a mixture of furnishings. Look for common elements in your pieces. Is there a colour or texture that catches your eye? Perhaps a pillow in a patterned fabric that picks up colour from a couple of the blended pieces will unify the area. Or change the frame or matting on a picture to give it a whole new look.

Article suppled by Decorating Den Interiors

IF A DECORATOR TELLS YOU TO THROW EVERYTHING OUT, START BY THROWING OUT THE DECORATOR.



DecoratingDEN INTERIORS

There's no rule that says you have to start from square one, or get rid of your favourite chair, just to give your home a new look. I'm just as happy helping out with one window as I am with an entire makeover. Either way, you get great service. I'll come right to your door with a ColorVan® full of samples, and help you select quality custom window treatments, wall coverings, carpets, fabrics, and furniture that suit your taste and fit your budget. There's no charge for my time, and there's never any rush. Together we'll make the selections. Once you've decided how to proceed, I'll take care of the rest. I'll do the ordering and coordinate deliveries and installation.

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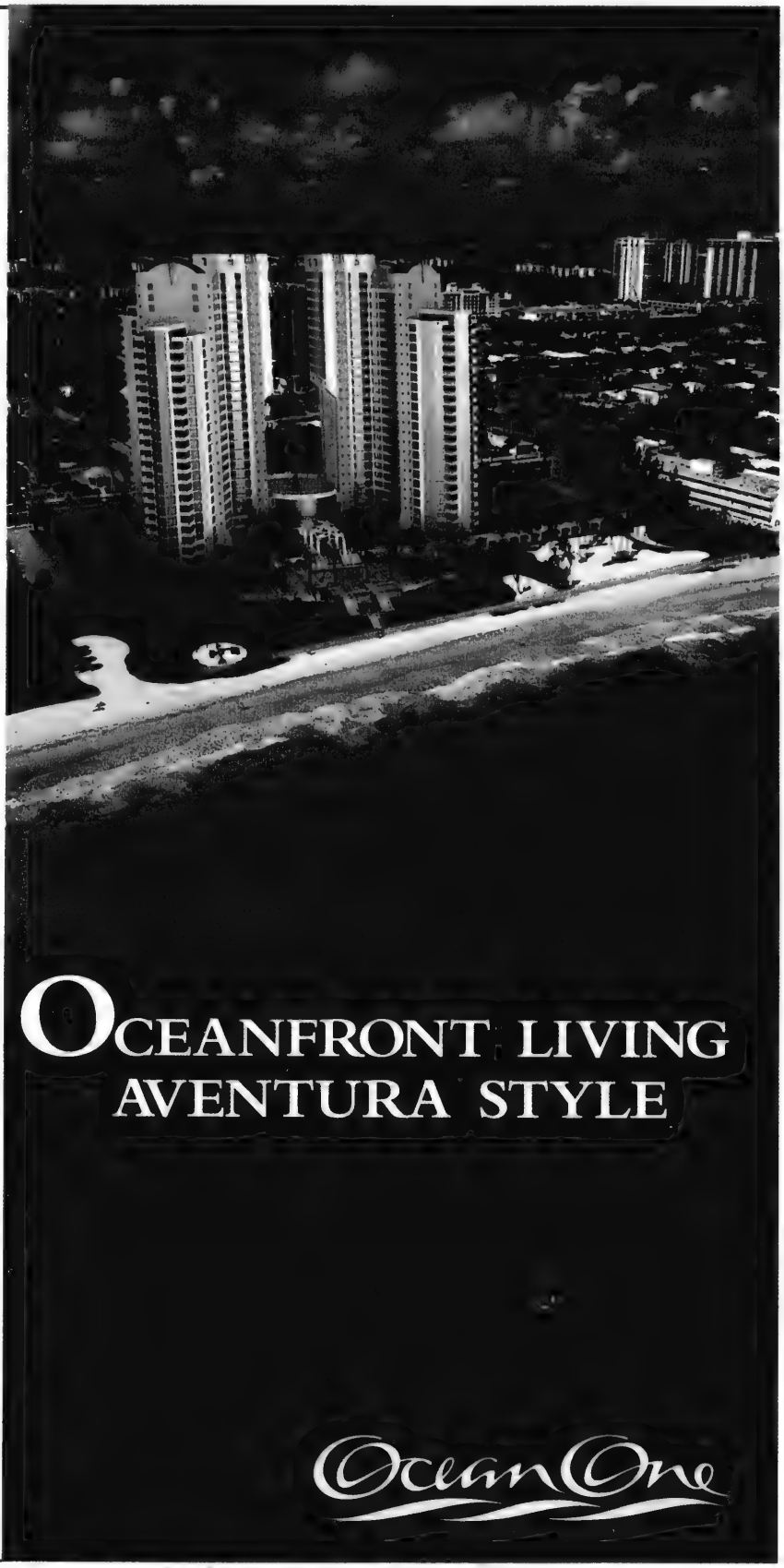


HOME 'SUITE' HOME

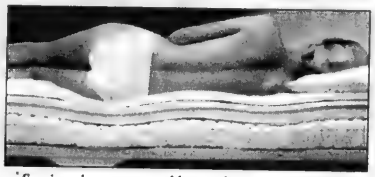
Hazelton Lanes merchants committed to excellence in home decor and accessories

SAMINA* sleep system offers relief for insomnia, back pain

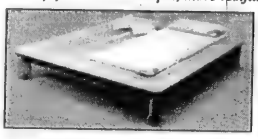
In a bold departure from traditional beds and bedding, the **SAMINA*** sleep system was developed by a consortium of European back doctors whose *modus operandi* was to start from scratch and address the needs of the human body rather than "improve" on inadequate existing products. Now available in North America at Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre, SAMINA* boasts several key innovations that will help you achieve deeper, more restful sleep:

1. Mattress and base construction. The traditional box spring has been replaced by a base consisting of a series of wooden slats separated by chemical-free latex foam. Constructed like your spine, this base flexes with your body, receiving the energy your body transmits as you sleep and returning it to you. This is covered by two separate mattresses — one consisting of firm latex foam, the other of 100% pure merino sheep's wool containing all the original lanolin. Totally absent are the arbitrary fluctuations of coil springs, as are the harmful electromagnetic fields they create: a SAMINA* sleep system is 100% metal-free, from the mattresses right down to the optional wooden frame, which ingeniously interlocks to create a beautiful piece of furniture.

2. Bedding composition. All SAMINA* bedding accessories, including duvets, blankets, and pillows, are filled with pure merino sheep's wool. This has several advantages over both down and synthetic pile: (a) it allows you to sleep dry by absorbing, through osmosis, the moisture emitted by your body as you sleep — unlike down and synthetic fibres, which repel this moisture so that you wind up sleeping in your own perspiration; (b) it is 100% hypoallergenic; (c) unlike other materials, it is 100% resistant to dust mites.



Samina sleep system addresses body's physiological needs to help you achieve deeper, more restful sleep



3. Bedding covers. All SAMINA* sheets, pillowcases, duvet covers and other accessories are made of pure, unbleached damask cotton and are hand-dyed with vegetable dyes.

Friendly to the environment and your body, the SAMINA* system will allow you not only to fall asleep more quickly, but also to enjoy a deeper, more restful sleep. "There's less reason for your body to toss and turn, says director of operations Ralph Haverkate, "because it doesn't need to fight to achieve a position of comfort. The SAMINA* system works in harmony with your body, unlike conventional beds which compete with it."

Sales of the SAMINA* system have been brisk, says Haverkate, because more and more Canadians are discovering that "it's worth investing in an activity [sleep] that occupies one-third of our lives and affects how we feel during the other two thirds."

SAMINA* (tel. 929-6213) is located in the upper concourse of Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre.

Yorkville Design Centre has time for good work only

I don't have time for mediocrity," says Barbara Munn, partner in **Yorkville Design Centre** (tel. 922-5620), the award-winning interior design team headquartered in Hazelton Lanes' upper concourse.

With that simple affirmation, Ms. Munn makes an eloquent statement not only about her own personal ethos, but about the uncompromising approach of the firm she represents.

"Since time is really all we have," she elaborates — "by "we" I mean both myself and the client — it's far too important to waste on mediocrity. It takes as much time to do something badly as to do it well, and one good thing is worth a thousand mediocre things." In practical terms, she continues, this might mean devoting a limited budget to the impeccable treatment of a single room rather than attempting to stretch this budget over a whole house or office.

Yorkville Design Centre: making every detail count

For someone who places such a premium on time, Munn certainly gives of it generously, as do her associates. In a unique offer that has proven wildly popular, two of YDC's design professionals will visit your office or home and, for $250, offer the kind of consultation normally associated with five-to-six figure design projects.

During the session, you can feel free to ask any and every question — from where to hang your favourite pictures to which colour of wall paint to use — and have them expertly answered. Moreover, you'll receive some very specific advice on what route to take to achieve your interior design goals, with no strings attached and no pressure to carry the process one step further.

For those who do wish to proceed, however, these sessions help to establish rapport. Since interior design decisions often run into the many thousands of dollars, says Munn, it's essential for the client to feel comfortable with the firm they select. The interview allows customers to determine whether the necessary chemistry exists, and the insights gained in these few hours often enable them to save thousands of dollars by ruling out ill-conceived ideas and focusing on productive ones.

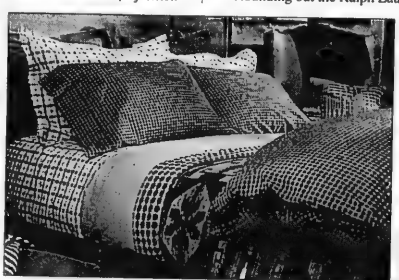
Munn is particularly proud of YDC's 17-year association with Downsview Kitchens, whose commitment to excellence mirrors her own. As noted by *Toronto Life*, YDC has "... a fine tradition of craftsmanship as well as style," and is "probably the finest kitchen department of any supplier [of Downsview Kitchens] in the city."

With an impeccable track record of successful projects spanning the entire North American continent, Yorkville Design Centre is refreshingly approachable, in every sense of the word. While the range of services offered is broad — from decorating a single bedroom to designing an entire house or office building — the firm's goal is highly specific: to do good work only, regardless of the size of project or the budget involved.

AVENUE ROAD AT YORKVILLE
2 hours free parking with $10 purchase

Ralph Lauren Home Collection is richly-textured melting pot

With the same flair that characterizes his clothing collections, **Ralph Lauren** has left his indelible signature on the landscape of interior design. Eschewing conventions right, left and centre, he merges apparently disparate elements, colours and patterns into an earthy, richly-textured whole that says "This is home." Like the melting pot that is America — and, by extension, Canada — the Lauren look transposes Old World elements to the West with style and panache. Exuding urban warmth, yet echoing the rural experience, a Lauren room draws you in, sits you down, and invites you to stay indefinitely.



American mosaic: this Ralph Lauren bedding treatment is a melting pot of diverse design elements

Enhancing the Ralph Lauren home experience is the warm, light-filled enclave it occupies in the Polo Shop (tel. 968-8686) in Hazelton Lanes' upper concourse. Eighteen-foot ceilings and massive picture windows afford a picturesque view of a Lauren bedroom setting, the focal point of the collection.

A striking line of bed linens replete with stripes, checks, solids, and prints, all luxuriously woven in the finest fabrics, invite you to mix, match, or create your own patchwork-quilt-of-a-look.

Enhancing the collection's appeal is the availability of a wide variety of Ralph Lauren original fabrics. From the shop's selection of swatches, you can order material for drapes, sofa covers, and many other items. The store will be happy to have them custom sewn to your specifications if you're not inclined to do the sewing yourself.

Also available are luxurious cotton towels, including a generously oversized bath sheet that has proven highly popular with customers.

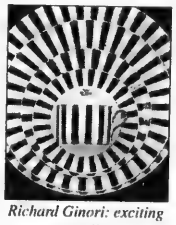
Rounding out the Ralph Lauren home collection are wallpaper, home fragrances, and a host of accessories including fine bone china, crystal, and flatware. Dignified but informal, each item builds comfort into your home.

Furniture (on display in the store, and available by special order) is also an important component of the Ralph Lauren look. Some snapshots: A luxurious writer's chair bound in distressed leather. Comfortable yet firm, it's to be lived in, not admired at a distance. Nearby, an equally comfortable everyday armchair, unexpectedly clad in denim.

Particularly prevalent throughout the collection, denim takes on a symbolic significance. In one broad, blue brush stroke, Lauren seamlessly bridges the gap between personal clothing and home clothing. Casual but never careless, both can be enjoyed in the welcoming space of the Ralph Lauren boutique at Hazelton Lanes.

Conway and Gower highlights Hazelton Lanes treasure hunt

A treasure chest brimming with riches, **Conway and Gower** (tel. 923-7003) is fairly bursting at the seams with fine furniture, china, Irish linens and antiques. You won't have to dive for this booty, however; a simple stroll through the west wing of Hazelton Lanes' upper concourse will suffice to unearth it.



Richard Ginori: exciting new patterns

For as little as $10 or as much as $12,000, Conway and Gower offers "everything for the dining room but the food."

Literally every item in the shop is hand-picked by proprietor Hilary Jones, and many are one of a kind, leading to an interesting dilemma: the item you fall in love with today may not be there tomorrow.

A boon to anyone seeking a unique gift, Conway and Gower not only offers many items unavailable elsewhere, but also provides free gift wrapping, storage and local delivery. Worldwide delivery can also be arranged, often with a considerable tax saving.

Fine furniture is a Conway and Gower mainstay

Specializing in Bridal Registry, Conway and Gower offers 10% off all pre-wedding registry purchases and gives the couple a gift both on their wedding day and on their first anniversary. Phone and mail orders are accepted to assist out-of-town guests.

"Helvellyn" by Cumbria Crystal

New in store are several exciting patterns from the ever-popular Richard Ginori line of fine china, and some wonderful additions to the unparalleled Cumbria collection of fine crystal. And Hilary promises marvellous new Irish linens for spring.

Because Conway and Gower's "merchandise" is an ever-changing mix of hundreds of different items, each visit offers the excitement of finding something new. With the only constants being fine quality and warm personal service, unearthing treasure at Conway and Gower can be an altogether elevating experience.

True luxury living comes to Bathurst and Lawrence

Have you ever thought how pleasant it would be, to enjoy the convenience and amenities of the condominium lifestyle, yet live in a neighbourhood with an established sense of community? If so, then Menkes Developments' Crystal Towers is the right place for you.

Crystal Towers will consist of 126 2 bedroom or 2 bedroom + den condos, ranging in price from $169,900—$323,900. Construction of the first tower began in summer 1996, and will finish in November this year.

About 60% of the condos have already found buyers. As they are brand-new, you will have an opportunity to customize if you purchase now, with the aim of moving in later this year.

Says Mark Cohen of Menkes Developments:

"We have a broad spectrum of residents, from younger first-time owners to couples who find the family home too big, now that their children have grown up and moved out.

"We're looking for people who want the relaxation of condo living, free from the burdens of outdoor upkeep and maintenance — along with the amenities they will find in a neighbourhood with well-established services, and families going back two or three generations."

Crystal Towers is a city centre address just north of Lawrence and Bathurst. It is within easy walking distance of schools, synagogues, a library and the newly renovated Lawrence Plaza, and has ready access to the "kosher shopping" strip along Bathurst from Wilson down to Eglinton. It is also close to the 401 and the Yonge and Spadina subway lines.

Many people in the community grew up and went to school in this neighbourhood. It has a blend of old and new generations, both in population and buildings, with many pleasant, well-tended family homes, plenty of mature trees, and an abundance of parks. Recently, many larger family homes have been built as well. What Crystal Towers brings to the area is a complement to what is already there.

Separate from the building itself is a mansion-like lobby, finished in traditional marble, wood and accent brass in an air of understated elegance. From this lobby, a 24 hr. concierge will direct all visitors, deliveries and tradespeople, and keep a watchful eye on security.

Crystal Towers is well furnished with amenities. Outdoors, there is a pool, a sun deck, and an extensive landscaped area for taking walks. Indoors, you will find an exercise room, whirlpool, "his and hers" saunas and change rooms, a multi-purpose party room, lounge, hobby room, and a suite for overnight guests.

At Crystal Towers, your security is important. There is perimeter fencing around the grounds. Every suite has fire and smoke detectors, and a personal intrusion alarm with a hot-line button for direct voice communication with the concierge; and there are video cameras in common areas, including the underground parking garage.

In addition, as a resident of Crystal Towers, you will receive a PAL personal alarm. This can be carried in a pocket or worn on a key chain, to signal the concierge in case of trouble.

Every suite has 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, an eat-in kitchen and a balcony; some have 2 bedrooms + den. All sizes, ranging from 902— 1,646 sq. ft., are distinguished by generous use of space. In addition to the sizeable storage areas found in most suites, lockers can be purchased.

Finishings are of high quality. If you purchase now, there are many features you can choose from: cabinets, carpeting, wall and floor tiles, lighting and interior design. "Construction," explains Cohen, "is still at a stage where people have a choice."

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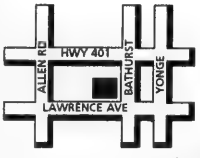

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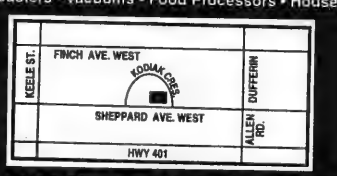

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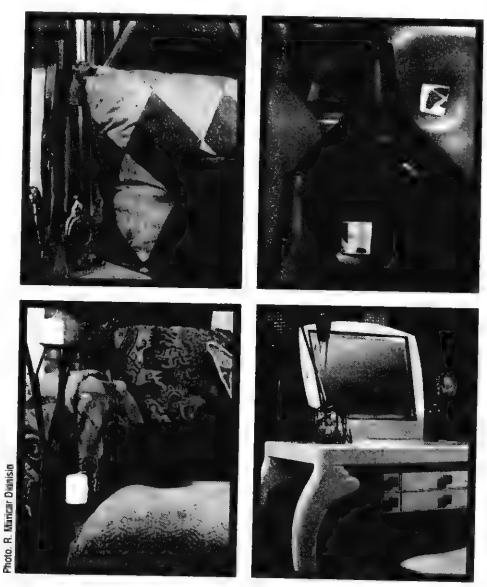

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From coast to coast

Fight promised to keep Judaic studies program

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Concordia University religious studies chair Ira Robinson says he is going to fight to save the university's honors program in Judaic studies, one of 23 arts and sciences programs recommended to be axed.

Robinson, who is a Jewish studies professor, said the honors program should not be dropped because it would not save the university money and its academic quality is not in question.

The loss of the program would mean top students in Judaic studies would not have the option of taking the more intensive course of study recommended for those planning to go on to the graduate level, he said.

The issue, he underlined, is not loss of jobs.

The report before the Concordia administration also calls for the reduction of courses in more than 40 other mostly graduate and specialty arts and sciences programs, in order to cut $5 million from the university's budget over three years. The report was written by vice-rector (academic) Jack Lightstone, who was himself a religious studies professor.

The Education Ministry has told Concordia it must reduce its spending by $20 million, or 11 per cent.

The number of honors Judaic students is very small, said Robinson, maybe four or five of the current 38 undergraduates.

Undergraduates have the choice of taking a regular BA with a major in Judaic studies, or the honors programs, which is more demanding. Honors students earn more credits in their field, for example, taking three instead of two years of Hebrew, Robinson said. They are also required to write a thesis, which involves taking a six-credit honors seminar and working with a faculty adviser.

Robinson said he can make a strong case that the time the four religious studies professors spend with the honors students does not cost the university anything above the salaries they are paid for their regular teaching load. The honors seminar, for instance, is given as a tutorial "with no financial implications."

The Judaic studies program, which is about 25 years old, also has MA and PhD levels. This year, there are 10 or 11 master's and three doctoral students, Robinson said.

The number of undergraduates has increased somewhat in recent years, while the graduate section took a dip in the mid-'80s when McGill University launched its master's program in Jewish studies, he said.

Especially serious Judaic students might opt for McGill or another university if Concordia loses its honors program, he suggested.

Graduates tend to go on to careers as teachers in Jewish schools or study for the rabbinate. A few enter other graduate programs, such as social work, with a view to becoming community professionals.

A significant number of students take Judaic studies simply out of interest, including mature students often as old as their 70s or 80s, he said.

A chair in Canadian Jewish Studies is expected to be established in the next few months at Concordia, which will enable the university to hire another full-time professor in the program, Robinson noted.

A $250,000 multiculturalism grant from the former Conservative government provided the seed money for the chair in 1993. Since then the Concordia capital campaign has brought the total up to $750,000, Robinson said.

Montreal federation names executive vice-president

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Danyael Cantor, seven-year director of FEDERATION CJA's Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) drive, has been named to succeed Steven Drysdale as the federation's executive vice-president, starting immediately.

The appointment capped a 2½ month search involving about "10 or 11 candidates," search committee chair Robert Vineberg said.

It also will put Cantor, 43 in the community spotlight, front and centre as he takes on the Jewish community's top professional position, as FEDERATION CJA gears up for its 80th anniversary year.

The naming of Cantor came as part of a dual announcement.

Maxyne Finkelstein, director of community planning who was reportedly also vying for the federation's top position, was promoted to a newly created post: executive director of the federation.

The two appointments, at least for the time being, leave open two high-level positions made vacant by the promotions: the directorship of the CJA campaign and community planning department.

Danyael Cantor

Drysdale will "undertake new responsibilities for FEDERATION CJA," the federation said in a press release.

From coast to coast

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Appeal Court confirms jail term for neo-Nazi

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario Court of Appeal recently confirmed a 12-month jail sentence imposed on white supremacist leader George Burdi, calling his attack on a female anti-racist demonstrator "severe and cowardly."

"This was a brutal assault committed in the name of racist ideology," the appeal court stated. "As a result of the assault, the complainant suffered a broken nose, temporarily lost consciousness and had memory problems for weeks."

Employing harsh language to condemn the attack, and the racist ideology that spawned it, the Court of Appeal dismissed Burdi's request that the conviction and sentence be overturned.

The incident that prompted the initial assault charges, trial conviction and subsequent appeal took place in Ottawa in May 1993. At the time, Burdi was leader of Church of the Creator and the lead singer in a band called Ra Ho Wa, which stands for Racial Holy War.

Following a concert, which was picketed by anti-racist demonstrators, Burdi and Heritage Front leader Wolfgang Droege led a group of neo-Nazis down the streets of Ottawa. As they marched they gave Nazi salutes and chanted "sieg heil."

Near the Chateau Laurier, Burdi "charged across the street to attack the anti-racist demonstrators," the court said. Burdi kicked a young female demonstrator in the face, saying "'this is the [expletive] that started the whole thing.'"

In rejecting Burdi's appeal, the Court of Appeal noted "the march through Ottawa streets was designed by Burdi to incite his neo-Nazi followers to a frenzy of hatred. In this he succeeded and the resulting attack...was an inevitable outcome of his deplorable tactics."

The court agreed with the trial judges assessment that Burdi's "aim in life was to promote hatred, violence and racism...It was not merely the brutality of the assault or the assailant which made the sentence fit, but also the unconscionable racist context in which it took place.

"The purpose of the white supremacist organization of which [Burdi] was a leader was to use violence and hatred for racist ends. The incident on May 29 was a planned and deliberate outgrowth of his malevolent strategy and deserves the strongest possible censure," the court ruled.

Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada applauded the decision. Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber noted that a 12-month jail term is considered severe for a first offender.

The decision "gives a strong message to hatemongers that their belief system will work against them when it comes to hate-motivated crimes," Farber said.

"The court's condemnation of racism...sends a powerful message that racist violence will not be tolerated in Ontario and that lower court's decisions to enhance the sentences of individuals who commit racially motivated crimes will be upheld," said Rochelle Wilner, national chair of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

George Burdi

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From coast to coast

Winnipeg funeral home gets new executive committee

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Chesed Shel Emes, one of North America's few non-profit Jewish funeral homes, has new leadership.

A five-person executive committee was elected to a one-year term beginning Jan. 1. Executive members are co-chairs Hillel Kravetsky and Hart Lazer; treasurer and house chair Rae Margolis; secretary Gordon Pullan; ritual chair Israel Hendler; and constitutional chair and immediate past president Ike Permut.

Shomer Shabbes

"Mr. Permut and the former executive were looking for younger people to participate," says Kravetsky. "We feel that our executive committee is a good blend of old and new members."

Lazer says everything is continuing to function along halachic lines, as always, at the Chesed Shel Emes. All synagogues in the city are in agreement that the funeral home should operate according to Halachah so that its services will remain accessible to all members of the community, says Kravetsky.

On the administrative level, however, the new executive is instituting change by developing written policies and procedures. "We believe that [this] will help future chairpeople," Kravetsky says.

Also new to the Chesed Shel Emes is executive director Rena Boroditsky. "Rena has established a very good rapport with the synagogues," Kravetsky says.

The new executive wants to make Chesed Shel Emes more widely based in the community, Kravetsky says, and he and Lazer have already met with the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and the city's Council of Rabbis.

"We can always use more volunteers," says Lazer. One of the difficulties the organization faces is finding people to prepare according to ritual and watch over the deceased until burial, as dictated by Jewish law.

"Ideally these mitzvot should be done only by people who are shomer Shabbas," says Lazer. "We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to do the mitzvot."

The new executive believes it is important to go out into the community and educate people about the rituals involved in death and burial. "Most people have no idea what to expect until they need this service," says Kravetsky. "This doesn't have to be a mysterious process."

The committee is also planning to undertake an administrative review of its procedures to get a handle on its costs and income. "We aren't going to rush into this though," says Kravetsky. "We can't afford to lose site of our first priority — to provide Winnipeg's Jewish community with affordable burials done according to Halachah."

CUBAN CHILDREN OPEN GIFTS FROM CANADIANS
Some younger members of Havana's Jewish community open Chanukah gifts received from Canadian Jews. Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, arranged the shipment, which included food and religious supplies. The region's Moess Chittin fund financed the purchase, flown to Cuba aboard the private jet of film producer Robert Lantos. CJC has been organizing transport of supplies to Cuba's Jews for about 30 years.

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From coast to coast

Report warns of 'potentially devastating blow' to schools

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — With serious cuts in Quebec goverment funding of Jewish day schools expected in coming years, the community should immediately begin to explore ways of reducing costs, such as raising fees, sharing administrations, regrouping schools with similar ideologies or, in the case of the schools in the worst financial shape, becoming part of the public system, according to the chair of a major study of Jewish education.

Robert Zittrer, a chartered accountant and former Jewish Education Council (JEC) president, headed the Commission on Jewish Education, appointed by FEDERATION CJA to review the educational, administrative and financial needs of day and supplementary schools over the next five years.

The recently released report calls for "contingency plans" against a "potentially...devastating blow" to the schools that would result from the anticipated cutbacks.

The Estates-General on Education report last fall recommended the eventual elimination of all government funding of private schools in Quebec. This month, Education Minister Pauline Marois is expected to make known in her spending estimates how $700 million will be trimmed from her budget.

"Based on the information already provided by the government, new initiatives for revenue generation and cost cutting will have to be explored," Zittrer states in the introduction to the commission's 100-page report.

The suggestion that some schools might go public is based on Bill 107, passed by the former Liberal government to transform the school system from religion-based to language-based. It would allow individual schools to have a denominational character if the parents wished.

The report paints a picture of a day school system that is already in a precarious financial state.

While overall enrolment has been stable, the numbers for the mainstream anglophone schools are down. Some schools are carrying heavy mortgages.

The top recommendation is that FEDERATION CJA increase its grants, currently $1.55 million, until they cover 90 percent of the costs of subsidized students over the next five years. At that level, the projected cost to the community in 2001-02 is $2.35 million.

Supplementary education, such as afternoon and Sunday schools or classes in public schools, is given considerable attention by the commission. It recommends FEDERATION CJA grants increase from $60,000 to $160,000, and that a marketing campaign be launched to raise enrolment from over 900 currently to 2,000.

"While Montreal's communal agencies have traditionally concentrated on day school education, we recognize the importance of strong and effective supplementary school programs in strengthening the Jewish identity of those who choose this option," the report states.

It is also suggested the JEC cooperate pedagogically with the growing number of Judaica programs offered in public, as well as private, schools.

Another major recommendation is improving the teaching of French and Quebec culture in the high schools, both formally and informally. The commission found high school students are losing the fluency in French they gained at the elementary level, where 14 hours of French a week is taught.

The hiring of consultants in educational technology and special education to serve all the schools is also urged. The latter would help schools find ways to keep youngsters who have problems coping with a tri- or quadrilingual curriculum."

A "second chance" program should be set up at Herzliah High School with community funding, to allow students who did not attend elementary Jewish schools to enter Secondary I there, with tutoring in Jewish studies.

Elsewhere, the report calls for "dialogue" with the Federation of Teachers of Jewish Schools (FTJS), the union at most schools, and the JEC, FEDERATION CJA , the principals' association and the Association of Jewish Day Schools.

The commission comments that, at present, talks between the community and the FTJS are limited to collective agreement negotiations, and there is no forum for exchange on educational issues.

Students send aid to Saguenay

MONTREAL — For students attending Montreal Jewish schools, lending a helping hand to those in need is nothing unusual.

Traditionally that help has been sent to fellow Jews in places such as Israel, Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union.

Students from 12 local schools, however, recently chose to offer their assistance to a new location — Quebec's Saguenay region. The area, about 500 kilometres northeast of Montreal, was ravaged last summer by floods that cut a path of disaster through eastern Quebec.

Jewish students, who had learned about the natural disaster in their classrooms, responded by writing letters and shipping toys, books and other gifts to fellow students at Ecole St. Joseph in La Baie and Ecole Polyvalente Frechette in L'Anse St. Jean. Enterprises Dico-Robert also chipped in, sending dictionaries to older high school students.

"It was a very interesting experience for our kids," said Eva Kuper, principal of Jewish People's School and Peretz School in Cote St. Luc. "We organize food drives within the Jewish community all the time, but this was a chance for our students to explore the links that exist among all people."

Gilles Bouchard, principal of Ecole St. Joseph elementary school says his students were delighted to know that fellow Quebec schoolchildren from a different cultural background had taken an interest in their plight.

"The reaction was just incredible," he said by telephone. "They were surprised that kids they didn't know would go out of their way to send along gifts."

The shipment was coordinated by the Jewish Education Council of Montreal, in cooperation with FEDERATION CJA (the Federation of Jewish Community Services of Montreal), the Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region, the Hellenic Congress of Quebec and the Association of Principals of Jewish Schools.

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Budget may benefit charities

[Cont'd. from page 1]

province, he said, is two years behind on its charitable regulations. "If they don't follow now, they'll be even more behind."

In Toronto, the budget was praised as having "only positive repercussions" for charitable giving.

In a statement, Michael Daren, vice-chair of UJA Federation's 1997 campaign, said Canada is moving toward completely removing restrictions on charitable giving. "Total donations will not be restricted by someone's income," Daren said. "You'll be able to give however much you want."

Daren said he would like to see even more tax relief for donations of real estate to charities.

CJC had mixed reviews for the budget.

While CJC was "gratified" to see renewed attention to social programs, it expressed concern about the government's ability to maintain standards as it hands more powers to the provinces.

In a statement, Sheva Medjuck, chair of CJC's national law and social action committee, cited the new child tax benefit as "promising in principle" but "well short" of what is required to fight child poverty.

CJC stresses need for job creation

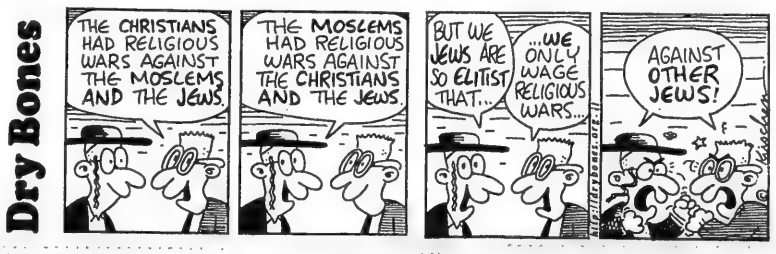
The budget will increase Ottawa's contribution to current child tax benefits, freeing up provincial funds. The provinces have said they would use that money to get people off welfare.

Lowering welfare rolls is laudable, CJC said, but it must be accompanied by job creation.

As well, CJC welcomed more money for children's health programs, but said that must be seen in light of ongoing cuts in transfer payments to provinces.

The establishment of the $150 million Health Transition Fund is also a good step, CJC said, but it too "falls short" of previous recommendations to expand Medicare to include home care and a drug plan.

CJC acknowledged other "positive" features of the budget, including tax relief for persons with disabilities, and the incentives to enhance charitable giving.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Conversion bill concerns U.S. Jewish leaders

Voice concerns with Sharansky

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A delegation of American Jewish leaders representing all streams of Judaism expressed their "deep concern" over pending conversion legislation in a meeting with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky.

Sharansky met last weekend with the leaders, members of the Jewish Agency for Israel Board of Governors, in his capacity as chair of the ministerial committee on Diaspora affairs.

The leaders, all members of the newly formed Jewish Agency board of governors committee for the unity of the Jewish people, presented Sharansky with a document calling on the government to "abstain from" legislation altering the religious status quo and "not to allow any change in the Law of Return."

The pending conversion bill would ban non-Orthodox conversions in Israel and would prevent Israeli citizens and residents from obtaining them abroad.

Although the bill does not mention conversions performed abroad for non-Israeli residents, some Orthodox Knesset members have said they would seek legislation to curtail the Law of Return.

The Law of Return allows anyone to immigrate to Israel who was born to a Jewish mother or who has been converted to Judaism. For years, Orthodox parties have sought to amend the law to require that conversions be carried out by Orthodox rabbis.

But Israeli leaders, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have balked at legislation that would alter the long-standing policy of recognizing Reform and Conservative conversions abroad.

According to a Jewish Agency statement released after the meeting, the leaders asked Sharansky to keep an open mind about issues of concern to American Jews.

Eric Yoffie, president of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations, told Sharansky, "Just as you ask us to understand Israeli reality, you have to understand the reality of U.S. Jewry," according to the statement.

"So that we will remain one people, three million Reform Jews need to know that the government of Israel understands them, knows them, is aware of their problems and considers them legitimate," Yoffie said.

After the meeting, Vera Golovensky, Sharansky's adviser on Diaspora affairs, said that even though the minister recognizes "the political reality in Israel," he also seeks to prevent a further erosion of the religious rights of Reform and Conservative Jews.

While the meeting was in progress, about a dozen Reform and Conservative activists held a small vigil outside the ministry building protesting the conversion bill.

One of the protesters, Yoram Danker, said he had braved the stormy weather because the state refuses to recognize his 5-year-old daughter as Jewish.

"We adopted her five years ago and went to the rabbinate to have her converted," Danker says. "We were told that she could not be converted unless we lived an Orthodox lifestyle. I'm from an Orthodox family, but I'm not Orthodox."

Danker said his daughter's Conservative conversion had not been recognized by Israel's Ministry of the Interior, which issues identity cards.

"I want my daughter's identity card to say she is Jewish. I feel this country owes me that much."

(JTA staff writer Cynthia Mann contributed to this report.)

Palestinians oppose Israeli expansion

By JON IMMANUEL AND DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian Authority cabinet issued a sharply worded statement after its recent meeting in Gaza, warning that the situation in Jerusalem is "explosive" and that Israel is delivering "a fatal blow" to the peace process with its plans to build a new neighborhood across the Green Line.

The statement said, "The Palestinian leadership is very worried by the explosive situation in the City of Jerusalem after the latest Israeli claims which are designed to isolate the city and Al-Aksa Mosque from the rest of the West Bank.

"The Israeli government gave itself the illegal right to change the current status quo, violating all the international agreements, the Oslo agreement and US guarantees. ... It is trying to change the historical, demographic, legal and geographic position of the entire city. ... It is aiming a fatal blow at the peace process. Noble Jerusalem is a red line and there is no peace between the two peoples without a just peace in Jerusalem, and [while] denying the rights of our people in their city and in their holy land."

The statement followed comments by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that he would bring the matter of beginning to build at Har Choma to the cabinet for approval next week. Netanyahu tried to sweeten the development for Palestinians last week by promising up to 1,000 units for Arabs. Faisal Husseini, the senior Palestinian official in Jerusalem, rejected this, saying it was like offering back a small part of stolen goods.

The Palestinian warnings of violence are backed by last September's riots which killed 70 people when the Western Wall tunnel exit was opened, in which the threat to Al-Aksa, though unfounded, was invoked. The issue unites all Palestinian factions and at the opening of a national dialogue conference to begin in Nablus with the participation of all Palestinian factions, including Hamas, Israeli plans in Jerusalem are certain to be the major rallying point.

Prior to Netanyahu's visit to Jordan, the country's Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti called on Netanyahu not to build in eastern Jerusalem.

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Rabbi David Kalb - Young Israel Of Westport-Norwalk, Westport, Connecticut
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MeORoT is an independent program run in collaboration with Avi Chai, EDAH, The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, and the Max Stern Division of Community Services of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary an affiliate of Yeshiva University.MeORoT is housed at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, 3700 Henry Hudson Parkway, Bronx (Riverdale) New York 10463: Phone (718) 796-4730, Fax (718) 884-3206.MeORoT welcomes inquiries about its fellowship program. Rabbi Barry Gelman, Administrator

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Government may fall: minister

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The government will have to resign and new elections will have to be held if either Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi is found to have been directly involved in the Bar-On affair, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said last week.

Kahalani spoke after Channel 1 reported that part of the police questioning of Netanyahu last week was held under caution. Channel 1 commentator Amnon Abramovitz said Netanyahu evaded many questions, and replied to others "I don't know" and "I don't remember," even though they referred to events of a few weeks ago.

In addition, the police found several contradictions between Netanyahu's testimony and that of cabinet secretary Danny Naveh.

However, Netanyahu adviser David Bar-Illan, while refusing to comment on the nature of the investigation, said, "I'm sure that no one in the Prime Minister's Office will be implicated in any kind of wrongdoing."

The latest developments in the investigation are creating political turmoil, and both coalition and opposition politicians began speaking over the weekend of the possibility of the government's falling in the wake of the inquiry.

Speaking to Army Radio, Kahalani said there are red lines which if crossed mean the end of the government. He said if a charge sheet is presented against the prime minister, "The government will fall, it will not be able to continue functioning, because it will be losing the public's confidence. At this stage, [if this happens,] I think, it must resign."

In other developments in the case, Channel 1 reporter Ayala Hasson reported that Roni Bar-On's name was to have been raised as a candidate for attorney general on Jan. 3 in the cabinet, a week before he was appointed.

However, the plan to bring up Bar-On's name on Jan. 3 was put off, after Netanyahu was warned separately by three attorneys — Dan Avi-Yitzhak, David Shimron and Yitzhak Molcho — not to appoint him. Shimron said the appointment "smelled bad" and also warned of the damage it could cause.

On that same day, Israel Radio broadcast the report that Shas was considering not supporting the Hebron agreement. Hasson said that Aryeh Deri, who was furious that Bar-On's candidacy was not promoted in the cabinet, was behind the radio report.

Director-general of the Prime Minister's Office Avigdor Lieberman said following that report, "Deri is sending us threats on the Hebron agreement," Hasson reported.

He also revealed that the police investigators were astounded to discover identical phrasing in the testimonies of a number of people, of all ranks, which left no doubt in investigators' minds that they had coordinated their versions of events.

Avi-Yitzhak denied on the Channel 1's reports by Abramovitz and Michael Doron that he provided the police with recordings of his conversations with Deri and other involved parties.

He also denied having discussed the possibility of a plea bargain with Deri in November, and that he ever asked to be attorney general, discussed it with Deri or tried to "sell" him the idea of a general pardon on the state's 50th anniversary.

Hanegbi is believed to be one of several individuals scheduled to be questioned again this week as the investigation continues, with some to be questioned under warning. Several other individuals who have not yet been questioned also will be called in to clear up matters raised in the investigation.

The State Attorney's Office is to begin taking a more active role in the case and will soon have to decide whether there is enough material to file indictments, police sources said. Police believe indictments could be filed against some of the suspects, at least for breach of trust, but such a decision will not be easy since it will depend on legal interpretations of the facts.

Netanyahu may be called on to testify again, police sources said. Police said Netanyahu may have been guilty of breach of trust if he indeed gave in to Deri's and others' alleged blackmail attempt, and thereby decided on Bar-On's appointment.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, a prominent Likud figure, called on Netanyahu to form a national unity government immediately, as a way out of his predicament vis-a-vis the Bar-On affair.

West Bank homes flooded

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — More than 500 homes in Kalansuwa village in northern Israel were flooded when two rivers overflowed after a torrential rain swept the area last Saturday.

Scores of people were trapped in their homes and had to be rescued, initially by bulldozers and tractors because the flood water was too deep for trucks, and later in a rubber dinghy with an outboard motor brought in by the navy.

Soldiers from the Home Front Command and police also helped with the rescue operations.

"Kalansuwa has been turned into Venice," local council chair Yusef Takaruri said.

"More than 500 homes have been swamped and all the roads and streets are under water, to a depth of between one and 1½ metres.

"I am calling on the prime minister himself to intervene and help resolve the problems here for us because the Agriculture and Interior ministries have not solved the problems.

"Our agriculture also has been hit, with greenhouses destroyed and fields flooded. We can't put up with the situation every two, three or four years," he said.

Flooding also was reported in the centre of Nahariya, as well as other problems on many roads in the northern and central districts, which were the hardest hit by the cold, wet front.

Heavy snow blocked roads on the Golan and a special mission had to be mounted by Magen David Adom to take a pregnant woman, apparently about to deliver her baby, from Majdal Shams to Tzfat's Rebecca Sieff Hospital.

The Hermon ski site was closed because of the heavy snowfall, although staff said the centre would open later in the week for skiers and visitors, when the weather clears.

In another weather-related drama, police and members of the Golan mountain rescue team plucked 10 people to safety after they were stranded in their vehicles in thick mud and flood waters in the Jordan River channel north of the Arik bridge.

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Zeigerman named ambassador

CJN staff

TORONTO — Dror Zeigerman, Israel's former consul general to Toronto and Western Canada, has been appointed by the Foreign Ministry of Israel as its next ambassador to Great Britain. Zeigerman is expected to take up his responsibilities in December.

The Week in Israel

Feb. 17

• The Supreme Court reduced the three-month prison sentence of former Kach activist Baruch Marzel to three months community service. Marzel was convicted of causing public disorder in calling Faisal Husseini a murderer.

• Israel filed a complaint with the Palestinian Authority concerning attempts by Palestinian officials to persuade a Bedouin tracker for the IDF to spy on Israel.

Feb. 18

• Immigration dropped by about eight percent in 1996 to 70,600. More than 80 percent of immigrants to Israel arrived from the former Soviet Union.

• Police questioned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at his office, in connection with allegations that the short-lived appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general was part of a political deal.

Feb. 19

• Israel summoned the Egyptian ambassador to express its displeasure over Egypt's decision to charge Israeli, Azam Azam, with espionage. Foreign Minister David Levy called upon the United States to intervene on Azam's behalf.

Feb. 20

• The hard-line Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine announced that it renounced the use of violence against Israel and wants to play a constructive role in Israel-Palestine relations.

• Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri denied his former lawyer's claim that he had been involved in an alleged political regarding Roni Bar-On.

Feb.21

• Internal Minister Avigdor Kahalani denied reports he had wiretapped rival Ronni Milo during the 1993 Tel Aviv mayoral campaign. "It never happened; I'm as straight as a ruler," Kahalani told reporters.

(With files from JTA)

Mideast Analysis

will return next week

Courts in Israel expanding their role

The first question in the first class on my first day of law school at the Hebrew University seemed easy: The professor wanted to know if Israel has a constitution. Indeed, several students raised their hands and, stating the obvious, said no.

They were wrong. The rest of the year was spent discussing the unwritten constitution of Israel, i.e. the relationships among the various branches of government. Of course, Israel doesn't have a formal, written constitution, and the courts in this country traditionally took a careful approach in interpreting their powers.

Even so, some of the bolder judges overturned bureaucratic decisions which violated civil rights. Such judgments were based on the fundamental principles of a democratic country, such as freedom of speech and equality before the law.

Over the past couple of decades, the Supreme Court has intervened more and more in actions of the government and its bodies, developing the theory that all governmental actions have to be legal, and to be legal they have to be reasonable. Judges have stated that a decision isn't reasonable if it is blatantly discriminatory or one-sided or if the person making it doesn't consider all the relevant information.

The expanding role of the courts, while not always consistent, and not always progressive, has gradually created a list of rights which, even without a written constitution, protect the citizen. Nowadays, every government minister and clerk knows that decisions can be subjected to judicial review, and even overturned.

The courts no longer permit seemingly arbitrary decisions, or those which would curtail basic human liberties with no pressing need (of course the one major exception is where security is involved, but even that is often carefully scrutinized by the courts).

We've even reached the point where the president of the Supreme Court, Aharon Barak, is of the opinion that there is no issue so political or controversial that the courts are excluded.

According to Barak, the court may even dictate whether a soldier can move to the right or to the left. The court may choose not to get involved in a particular issue, but it has the right to if it feels that intervention is warranted.

Nevertheless, the courts always had a red line – they wouldn't overturn Knesset legislation. Over the course of the 1980s, the judges skated close to this red line, canceling decisions of the Knesset (as opposed to actual laws). These decisions usually involved the internal workings of the Knesset, such as the decision to deny then MK Meir Kahane the right to speak.

The real change came when the Knesset passed a series of laws which form the nucleus of a written constitution. The Basic Law of Human Dignity and Freedom, for example, forbids violation of the life, person and respect of a human being, and delineates rights to property, freedom of movement and privacy. These fundamental rights are based on the recognition of the value of the person, the sanctity of human life and freedom. For the first time, the courts can overturn a law which violates these basic freedoms. Barak has called this a "constitutional revolution."

The judges' readiness to intervene (at least some of them) has set the stage for some monumental struggles among the various branches of government because not everyone agrees that the justices of the Supreme Court should be acting as an upper chamber of the Knesset.

In essence, the question is, when does the court cross the line from determining whether an action is legal to actually setting policy? The answer is harder than it may seem.

We have already seen the beginnings of this battle. One example occurred recently when the court ruled that the Ministry of the Interior has to recognize Conservative and Reform conversions.

In another case, the court ordered local religious councils to permit Conservative and Reform representatives to take their seats, against the will of the Orthodox establishment. Several legislators have demanded that the Knesset overturn these rulings, and there is talk of restricting the court's powers.

Some people believe it is undemocratic for a group of appointed people to overrule the will of the government and the legislature. Others see the expanded role of the Supreme Court as the last bastion of human rights, the real protector of democracy. It seems that the only consensus in the country is that we are witnessing a struggle which will determine the nature of Israeli society.

This space will be devoted to trying to convey this aspect of existence in Israel – from the large, constitutional questions, to some everyday issues which touch the lives of Israelis or even of Jews overseas. Some of the issues may be political, others might appear trivial or arcane.

All of them, however, help make up the fabric of life in Israel.

Jonathan Shiff grew up in Canada but now practises law in Jerusalem.

Netanyahu meets Hussein in Amman

[Cont'd. from page 1]
will continue," he said.

Netanyahu said that in final talks with the Palestinians, "we shall need to formalize the status, free status, of the three religions in Jerusalem.

"They will have unimpeded access as they do now to their holy sites," he said. "This is something that I think could be codified and formalized in a final settlement and when the time comes...this will be presented by the Israeli side."

Netanyahu's six-hour visit to Jordan marks the first time the premier has held extensive talks with King Hussein since ties between the two countries deteriorated in the aftermath of the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel exit last September.

When asked by the *Jerusalem Post* whether he feels his personal ties with Netanyahu and bilateral ties between the two countries have been normalized after a half-year interregnum, King Hussein responded, "[Our] relations are extremely cordial. We are very, very frank. We are very open with each other. I think we both act responsibly and I hope we will be able to jointly or individually make our contribution towards the target, which is a comprehensive peace."

He appealed to the media "to give us a chance to address problems without jumping to conclusions, without making speculations.

"We don't want to conduct our policy through the media," he said, noting that the "foundations" existed for a "good atmosphere" to conduct negotiations.

During the same period, officials held parallel talks on other bilateral issues, such as trade and water.

Perhaps the key bilateral issue was Israel's willingness to forgo the establishment of an Aqaba-Eilat airport along the border and to agree that it was more feasible to build an international airport solely in Aqaba, with special arrangements to be made for Israel.

Our sincerest condolences are extended to
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Israel & the Jewish World

Lubavitch seeks to reclaim properties in Russia

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — The Lubavitch movement is planning to ask the Russian government for properties that used to belong to the group.

With this goal in mind, the movement is reorganizing itself in an effort to show the government it is far from being a new group in Russia and that its current activities represent the continuation of a two-century-old Lubavitch presence in the country.

Lubavitch representatives working in Russia gathered last month in Moscow to set up a new body, Agudas Chassidei Chabad Russia.

The new organization will serve as a Moscow-based umbrella group for all Lubavitch-affiliated institutions now operating in Russia.

It will also seek to demonstrate to Russian authorities that the Lubavitch movement, despite its global operations, is working in Russia as a grassroots movement, Lubavitch officials say.

Russian officials do not "like it much when foreigners come and tell them what to do," said Berel Lazar, chair of the Rabbinical Alliance of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the organization of Lubavitch rabbis working across the former Soviet Union (FSU).

"Our message is that we are not foreign in this country, we are local, we are based in the local communities," he added.

After the Russian body is created, Lubavitch officials want to launch an even broader organization that would operate throughout the FSU, where the Lubavitch movement runs dozens of Jewish day schools and Sunday schools.

Most rabbis now working in the FSU are emissaries of the Lubavitch movement.

While some work in the largest cities, others serve in far-flung communities, including towns in Siberia and the Caucasus Mountains.

Lazar said the activity is to let the government know that the Lubavitch movement in the FSU is thriving and that "all that once belonged to it should be given back."

The list of properties that the movement wants returned includes buildings that once housed Lubavitch facilities and properties associated with the succession of Lubavitch rebbes, the movement's spiritual leaders.

Among those buildings is a house located in the southern Russian town of Rostov-on-Don that once belonged to the fifth Lubavitcher rebbe, Sholom Ber Schneerson. The building is now used as an apartment building.

But the efforts may be stymied by Russian law, which allows religious groups to reclaim houses of worship that had been confiscated during the Communist era, but says nothing about other kinds of former communal property.

Lubavitch officials also seek the return of archival documents, most importantly, the Schneerson library.

The library, which consists of 12,000 volumes of books and manuscripts that had been collected by five generations of Lubavitch rebbes, is now stored in the Russian State Library, formerly known as the Lenin Library.

The disputed collection had been confiscated in the early 1920s by Soviet authorities and transferred to the Lenin Library.

The Lubavitch movement has been battling in the Moscow courts since 1990 for the return of the books.

Polish bill gets mixed reaction

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

POLAND – Poland's parliament has approved a bill on state relations with Jewish communities which will allow its nine tiny surviving communities to recover some property lost during and after the Holocaust.

Nazi invaders robbed and murdered most of Poland's 3.5 million Jews during the war and communal property such as synagogues, schools, and ritual baths were then taken over by Poland's post-war communist authorities.

The bill, which easily cleared the lower house but must still pass through the Senate to become law, will provide a legal framework for the surviving congregations, numbering 3,000 to 5,000 Jews, to reclaim some property.

Pawel Wildstein, head of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland, cautiously welcomed the bill but said it had flaws. "The union and I are fairly pleased that after 800 years of our existence on Polish soil we have got a basic document like this law regulating relations between the state and the Jews," Wildstein told Reuters.

He criticized some aspects of the bill, including a clause preventing claims on property which has already been sold or passed on to third parties such as private individuals.

The government estimates that there are some 1,100 cemeteries, 350 synagogues, 28 funeral homes, 27 schools, as well as hospitals and other sites that once belonged to Jewish groups.

Some Polish critics of the bill argued it might allow the tiny Jewish minority to inherit a huge legacy which it could not use, while depriving current occupants of such assets.

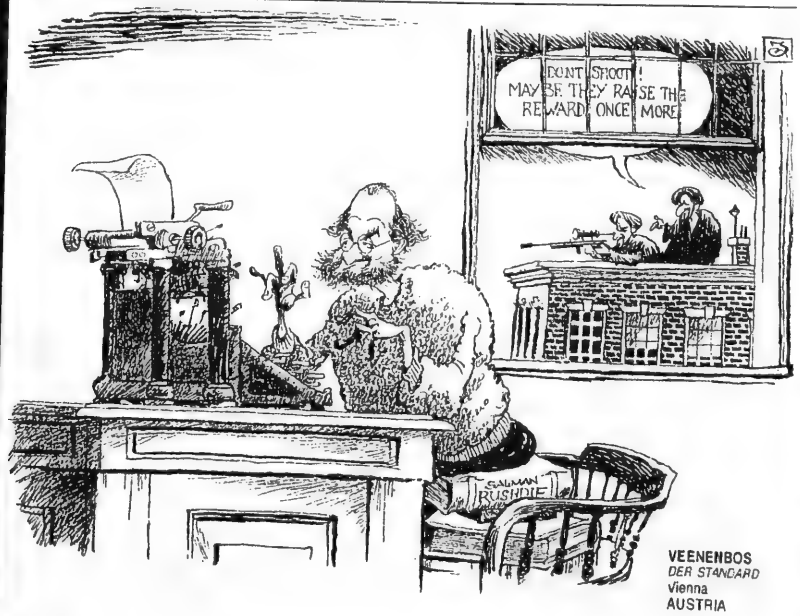
The cash-starved Jewish congregations expect to reclaim some property and derive income from others to pay bills, provide social welfare for the old or look after cemeteries which have fallen into ruin or been vandalized without anyone to tend them.

Wildstein ridiculed talk that the property Jewish bodies could potentially reclaim represented huge fortunes. "These are half-destroyed remnants of synagogue walls, these are 1,064 cemeteries, knocked down, wrecked, profaned. Even if we just tried to put walls up around these cemeteries...the money would not pay for one half," he said.

Jewish organizations abroad, which have long been pressing the Polish government to settle property issues left over from the Holocaust and the communist era, were much more critical of the bill.

"This is a minimalist bill and does not give back the Jewish communities the possession of properties that belonged to them before 1939," said Naphtali Lavie, vice-chair of the Israel-based World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO).

"This law simply legitimizes the plundering and theft of Jewish property on the part of the Nazis in 1939 and the Polish government which inherited the property after 1945," said Lavie.



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Travel, Arts & Business

Photo images, Hebrew text joined in compelling exhibit

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — YAHWEH! is a compelling exhibition of photo-based work by local artist Simon Glass.

On view from Feb. 6 to March 8 at Gallery 44, it addresses the themes of Jewish history, language, folklore and religion.

Featured are four suites (or groupings) of silver prints that combine photographic images with Hebrew text, thus creating a series of juxtapositions and seeming contradictions.

Yahweh, the first suite, is comprised of four prints displaying the letters that spell the unutterable name of G-d in a 6-foot-high vertical column. The brilliant white letters are superimposed upon photographs taken in 1945, after the liberation of various concentration camps.

Although the photos illustrate the emaciated corpses of Holocaust victims, the contrast provided by the white Hebrew lettering overpowers the dark images.

"What I'm trying to do with the Hebrew letters has to do with connecting them to Jewish ideas and these specific events in history," says Glass.

The *Book of Formation* suite features 22 silver prints, each with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in the texture of skin derived from up-close photographs Glass shot of various men and women. Drawing from an ancient kabbalistic creation myth, *Sepher Yetsira*, or *Book of Formation*, the group encapsulates the concept that the entire universe is created from the letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

In *Book of Formation*, Glass arranges these letters in such a pattern that, according to many interpretations of the *Sepher Yetsira*, they can be used to animate a clay figure such as the golem.

Glass enlivens the letters of the Hebrew alphabet by punctuating them with the textures of human skin.

Merciful and Gracious includes nine silver prints, each a photograph taken by the Nazis of prisoners at Auschwitz. Glass took these photos from the Archive of the Polish State Museum at Auschwitz and placed a Hebrew letter on each to spell the words *rachum v'chanun*, merciful and gracious, two of the Thirteen Attributes of G-d. Behind these ornate letters rest the pallid faces of Jewish and non-Jewish prisoners bearing identification numbers.

Golem I and Golem II is the final suite and features two silver prints, each an out-of-focus photograph of a child bathed in deep shades of blue. Written upon the foreheads of these two anonymous children is the word *emet*, truth.

"I chose children because I picture children as being a symbol of hope and positivity and looking towards the future," Glass says.

In addition, Glass selected the word *emet* because, according to Jewish folklore, it also appeared on the forehead of the golem, a clay creature who was brought to life to protect the Jews.

"It seemed particularly appropriate that folklore about a creature called to life to protect the Jews from their enemies is still relevant," Glass says.

However, the golem could be brought to a halt by its master by removing the letter aleph to spell *met*, or death.

As with all of his suites, Glass juxtaposes the narration of truth with the stark realities of death, always with the promise of hope and the power of creation.

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***Golem II*, a silver print with blue toner and gouache.**

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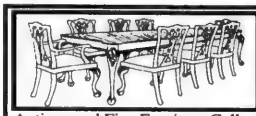
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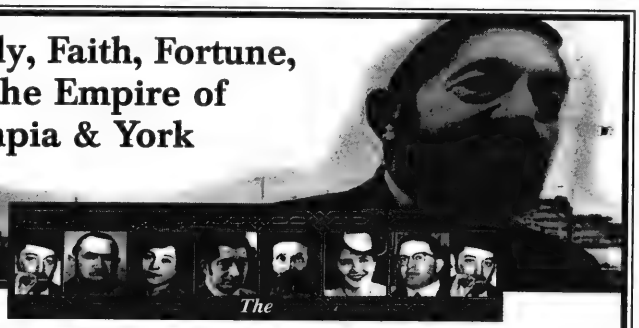
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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Jerry Lewis Stars in *Damn Yankees*

While Jewish film buffs continue to debate whether the buffoonish character that **Jerry Lewis** played in many of his films was a shlemiel or shlemazel, most agree that he is one of the brilliant comics of our time. He appears at the Hummingbird Centre March 12 to 16 in *Damn Yankees*, a musical comedy about a passionate baseball fan who sells his soul to the devil to become a great baseball player.

A revival of the 1950s-era show opened on Broadway two years ago and is now making a 36-city tour. At 70, Lewis seems as frenetically funny as he was in the days when he and **Dean Martin** were partners in their famous comic duo. Eight performances only. Tickets $28 to $73. 416-872-2262.

Music Notes

• The Raye Horowitz Concert, featuring the **Penderecki String Quartet**, features musical selections by **Viktor Ullman** and **Pavel Haas**, prominent Terezin composers who died at Auschwitz. Formed in Poland in 1986, the quartet is now based in Waterloo, but performs around the world. Jewish Music Toronto, Leah Posluns Theatre, March 4, 8 p.m. Adults $20. 416-636-1880, ext. 231.

Prizes & Competitions

• *Bitter Apples*, by **Victoria Keidan** of Alliston, Ont., is the winner of the Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto's sixth Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest. A solid intergenerational drama, the play is slated to receive a professionally directed staged rehearsed reading in mid-May at the Bloor JCC, the committee's sponsor. Keidan is a professional playwright with several produced plays to her credit. For details, call **Bill Emery**, 416-924-6211.

• B&A *Fiction Magazine* is sponsoring a fiction contest for original unpublished stories of 2,500 words or less, in any genre. Prizes are a course valued up to $1,000 at the Humber School for Writers, books valued at $1,000 from Random House, Knopf and Vintage Canada, and $500 from B&A. Fee: $18 per story (includes a one-year subscription). Put your name, phone and story title(s) on a separate page. Entries must be postmarked by March 11. B&A Fiction Contest, Box 702, Stn. P, Toronto M5S 2Y4. 416-535-1233.

Shlemiel or Shlemazel?

"The American distinction between the shlemiel and the shlemazel, summarized in the rule of thumb that says the former spills the soup, the latter is the one into whose lap it falls, provides a helpful basis for definition," writes **Ruth Wisse** in her book *The Schlemiel As Modern Hero*. "The shlemiel is the active disseminator of bad luck, and the schlemazel its passive victim. Or, more sharply defined, the shlemazel happens upon mischance, he has a penchant for lucklessness, but the unhappy circumstances remain outside him, and always suggest the slapstick quality of surprise. The schlemiel's misfortune is his character. It is not accidental, but essential."

In The Spotlight

Named "sterling support" in the *Globe and Mail*'s year-end theatre round-up for her role in **Teresa Tova**'s acclaimed two-woman show *Still The Night*, Toronto-based **Liza Balkan** has been an actor, singer and dancer for some 20 years, both here and in New York, where she studied.

That was Balkan you saw prancing catlike across the stage in the Toronto production of *Cats* about a decade ago. She has also appeared at the Blyth Festival and in numerous other theatrical venues around southern Ontario. Several years ago she staged *Leftovers*, her own one-woman show.

Besides playing Little Bryna in *Still The Night*, Balkan helped shape Tova's beguiling Holocaust story, which may be remounted as a touring production next season. In the meantime, she's keeping busy.

For one thing, Balkan is co-writing and choreographing a dance project for Toronto's Buddies In Bad Times Theatre. She is also revising her second one-woman show, *Wedding Number*, which she performed at the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre for a week last December. "It's about a woman who does catering in synagogues and is coming to terms with her own Jewish identity — and lack thereof."

Chava Albertstein

Israeli chanteuse to perform at gala concert

TORONTO — Israeli singer Chava Alberstein will perform in a gala concert at Beth Tikvah Synagogue on March 3 at 8 p.m.

The concert is jointly sponsored by Beth Tikvah and the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University, Toronto chapter.

Alberstein's records have become hits in Israel and North America, and several have gone gold and platinum. Her repertoire includes a wide range of songs in Hebrew, Yiddish and English. This is Alberstein's first Toronto appearance since 1989.

The concert is part of a campaign honoring Beth Tikvah's 30th anniversary and the Ben-Gurion University Toronto chapter's 18th anniversary.

Tickets are $36. For further information, phone Beth Tikvah Synagogue 416-221-3433 or Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University 416-665-8054.

Leo Rosten, author and Yiddishist, dies at 88

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Leo Rosten, the language maven whose books introduced millions of people around the world to the pleasures of Yiddish, died last week at the age of 88.

Rosten was born in Lodz, Poland, and was brought to the United States as a young child.

He had a distinguished career in the U.S. government as a consultant to the secretary of war and as a social scientist. However, he was best known as a writer.

Among Rosten's more famous works were *The Education of Hyman Kaplan*, its sequel *The Return of Hyman Kaplan*, which were both written under the pen name Leonard Q. Ross, *Captain Newman, M.D.*, and *The Joys of Yiddish*.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Israel's miniature Grand Canyon mesmerizes visitors

By JOSIE NEWMAN
Special to The CJN

THE NEGEV — The undulating curves and ever-changing colors of the Negev Mountains spread before us in a mesmerizing panorama as our jeep driver ground the gears when we bounced over an especially big rut. In my mind's eye, I could see the camel caravans of the Nabateans, spice-traders from the Dead Sea area in the first century BCE, cresting the horizon.

Our driver guides, Ravid and Gil, eventually brought us to a khan, a sort of ancient desert hotel built from stone where the Nabateans would stop for the night on their way to Europe. We were very close to the Ramon Crater, reputed to be the largest known crater on earth. The crater, which is also designated a national geological park, is 40 kilometres long and nine kilometres wide. Park Ramon is home to a variety of vegetation and animals such as ibex, gazelles, wolves, foxes, leopards and rare reptiles, some of which we saw.

Ravid and Gil pulled the jeep over beside a wadi, a dry river bed, which had an incredible amount of plant life growing around it considering the area only gets five or six days of rain per year. We stood under an acacia tree with a vulture's nest built precariously in one of its middle limbs and were given a thorough explanation by Ravid about the nearby bush and its place in the history of the Bedouin people who used to populate the area.

If a Bedouin shepherd boy was attracted to a girl and wanted to propose marriage to her – the Bedouin culture doesn't believe in courtship –he would do it wordlessly by tying one of the branches of the bush in a knot, hide in the hills and wait until the girl passed by the bush. If she stopped to untie the knot, it meant she accepted the proposal: otherwise, the boy was rejected.

The park and crater are in the middle of the Negev Desert in the south of Israel, an area which resembles a miniature Grand Canyon. The crater and nearby Mitzpe Ramon attract hordes of Israeli tourists each year and an increasing number of visitors from other countries.

The Ramon Inn Hotel where we stayed in Mitzpe Ramon was filled with young families wearing hiking boots and knapsacks, ready to explore the crater and surrounding desert area.

Jeep trips

Ravid, 25, and Gil, 33, both joined Desert Shade Tours while on furlough from the Israeli army. They are both experts in the ways of the desert and its inhabitants. The tour we took involved a 2½ hour afternoon drive in the desert and a camel ride on the desert's edge at dusk.

The company usually conducts two or three jeep trips and around five camel rides per day. Desert Shade also offers several more intensive packages, including hiking and camping in the Ramon Crater, camel riding and a jeep tour along the Nabatean spice route and an ultimate five day/four night desert safari of hiking, camel-riding and jeeps in the Negev.

After an exhilarating jeep trek, Ravid and Gil drove us back to company headquarters, a stone building meant to resemble a Bedouin tent, with cabins and bunks behind it for tourists who want to stay overnight or longer.

There, at the edge of the desert, we took a short camel ride and watched the sun slide behind the horizon, casting startling oranges and pinks on the beautiful mountains of the Negev. Within minutes, it was dark and we felt the sharp chill of the desert's night air.

The Negev in Israel is made up of several tourist regions – the Northern and Western Negev, the Negev Highlands and the Eilat Region.

The Northern Negev is best known for Beersheva, its eclectic capital city, near where Abraham and Isaac lived and tended their flocks. The Northern Negev is a transitional area between the desert and the fertile coastal regions.

The Amalekites, Canaanites and Philistines fought for control of the region and left a lot of archeological remains. The Bedouin Heritage Centre, in Rahat north of Beersheva, shows visitors authentic Bedouin tents with women spinning sheep's wool and preparing pita dough.

The Negev Highlands, in the centre of the Negev, are where the mountains and the Ramon Crater are. The Negev Highlands Nature Reserve runs from Mitzpa Ramon on south – it is the largest reserve in Israel and contains the Izin Stream, the second largest in the Negev. In the same general area are the Tzinim and East Ramon Nature Reserve and the Ashosh Stream Reserve.

The Lilot Region, in the southeast near the Egyptian border, is in the midst of the Syrian-African Rift and is full of many colorful rocks. There are many canyons and the Arava Valley which boasts an African savannah of acacia trees and shrubs.

More information can be obtained about Desert Shade Tours by writing 10 Dov Fridman St., Ramat-Gan 52503 or telephoning 972-3-5756885.

The Israel Government Tourist Office can provide extensive information on the Negev. They can be contacted at 964-3784.

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*, April 1995

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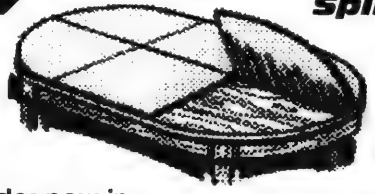

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

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Canadians seeking accommodations in Florida can take advantage of a new free service, Florida 4 Rent. The Toronto-based company is a one-stop toll-free reservation service for hotels, motels, condominiums and vacation home rentals throughout the sunshine state. 416-421-9383 or 1-888-RENT-FLA.

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Passover In The Catskills: Kutsher's Country Club in Monticello, N.Y., is offering a Passover package ranging from $1,071 to $1,458 (US) for nine nights (April 21 to 30) with three meals daily, per person, double occupancy. Cantor David Fisher, renowned for his role as Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*, conducts the religious services, accompanied by the Kutsher Symphony Choir. As well, entertainer Marilyn Michaels sings and performs in the styles of Barbra Streisand, Judy Garland, Bette Midler, Donna Summer, Fannie Brice and others. 514-342-5466.

* * *

San Francisco Photos: Russia in Black and White, an exhibit by Russian Jewish photojournalist Yvgeny Khaldei, is on view at the Jewish Museum in San Francisco until July 17. At 80, Khaldei is considered Russia's greatest combat photographer. The collection of more than 100 black and white photos spans a 30-year period in Russian history from the 1930s to the 1960s, with special focus on the Russian experience in World War II.

* * *

Passover In South Florida: The spacious Palm-Aire Resort & Spa in Pompano Beach, Fla., offers a Passover program that includes two seders, synagogue services, three meals daily, lectures and a variety of entertainments. For children, there is a professional day camp, supervised pre-school playroom and teen program. The mega-resort has five golf courses, two driving ranges, 37 tennis courts, eight swimming pools, fitness and walking trail and many other sports facilities. 213-933- 4044. E-mail to [passover@earthlink.net].

* * *

Laughter in Chicago: Let There Be Laughter!, an original exhibit at the Spertus Museum in Chicago, explores the remarkable connection between American Jews and humor. "From Brice to Bruce, and Caesar to Seinfeld, stroll down an avenue of Jewish merriment in this lively, interactive exhibition of more than 400 artifacts, photographs and documents, as well as radio, television and movie clips." The exhibit revisits classics from the stages of Vaudeville, Broadway, the Borscht Belt, motion pictures, radio, TV and comedy clubs. Until Aug. 17 at 618 S. Michigan Ave. 312-322-1747.

* * *

Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel: Until the end of March, the Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel offers its Real Deal program, through which guests staying three nights or more receive on arrival an $18 credit voucher for each guest-night at the hotel. The credit can be applied against meals, phones, laundry and other hotel charges.

The five-star Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel bills itself as an affordable luxury hotel. The rate, which includes a full Israeli buffet breakfast and service charge, is $65 (US) per person sharing a double room.

Maximum two vouchers per room per night. 6 Wolfson St., Jerusalem 91033. Phone 02-652-8111.

* * *

Artists Fleeing Hitler: A groundbreaking exhibition that explores the impact of forced exile on the lives and works of European artists during the Nazi era opens this week at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Exiles and Emigres: The Flight of European Artists from Hitler focuses on the work of 23 well-known painters, sculptors, photographers and architects who were, like many others, driven out of Germany and later out of Europe.

Artists include Josef Albers, Max Beckmann, Marcel Breuer, Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali, Max Ernst, Andreas and Lyonel Feininger, Walter Gropius, George Grosz, Wassily Kandinsky, Jacques Lipchitz, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Piet Mondrian. The show closes May 11 in Los Angeles. It runs June 19 to Sept. 7 at the Museum of Fine Arts in Montreal, then goes to Berlin.

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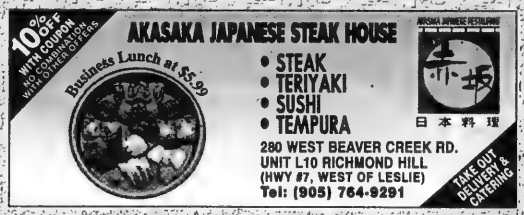

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Business Brief

Diagnosis by TV phone

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Shahal emergency medicine company has unveiled the country's first home application of the integrated services digital network (ISDN) – a TV phone that lets subscribers and Shahal centre doctors see each other and speed diagnosis.

The TV phone, manufactured by British Telecom, links up with Bezeq's ISDN lines.

Images on the 12.7-centimetre color screen are very crisp and lifelike, but the service is not cheap: NIS 5,400 for the device (which is the size of three stacked Tel Aviv phone books) plus NIS 480 for the ISDN phone line.

Shahal, which has 40,000 subscribers around the country for its other services, and charges NIS 150 - NIS 200 per month, does not intend to rent out the phones at present, but only to sell them.

The innovation, which elicited much interest, was kept carefully under wraps: Shahal staffers themselves were shown the device only recently.

Prof. Arye Roth, a medical adviser for Shahal, noted that heart patients are typically reluctant to seek help when suffering symptoms, believing they will go away. This makes the average time between suffering heart attack symptoms and going to the hospital about three hours.

The delay significantly increases the risk of death, as medications to dissolve blood clots in a coronary artery are most effective when administered shortly after the attack. Shahal, which has until now offered a service transmitting electrocardiograms over a phone line, has reduced the delay time to an average of only 44 minutes among its subscribers.

The TV phone is expected to shrink this period even more. Patients with the device feel that medical staff are with them in their home rather than far away, which reduces anxiety about getting ill, Shahal officials said.

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SAD a common winter ailment

By HAYLEY WINE
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

For some people, the winter months are depressing. Hitting the slopes and drinking steaming mugs of hot chocolate in front of the fireplace is not, to them, nirvana.

Dr. Dan Oren, assistant professor of psychiatry at Yale University understands.

"This is more than people simply experiencing the winter time blues," says Oren, an expert on Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). "SAD is a biological depression brought on specifically by the loss of light."

In the winter months the days are shorter, he says. "Even when the sun is up in the winter it's not as high in the sky, which means it is not as bright. In the winter we have on average more rain, snow and overcast skies."

Symptoms of SAD, he says, include recurring feelings of sadness or unhappiness. "People afflicted with SAD want to sleep a lot. They also experience weight gain in the winter. Children may have difficulty concentrating or performing in school."

Although rare, he says, those with severe cases may may be plagued with thoughts of suicide.

He says that that 75 percent of those afflicted with SAD are women and the condition does not seem to be as much of a problem for the elderly.

Typically, Oren says, the average age of onset is the early 20s. However, he adds, some people recall having SAD in early childhood.

Treatment for SAD varies. "For people with mild symptoms, just taking a walk on a sunny day can make a difference," he says."For those who can, vacations to sunny places might work. Those who can't get away can be treated with a florescent light box that produces a bright light from a small area. If necessary, some people are treated with anti-depressants," adds Oren.

Treatment for most people lasts only throughout the winter because, during the summer, people who experience SAD are usually fine, he says.

Oren's interest in SAD stems from his days as a student at Yale. As a chemistry major, he studied the effects of light on organic molecules. While he was doing his medical residency, more and more attention was being paid to the disorder. "I thought this was an interesting puzzle, and I went to work to try to solve it," Oren said.

Currently, he is recruiting volunteers for a study on whether human blood absorbs light in the same way as does plant chlorophyll.

SAD has drawn more attention in recent years because more and more people are reporting symptoms, Oren says. "People know there is an effective treatment."

Lisa S. Lenkiewicz, managing editor of the Connecticut Jewish Ledger *also contributed to this story.*

THAT LONG-DISTANCE FEELING...

Baycrest residents Lillian Burman, 92 (left) and Annie Serlin, 90, speak with relatives overseas, while Moe Freedman of B'nai Brith's Wilson Heights lodge and organizer of the calls, looks on. The recent event marked the 36th year the two organizations coordinated the calls, which are paid for by Wilson Heights lodge.

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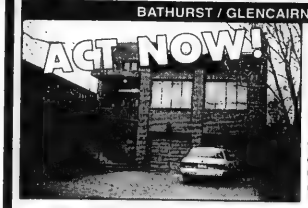

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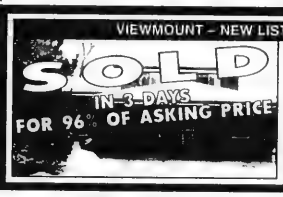

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DJM, 56, tall, fit, sincere, would like to meet a lady for meaningful relationship. CJN Box 6885.

Jewish male, 49, traditional, wants to have children & if you are a Jewish lady & want to have children too, call Alex 416-783-8382. Serious callers only.

SJF, 30, attr., intell., unpretentious, seeks female friends who are interested in going to singles events, clubs, dances, etc. CJN Box 6886.

SJM, artist, 32. Cute, 5'5", down-to-earth, animal lover, smoker & very sensitive, looking for an attr. not too loud alternative type of girl, please incl. photo if poss. to CJN Box 6878.

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The Canadian Jewish News
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280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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305 ARTICLES WANTED

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330 OBITUARIES

Miriam Taube (neéTugendhaft) passed away on Feb. 11, 1997, Fourth Adar I 5757, resided at 229 Hillhurst Blvd.

Pasternak, Florence (Sherman) on Feb. 6, 1997, of Port Washington, Long Island, beloved wife of Louis M.D., formerly of Toronto, devoted mother of Brent, Saree, Debi, Cheril, Steven, Doug & Suzanne. Dear sister of Jack & Helen Sherman & adored grandmother. Interred at Mt. Ararat, Farmingdale, Long Island.

The Romanian Language Lodge of B'nai Brith Canada, Dr. W. Filderman in Toronto announces with deep sorrow the departure of much appreciated, respected & loved brother & President, **S.L. Bacher.** The burial took place on Feb. 3, 1997 in Toronto.

330 OBITUARIES

BENNETT, Beatrice - on February 6, 1997, late of 110 Bloor St. W., #1505.
COHEN, Lou - on February 7, 1997, late of 131 Beecroft Rd., #1704.
LIPSON, Freda - on February 7, 1997, late of 220 Goulding Ave.
SHUBER, Annie - on February 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MILLER, Solomon - on February 8, 1997, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., #1106.
STUPP, Randall - on February 9, 1997, late of 4215 N. Civic Centre.
ZENER, Ellen - on February 9, 1997, late of 517A Spadina Rd.
PELCHOVITZ, Mary - on February 10, 1997, late of 17 Whittacker Cr.
ZSOLDOS, Israel - on February 10, 1997, late of 542 Wellington St.
MARKS, Ben - on February 11, 1997, late of 65 Spring Garden Ave., #2405.
KAMINKER, Ben - on February 12, 1997, late of 131 Torresdale Ave., #207.
MANDELBAUM, Bertha - on February 13, 1997, late of North York Senior Health Centre.
SOLOMON, Sharon - on February 13, 1997, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd. W., #3203.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

COPNICK, William - on February 10, 1997.
RYKENE, Lele - on February 11, 1997, late of 75 Inverlochy Blvd.
YABKO, Sara - on February 11, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
GIVON, Michael - on February 12, 1997.
LEIDERMAN, Ester - on February 13, 1997, late of 9 Kingsbridge Crt.
JACOBS, Arthur - on February 15, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W.
RUD, Ester - on February 15, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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Features

Chasm between Orthodoxy and feminism closing

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Being an Orthodox Jewish feminist has long meant trying to straddle two worlds based on diametrically opposed values.

International Conference on Orthodoxy & Feminism

The first International Conference on Orthodoxy & Feminism, held here this week made it clear that Orthodox women and the rabbis who support them feel that they are slowly but surely bridging the chasm between those worlds.

"Ten years ago, we felt on the fringe," said Freda Rosenfeld, a consultant on breastfeeding and childbirth educator who lives in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn.

"Now we are definitely mainstream," she said, looking around the hotel hallway at some of the estimated 700 women and sprinkling of men at the conference.

The unexpectedly large turnout included women with uncovered heads wearing pants and those with long skirts and wigs.

All of them described themselves as modern or centrist Orthodox. The gathering also drew a few chassidic women, a few Conservative women and at least one Reconstructionist.

Author Cynthia Ozick "once called Orthodox feminism an oxymoron and it long was," conference chair Blu Greenberg, who first conceived the concept of such a gathering, said in an interview. "But it isn't anymore."

Letty Cottin Pogrebin

A feeling of religious ferment and change, excitement and apprehension was almost palpable, as was, for many women, a sense of relief that they were finally among like-minded people.

"It feels good to be here because there aren't that many Orthodox feminists" in Seattle, said Karen Treiger, who came in with her sister-in-law. In spite of her community's relatively small size, her year-old women's prayer group has already attracted 30 regular participants, she said.

Letty Cottin Pogrebin, an author and founder of the secular women's movement, said the conference reminded her of the feminist movement's earliest years.

"Something really new is happening" for Orthodox women, she said. At the conference, "there were moments of high consciousness that things were happening here that hadn't happened before."

While participants had no illusions that their gains would spread to the haredi community, they came away, almost to a woman, feeling they had accomplished something revolutionary. The most important outcome of the conference, said many participants, was that the nine Orthodox rabbis who spoke at various sessions said publicly that there is room for change in women's roles within the parameters of Jewish law.

"It's earthshaking that rabbis are saying for the first time that their hands are not tied by distance from Sinai," said Shelley Frier List of Baltimore.

Orthodox women have been expanding their religious roles over the last two decades, at first reclaiming traditional women's observances such as Rosh Chodesh at the start of a new month by gathering in meetings that have evolved into women's prayer groups.

Innovations have evolved from there. A generation ago, a girl's 12th birthday passed without ceremony.

Today, a bat mitzvah is often celebrated in one of the approximately 40 women's prayer groups that exist around the world, with the girl learning the appropriate blessings, reciting her Torah portion and delivering a sermon on its meaning, much as a boy would.

There are also other, quieter changes, such as the fact that a growing number of baby boys, when named at their circumcision, are being described in the blessing as the son of their mother, as well as their father.

And in some Orthodox synagogues, a Torah scroll is passed behind the mechitzah dividing the sexes, so that women can touch the Torah after it is read as men have always done.

Orthodox rabbis are always consulted before changes are instituted, but the requests are often coming from women who know which rabbis they can turn to for approval.

Deference to rabbinic authorities is a deeply inculcated value in the Orthodox community, and modesty has been regarded as one of the most valued traits a woman can possess. But conference participants openly challenged the limits of religious leaders' sway over their lives when they find the rule is oppressive.

For instance, on the issue of agunot, women whose husbands refuse them the *get*, the divorce that only men can issue, female activists and a handful of Orthodox rabbis have acted to counter the passivity of the rabbinate in this matter.

A handful of rabbis led by Emmanuel Rackman, a leading modern Orthodox authority, recently created a new religious court, or beit din, which thus far has freed six women by finding ways within Jewish law to annul their marriages.

Speaker after speaker said Jewish law could be interpreted to allow Orthodox women a more active role in their religious lives.

"Where there is a rabbinic will, there is a halachic way," Greenberg said in her opening remarks, reiterating a phrase she has long used. "Part of our task is to generate that halachic will."

Some centrist Orthodox rabbinical authorities are firmly opposed to the changes.

Describing the changes Orthodox women are making as "frivolous and culturally schismatic," Rabbi J. David Bleich, a well-known interpreter of Jewish law and dean of Yeshiva University, said change can come only at the impetus of the rabbinate, not from outside.

"Changing the norms is up to the rabbinate alone," said Rabbi Bleich in an interview. He did not attend the conference.

"Is medicine up to anyone but the medical profession? Is law up to anyone but a jurist?" he asked.

"You can't change the norms and still claim to be operating within a traditional community. If they do, then they are beyond the pale of Orthodoxy," said Bleich. "It's called Conservatism."

Blu Greenberg

One of the handful of pulpit rabbis who attended the conference disagreed with Rabbi Bleich.

"There are sources within traditional Judaism" that permit women an expanded role, but "they're not mainstream," said Rabbi Abraham Mandelbaum, spiritual leader of Congregation Ahavat Yisrael in Hewlett, N.Y.

"We have to find solitary ideas and develop them more fully to make them mainstream," he said.

"We are not here as rebels, but because people are sincere in their search for God. What could be wrong with that?"

The question of women becoming Orthodox rabbis hung in the air throughout the conference. The Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements all ordain women.

A consensus seemed to emerge from many of the speakers that the term "rabbi" would not be the label used and that new terms must be developed. At the same time, however, women are already beginning to work in all of the roles filled by an Orthodox rabbi except as ritual leaders of public worship.

The entire phenomenon of women assuming positions of Orthodox religious leadership is rooted in education.

Knowledge is power, speakers said, and Orthodox women today have received better Jewish educations than their foremothers did.

Now that feminist Orthodox women have gained the confidence of knowing firsthand the positions taken by Jewish history's great rabbinic authorities, they have begun to question the way some contemporary rabbis are interpreting them.

"Words like 'power' and 'authority' feel comfortable in" the mouths of Orthodox women today, Greenberg said in her opening speech.

Pam Ehrenkranz Zur, who came from Stamford, Conn., and is the mother of three young girls, said education continues to bring changes to the perspectives of girls today.

She said she and her peers did not get to that point as girls, but "our daughters are asking, 'Why can't I do that?'"

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USDS Bayview rules school hockey tournament

Second time winners of event named for Yitzhak Rabin

The boys from Bayview rule again at the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Hockey Tournament. They were last year's champions as well. [David Korman photo]

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For the second year in a row, USDS Bayview rules the day school hockey world following a not unexpected victory in a four-team hockey tournament.

USDS Bayview didn't overwhelm the opposition as they did the year before, but they were good enough to win the second annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Hockey Tournament. They defeated a team from Bialik 6-2 in the championship game, after Bialik kept the game close for two periods.

Robert Samery, one of the parents who organized the tournament, said Bialik netminder Aaron Shapiro came up with an outstanding performance to keep his team in the game. Bayview, with six AAA players on the roster, were tough to beat. Bialik, with two AA players, gave them a run for the money while USDS Bathurst had one AAA player in their lineup. The fourth team in the tournament was USDS Richmond Hill.

As was the case last year, the one-day tournament was held at Forest Hill Arena and it attracted an estimated 300 onlookers, including family, friends and schoolmates.

The teams played a round robin format followed by a playoff game and the championship matchup.Three girls (two on Bialik, one on USDS Richmond Hill) and dozens of boys between the ages of nine and 12 made up the teams.

Samery said the tournament succeeded in creating a sense of "cohesiveness in the day school environment and allowed the kids to join together on their PD day."

Everyone received a trophy at the end of the day and the kids enjoyed a lavish lunch with bagels, muffins and "tons of food," Samery said. In addition, Corey Mandell provided musical accompaniment at faceoffs and announced goals over the loudspeaker system, keeping the event "upbeat." Stuart Davison conducted a power skating lesson for kids who weren't on the teams, he added.

The tournament also raised $300 for the United Jewish Appeal.

Although the event doesn't currently have the sanction of the schools, the parent organizers are hoping to convince school administrators to one day approve a day school hockey league.

Rabbi Irwin Witty, director of the Board of Jewish Education, said "we look on the tournament very favorably. It encourages youngsters, it gives schools spirit, it's named for the late prime minister and it teaches sportsmanship," he said. "This is a beautiful way for children to interact."

Pauline Clein, principal at USDS Bayview, said the school supports the annual tournament but that the school cannot take over running a hockey league. The games and practices would not be on school property and would more appropriately be organized by the parents, she said.

Golden Horseshoe competition

While they don't have a league of their own, the kids still get to play plenty of hockey. Their parents arrange matches with teams from other private and public schools throughout the winter. Those games re usually held at either 7 a.m. or 4:30 p.m. so as not to interfere with school but lunchtime games would be the most convenient, Samery said.

USDS Bayview dominates those matchups as well, while the other teams hold their own, he added.

Participants at the Yitzhak Rabin competition have been invited to a tournament on April 13, sponsored by the Hamilton Jewish Community Centre (JCC). There, the kids will be mixed and matched with players from Hamilton, St. Catharines, Dundas, Burlington and other centres, Samery said.

Dubbed The Golden Horseshoe Hockey Tournament, the event is entering its third year. It's designed to bring together children from surrounding communities. "It's not a competitive tournament, it's more of a social one," said Michele Schneider, a spokesperson for the Hamilton JCC.

Last year, 60 kids ages eight to 14 participated. They're put together in four teams in two age groups and they play two games each. Afterwards, they return to the Hamilton JCC for a barbecue, she said.

The tournament was initiated thanks to the Berman family of Dundas, Schneider added.

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The Inside Back

Detroit man accused of spying for Israel

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — A decade after Jonathan Pollard was sentenced to life in prison for spying for Israel, a new FBI investigation into the activities of another American Jew has hit a raw nerve among Israeli and Jewish officials.

Federal officials recently searched the home of army engineer David Tenenbaum, a 39-year-old Detroit-area Jewish resident, after he said that he had inadvertently shared classified documents with Israeli military officials.

Israeli officials here were quick to say that this case is different from that of Pollard, the former navy analyst whose case rocked U.S.-Israeli relations and whose life sentence became a cause celebre in the American Jewish community.

Israeli officials, who said there has been no official contact with the United States on the matter, warned that Israeli personnel stationed in the United States should only accept classified information through official channels.

According to an affidavit filed by the FBI at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, "Tenenbaum admitted to divulging non-releasable classified information to every Israeli Liaison Officer (ILO) assigned to the U.S. Army Tank Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) over the last 10 years."

Tenenbaum worked at TACOM, located north of Detroit, which designs and maintains the fleet of vehicles for the U.S. Army.

After a routine polygraph test he took as part of a security-clearance upgrade, Tenenbaum told investigators that he gave classified information on Patriot missiles countermeasures, Bradley tanks and various U.S. Army vehicles to Israelis assigned to work with the U.S. Army.

Specifically, Tenenbaum told investigators, he gave classified information to Dr. Reuven Granot, scientific deputy director of the Israeli Ministry of Defence, according to the affidavit.

Jewish organizational officials, unaware of the investigation until informed by a reporter, expressed concern and caution.

"It's a disturbing story. We're waiting to hear the details," said Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice-chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

"We can't jump to any conclusions," he added. "No Israeli authority has been approached by the U.S. government on this issue," said Gadi Baltiansky, press spokesman at the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

At the same time, Baltiansky pledged "full cooperation on the matter" if the United States seeks Israeli assistance.

"Israeli defence personnel serving in the United States are given the most clear and categorical instructions forbidding them from receiving classified information except through the official channels established between the two countries," Baltiansky said.

The FBI has not filed any criminal charges in the case.

The affidavit, necessary to obtain a search warrant, said Tenenbaum could be charged with gathering and transmitting defence information, gathering and delivering information to aid a foreign government and disclosing classified information.

These federal charges carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a $25,000 fine. No one answered the phone at Tenenbaum's home in the Detroit suburbs.

Wilbert Simkovitz, a retired engineer from TACOM, told the Detroit Jewish News, "We get intelligence from the Israelis, too. It's not a one-way street,"

"If he did anything it was probably inadvertent," Simkovitz said of Tenenbaum.

Alfred Goldstein, also a retired engineer from TACOM, told the Detroit Jewish News that most of the work done at TACOM is not highly sensitive.

Goldstein, a mechanical engineer who said he did not know Tenenbaum, said there were three to five Israeli representatives at the tank command on a rotating basis.

FBI officials in Detroit would not say whether their search of Tenenbaum's home yielded any results. According to the affidavit, FBI agents were looking for documents and computer files related to classified material.

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TIPSY CHICKEN
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2-3 carrots, sliced
2 onions, sliced
6 lbs. chicken, with most of the skin removed, cut up into 10-12 pieces
salt, pepper, paprika to taste
1/4 cup peach schnapps
1/4 cup orange marmalade
1/2 cup orange juice
1 tblsp. soy sauce

Line bottom of roasting pan with sliced carrots and onions. Place chicken pieces in single row. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, and paprika. In saucepan, heat schnapps, marmalade, orange juice, and soy sauce for 1 minute or until bubbles form. Pour sauce over chicken and roast 60-75 minutes at 375°F. Baste after 30 minutes. Yield: 6-8 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am scheduled for cataract surgery at the end of the month. Even though it's not serious, I am very frightened because I have no one to help me when I come home. I am 89 years old and arthritic so how can I put drops in my eyes? Please tell me what I can do.

LJ

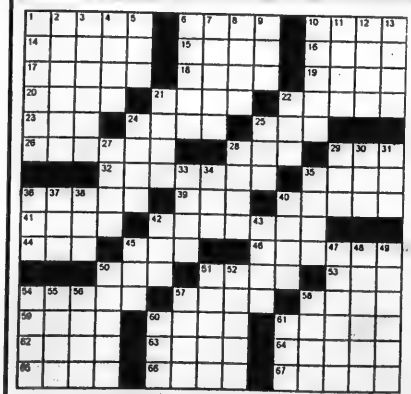
Dear LJ,

Call the hospital ophthalmology department and speak to the discharge planning nurse. Tell her about your situation. Arrangements can be made to help you, but you must tell the staff that you have this problem. There should be follow-up help available to you. However, if you need private help, you can prearrange care from a home care agency. You will feel relieved knowing that someone will be there for you.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

Watch for our
Time of Your Life section May 15

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Unveiling site
6. Dance
10. Cain's victim
14. Mauri Rose needs
15. King of Judah
16. Herman Barron call
17. Sounds the Shofar
18. Haman or Amalek
19. Esther's kingdom?
20. Cardozo and Goodman
21. Klezmatics
22. Jacob and the Angel
23. Exist
24. Mishmash (Eng)
25. K'Tonton
26. Jacob
28. Noah to Japhet
29. Expressions of ease
32. Commandment no no
35. Eighteen (Heb)
36. Jonahs' travels
39. Wiggling tref fish
40. Sacrifices often
41. Source for Shofars?
42. Top
44. Depot (abbr)
45. Satiated
46. Simeon
50. Baer move
51. Knesset position
53. 52
54. Etrog cousin
57. Occupied
58. Solomon or Asa
59. Arkin or King
60. Prophet
61. Meshuggeh
62. "__ 18" Uris novel
63. King
64. Nisan feast
65. Bets (Eng)
66. First Jewish Miss America
67. Kippot holders

Down

1. Torah attendant
2. Saul and Abaz
3. Kol Nidre chanter
4. Promises under a chupah
5. Sin: Eng.
6. Terriorists
7. Rainbows
8. Via Maris, "Sea __"
9. Columnist Landers
10. Moses' bush
11. Drill
12. Byzantine and Hellenistic
13. Acted the Usurer
21. Abzug
22. Signed a Ketubah
24. Brooks and Allen
25. Jihad, Holy __
27. Cleo killers
28. Jewish restaurant
29. Got ya!!
30. Abzug's trademark
31. Miriam to Aaron
33. Nebbish?
34. Daled: (Eng.)
35. Mt Hermon climate?
36. Salk and Sabin
37. Succot activity
38. Mother (Heb)
40. Chanukah booty
42. Winger to friends
43. Salty sea
45. Admirer
47. Mighty Benjamite warrior
48. Broke the commandments
49. Greenberg's team
50. Vaccine inventor
51. Joel and Amos
52. Island entry
54. Seder shank?
55. Wiesel
56. Bris must
57. Koufax's target
58. Eddie Cantor position
60. Man of great faith
61. Sort of? (ending)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 41)

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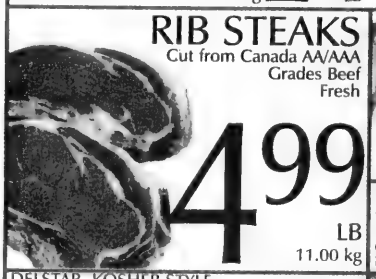

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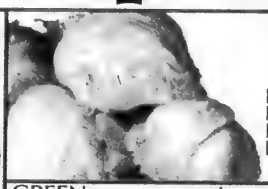

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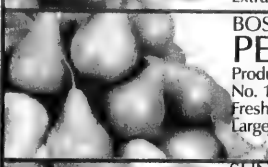

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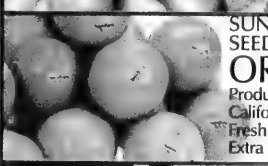

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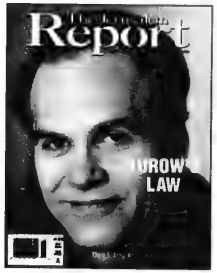
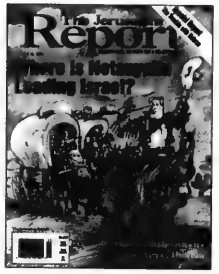


Give Yourself an Insider's Edge on Israeli Politics!

"The morning after the election I decided to give Netanyahu the benefit of the doubt. Since then, unfortunately, it has been all doubt and no benefit."

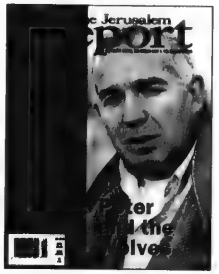
—*Bulldozed*
(opinion column)
by Hirsh Goodman



Get a New Perspective on the Palestinian Problem!

"More scary for the Palestinian Authority than scrutiny and hostile attention is the prospect of no attention at all—of being consigned to the back burner of the peace process."

—*Palestine Postponed*
by Isabel Kershner



Meet the Top Writers and Politicians in the Jewish World!

"Sichrovsky's evident delight in breaking the rules is also part of his Holocaust inheritance. His father was saved by a Gestapo agent who allowed him to escape across the border, and his mother by a priest who gave her a false baptismal certificate. As he writes in 'Strangers in Their Own Land,' his parents managed to survive 'through the treason of a Gestapo man … and the treason of a priest … I was born into this world because two people did not obey the rules. That is the basis of my life."

—*Peter and the Wolves*
by Yossi Klein Halevi
and Vince Beiser

Keep Your Fingers on the Pulse of Israeli Pop Culture!

"Some critics have begun calling Sderot 'Israel's Seattle,' after the home of Nirvana, Soundgarden, Pearl Jam and other American bands that replaced the heavy metal of the 80s with more soulful music. Sderot, it should be clear by now, is no Seattle, but musically, the comparison is not so far off the mark.

—*Rockin' Moroccans*
by Janine Zacharia

Gain a New Understanding of Orthodox Culture!

"Mainstream leaders regularly declare intermarriage a mortal threat to American Jewry. Ultra-Orthodox rabbis have labeled it 'a spiritual Holocaust.' Innumerable task forces have been dispatched, studies launched, and conferences convened to find ways to overcome the specter of intermarriage. But at the grass roots, obscured by the official Sturm and Drang, most Jews are simply accepting intermarried Jews and their 1.3 million gentile spouse into their midst."

—*Intermarried with Children*
by Vince Beiser

Get Behind the Scene in the Israeli Media!

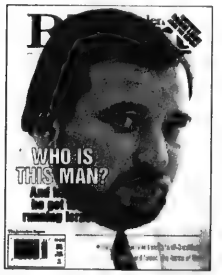
"Bizarrely, the writers and producers have used the context of two of the most vicious bombings in recent years to fashion a mediocre soap opera, complete with sex, scandal and syrupy soundtrack … 'The Mossad' blithely reduces the bombings to a backdrop for pap so clichéd you'd think the actors would have walked off the set in embarrassment."

—*Mission Improbable*
by David Horovitz

Discover the Powers behind the Powerful!

"The incident at the cemetery is the kind of occurrence that has gained Lieberman, the prime minister's most trusted staffer and probably the second-most powerful person in the country, a reputation as a mysterious, shadowy figure. His status as Benjamin Netanyahu's right-hand man is unquestionable. But his methods are sometimes seen as murky. 'Whatever happens in this country, for better or for worse, is due to Yvette Lieberman,' Knesset coalition chairman Michael Eitan observed recently—and he didn't mean it strictly as a compliment."

—*Bibi's Boss*
by Netty C. Gross



Explore and Expose Anti-Semitism around the World!

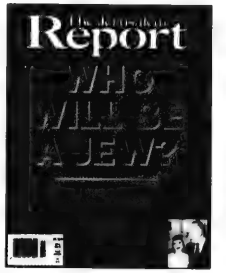
"Jews did have 'a rough time' under the Nazis, acknowledges Zundel. But, he says, 'anti-Semitism only happens when there is lots of Semitism first.' Jews were undermining German culture, exploiting German workers and the German economy, he explains. The Nazis rounded them up in self-defense."

—*Radiant Hatred*
by Vince Beiser

Enjoy a Land of Unique Resources!

"After six long years the Egypt Exploration Society, along with Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, can sit back and have a beer—if there's any left. Despite a price of £50 ($80) a bottle, Tutankhamen Ale, reconstructed by the Society from a 3,250-year-old recipe, is nearly sold out at London's famed department store Harrods."

—*Tutankhamen Beer Hits the Spot*
by Leah Eichler



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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Arab journalist takes pains to distance Arab community from anti-Semitic articles. *Page 3*

Up to nine alleged Nazi war criminals may face deportation. *Page 5*

Controversial teacher is dismissed by Peel Region Board of Education. *Page 6*

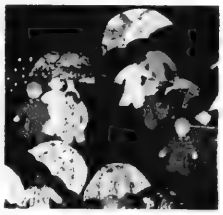
Coast to Coast

Calgary survey finds Jews active in community but not very observant. *Page 28*

Health

Certified personal trainer arranges excercise program and counsels on lifestyle changes. *Page 35*

Arts



Chip Feldman's art projects the warmth of the lively household she grew up in. *Page 41*

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IDF pullbacks on agenda

Mideast leaders on the road selling their cause

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
and JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel will not press the so-called "reciprocity" issue with the Palestinian Authority (PA) as a condition for the planned IDF pullback in the territories, officials said last weekend.

It will instead focus on possible Palestinian tacit acquiescence to the construction of Har Choma,

Given the scope of Arab and international condemnation, the officials made clear that Har Choma looms larger for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at this point than the other issues that were reaffirmed as a follow-up to the Hebron pullback deal.

Among those issues, which have loosely been called "reciprocity" issues, are revising the Palestinian National Charter, reducing the size of the Palestinian forces, confiscation of illegal firearms from Hamas and extradition of suspects.

Continued on page 32

Palestinian demonstrators talk to an Israeli soldier atop Har Choma. Soldiers and police went on alert last week for fear of a violent reaction to Israel's announcement to proceed with planned housing there. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Canada's International Trade Minister Art Eggleton and Israel's Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky smiling at a tribute dinner last week in Jerusalem. *[Isranet]*

Trade mission wraps up

By EDGAR ASHER
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — Canadian International Trade Minister Art Eggleton last week concluded a trade mission here of 60 people including some of Canada's leading industrialists and business people, representing 49 companies.

The visit was a direct result of implementation of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) which came into effect on Jan. 1.

Although the minister paid a short courtesy call on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Eggleton's main activity was directed to trade related meetings as well as the signing of several bilateral agreements that further the commercial development between the two countries.

"There is a lot more to be accomplished between our two countries," said Israel's Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky at a lunch he hosted for Eggleton and his delegation. "Although trade is well-balanced between Israel and Canada, it is only a beginning. In 1995, two-way trade exceeded $450 million (Can). We expect trade figures for 1996 to be very much higher. CIFTA is a powerful tool to build commercial bridges between Canada and Israel."

Sharansky told his audience that the agreement he signed on behalf of Israel on July 31 last year in Toronto was the first agreement that he had signed since becoming a minister in the present government.

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INSIDE

Assessing the mood of Quebec's Jewish Community.
Please see page 9.

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French Museums to display what Nazis stole — please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

Federation Gets Grant

TORONTO — UJA Federation will soon receive a grant of 300,000 Deutschmarks (DM) (approximately $245,000 Canadian) from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany to help expand services for Holocaust survivors and hospice patients.

Since 1951, the Conference, which represents 23 major Jewish organizations, has been compensating Holocaust survivors, on behalf of the German government, for losses or damages suffered during the war.

The conference has allocated DM 55,000 (approximately $45,000) a year for the next three years to Senior Care for the expansion of home care to Holocaust survivors and DM 45,000 (approximately $37,000) for the Jewish Hospice program, which assists the dying and their families.

Associated Scholarships

TORONTO — Associated Hebrew Schools is now accepting applications for scholarships for the 1997/98 academic year. Students planning on studying for a career in Jewish education and/or pursuing programs in higher Jewish studies may be eligible.

Applications are available by writing or calling Associated Hebrew Schools Scholarship Committee, 6100 Leslie St., Willowdale, M2H 3J1, 416-494-7666, ext. 334.

Variety Honors

TORONTO — Sharon Hampson of Sharon Lois and Bram, CTV's Valerie Pringle and Variety activist Arlene Ein are scheduled to be honored this week as outstanding volunteers by Variety — The Children's Charity.

Hampson is honorary chair of the Breast Diagnostic Centre Campaign at North York General Hospital and is founding president of Willow, the Breast cancer support and resource centre.

ISRAEL

New Sefer Torah

JERUSALEM — A new sefer Torah is currently being written by sponsors in both America and Israel in the name of the matriarch Rachel, for use by the Yeshivah of Rachel's Tomb, Bethlehem, Israel. Following on the heels of a commencement ceremony for the Torah, which was held in New York, a twinning ceremony in honor of the endeavor will be held on Saturday, March 8, at 8:30 p.m., in the Israel Centre, 10 Strauss St., Jerusalem.

Israel, Yemen Discuss Ties

JERUSALEM — Israeli and Yemeni officials are discussing opening interest offices in each other's countries as a first step toward establishing official ties.

WORLD

Rabbi Faces Jail Term

SAN FRANCISCO — The California rabbi accused of sexually molesting a bat mitzvah student has pleaded no contest to the charges and faces up to eight years in prison.

Rabbi Sidney Goldenberg, formerly of Petaluma's Congregation B'nai Israel, last week entered his plea at Santa Rosa Municipal Court in response to a charge of lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor younger than 14.

The sexual misconduct took place over several months late last year while Goldenberg was tutoring a 12-year-old girl for her bat mitzvah, officials said.

Anti-Semitic Incidents

WASHINGTON — The number of anti-Semitic incidents reported in the United States has declined for the second straight year, according to the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) annual audit.

In 1996, 1,722 incidents were reported to the ADL — 121 fewer than in 1995, signifying a seven percent drop.

Yeshiva U Rep in Toronto

NEW YORK – Dr. Anita Rotman of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work will be in Toronto from March 25 to April 4 to meet with individuals interested in learning about the school's Block Education Plan and other programs.

Individuals interested in meeting with Rotman can call 1-914-254-6215 or 1-212-960-0804 before March 21 or on the date of her arrival at the Park Plaza Hotel.

Palestinian trade accord

BRUSSELS — The European Union has signed a trade and cooperation accord with the Palestinian Authority.

Under the accord, the Palestinians are recognized as full partners of the European Union.

SS Pensions

BONN — The German government will stop paying pensions March 1 to some suspected war criminals who live outside Germany.

But World War II Nazis who now reside in Germany will continue to receive the supplementary "victim pensions," pending the reform of the 1950 law that made the payments possible in the first place.

The revelations have angered Jewish officials around the world.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday March 3, 1972

FATAH MURDERS SPARK HEAVY REPRISAL

The heaviest outbreak of fighting in a decade occurred last week along the Lebanese border as Israeli armed forces smashed into Fatah strongholds in the hilly country of southeastern Lebanon. On four successive days, Israeli jets, artillery and troops in batallion strength, struck terrorists' concentrations on the Lebanese side of the border.

The attack was in retaliation for the murder of an Israeli couple, Albert and Florence Malka, parents of three, who were killed by a bazooka shell fired as they were returning home from a bar mitzvah celebration in Nahariya.

MONTREAL Y REVERSES STAND ON PLAY

The Man in the Glass Booth at the Saidye Bronfman Centre has been called to a halt just days before the premier performance. The board of directors of the Y decided to stop the production of the Shaw play after it was swamped with hundreds of protest letters.

According to a press release, the play is a "disturbingly provocative drama" about a Jew playing the role of an SS colonel who "brings into focus the receding memory of history's cruelest genocide and expiates his own feelings of guilt at having survived."

The Canadian Jewish news

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Greater Toronto Area

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Arab journalist rejects anti-Semitic articles

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "I don't want you to believe there is only one side, [publishing] anti-Semitic articles," said the voice at the other end of the line. There are many Arabs, particularly better educated ones, who believe in the peace process and who reject articles that attack Jews.

Speaking with great passion and a sense of conviction, Hussain Al-Hilli took pains to distance the majority of the Arab community from articles that have been published by *Al-Miraat (The Mirror)* newspaper. "Not only me, but they reject this kind of writing," Al-Hilli said.

A freelance journalist who writes for *El Ressala (The Message)* and *El Raie (The Opinion)*, Al-Hilli said he has long opposed the editorial policy of *Al-Miraat*. He has broken away from the paper and no longer writes for it. But when he saw *The CJN*'s Jan. 16 article on anti-Semitic articles in the Canadian Arab press, he said he felt obliged to call and tell another side of the story.

The CJN article pointed out that an Oct. 9, 1996 article in *Al-Miraat* on the opening of the Jerusalem tunnel stated: "You won't be safe near the Jews" and "history has taught us that you cannot trust their side."

A poem published on May 15, 1996 compared Israelis to Nazis.

"The more educated Iraqis disagree with *Al-Miraat*," Al-Hilli said. Their concern is Saddam Hussein, who continues to butcher the Iraqi people.

"For any Iraqi, the problem is the regime," not the Jews or Israel. "We escaped from Mideast regimes that tried to brainwash us" and now we are facing similar false stories in the media, he said.

Al-Hilli said he has written often in support of the Mideast peace process and last year he criticized as "un-Islamic" the bus bombings in Tel Aviv that killed dozens of innocent civilians. That stance prompted angry readers to fax threats to the Arab-language newspaper that carried his article, he said.

Al-Hilli suggested there is a constituency for the sort of anti-Jewish article contained in *Al-Miraat*, primarily immigrants who have arrived recently from Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. "There are ignorant people still poisoned by past ideas," he said.

Unlike them, Al-Hilli is fascinated by the Jewish contribution to Iraq. He pointed to their uninterrupted presence in the country since biblical times. The first modern Iraqi poet was Jewish and most of the winners of an Israeli government prize for Arab literature are Iraqi Jews, he said.

So fascinated is Al Hilli with the Jewish history of Iraq, he is currently working on a book on the community.

We have entered an era of peace, Al-Hilli said. "You must not allow people to use freedom of speech to bring back old ghosts."

Quebecers want to remain in Canada: *Gazette* publisher

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – A clear majority of Quebecers want their province to remain part of Canada says the president and publisher of the *Gazette*, Montreal's only English language daily newspaper.

"I believe that Quebecers just want a reason to say yes for staying in the country," Michael Goldbloom said at a recent panel sponsored by New Leadership State of Israel Bonds. Other panel members were Marcel Coté, economist and co-founder of SECOR Consulting; and Robert Vineberg, senior partner in the law firm of Goodman Phillips & Vineberg and immediate past chair, Combined Jewish Appeal.

Goldbloom said, however, he is not confident that the country can achieve reconciliation without some constitutional initiative.

"Recognizing Quebec as unique would not have changed the equilibrium of the country. The [irony] of the situation is that it is only the English who speak of separation. The Quebec government is interested in getting its economic house in order," he said.

Coté said that to understand Montreal and Quebec, one must understand the power of language. "The Québécois fear losing their language and they feel a need to protect it. They talk about the unique, fundamental characteristic that makes Quebec distinct. Language is a definer of society and that is a view that is hard to understand in English Canada."

Language, he said, defines "who you know, who are your friends, your business partners, and who will influence you...[It also] has influence on one's attitudes and beliefs — who do I trust and who do I side with?

"It is the key factor that defines collectivity and people who share a language tend to move like a school of fish. In most countries this is a 'people,' but in Canada it is more complicated."

With regards to the Jewish community in Quebec, Vineberg said that Jews grew up in the province as a double minority — religiously and linguistically. "They had no real hope of being accepted into the majority and they turned their efforts to establishing themselves and educating their children.

"The world has changed, yet it still recognizes that it is part of a double minority. The result has been that it has established a unique community with enormously high rates of involvement."

Jews in Quebec have a high percentage of students in Hebrew day schools and have a low rate of intermarriage, Vineberg said. "There is a deep-seated pride in what we have achieved. We have flourished because of adversity; we had to study harder to achieve more."

He conceded that Quebec nationalism does hurt the Jewish community, "but the community has built a strong character and it has the desire to survive and continue to prosper. Those that remain in the community are prepared to invest money and time to make sure that [the community] remains vibrant and strong."

Asked what money raised by Combined Jewish Appeal can do for young Montreal Jews, Vineberg described one of its programs that matches college graduates with jobs. "We recognize that jobs are the key. Young people will leave if they cannot find jobs."

A second program, said Vineberg, will teach skills and provide mentoring to college graduates as well as those in their 30s an 40s who want to go into their own business. "We have to do more to get people into the workforce."

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Greater Toronto Area

Quebec hypocritical, self-serving on referenda issue

A number of interesting developments in the national political discourse caught my eye last week. I offer the following observations on two of them.

* * *

Legal argument started last week in the Supreme Court in Ottawa to determine the constitutional rules that would apply in the event of Quebec's separation from Canada.

Ottawa contends that there must be a legal framework for separation within current Canadian law, and that the Constitution is sufficiently flexible to accommodate such a framework.

A unilateral decision by Quebec to separate, Ottawa maintains, is tantamount to anarchy. Such a decision is illegal under both Canadian and international law.

The government of Quebec, not surprisingly, takes a contrary view. It also refuses to participate in the proceedings.

Premier Lucien Bouchard was reported in the *Globe and Mail* to have said: "It is not for the Supreme Court to decide anything that goes against the will of the Quebec people."

It is the position of the Bouchard government that separation is Quebec's democratic right.

As our readers are aware, *The CJN* wholeheartedly supports the position of the federal government on the matter of Quebec separation.

It is the only position which, in a true and deep way, respects the sanctity of the overarching values of democracy.

So overwhelmingly important an act such as separation will affect not only Quebecers. It will affect all Canadians from coast to coast. Therefore it must be taken in accordance with law, in accordance with rules, in accordance with the traditions and the conventions that have governed the federation till now.

Nothing in this vital constitutional debate is more important than that it be carried out within and as an affirmation of the rule of law. Thus, the position of the Quebec government in spurning it altogether cannot be condoned.

Democratic rights

But there is an additional aspect of Quebec's position which warrants comment. Bouchard's constant resort to Quebec's "democratic right" as the sole, sufficient justification for separation is hypocritical, sanctimoniously self-serving and inconsistent.

It is hypocritical because it is not truly respected or honored. The majority of the people of Quebec have already twice rejected separation. Yet, the premier and his party treat those results as if they were nothing more than nuisances or temporary red aberrations along an inevitably blue horizon.

True respect for "democratic rights" would require the government to adopt a meaningfully representative political agenda on behalf of all Quebec citizens, including the majority which has twice demonstrated its preference that Quebec remain in Canada.

The constant resort to "democratic rights" is sanctimoniously self-serving because it does not apply in both directions, namely for federalists as it does for separatists.

Bouchard has often stated, as did his predecessor, that even the slimmest majority of one would suffice to start the machinery of separation rolling.

And yet, the opposite does not hold. Both a substantial and a slim majority against separation have not been enough to scrap the machinery of separation.

If separatists win the next referendum by a slight margin, will Bouchard allow an other vote on the subject in the next term of the government?

Will he allow vote after vote to be held until the federalist majority is restored?

In other words,will he confer upon the federalist citizens of Quebec the same "democratic rights" that he confers upon the separatist citizens of Quebec?

Finally, the "democratic right" justification is also inconsistent because it says for the separatist citizens of Quebec, a referendum on separation is a binding exercise recognizable under international law while for the federalist citizens of the province, a referendum is merely a consultation.

* * *

Earlier in the week, Bouchard publicly expressed his anger to Premier Mike Harris over the possibility that the government of Ontario might close Montfort Hospital in Ottawa, the only major French-language hospital in Ontario.

We agree that the government of Ontario would be wrong to close the hospital. French-language health care services should be maintained at Montfort.

But once again, we are less bemused by Bouchard's hypocrisy than we are saddened by it.

Just over one month ago, he actively supported a unanimous motion by the Parti Québécois (PQ) to have the Office de la langue française in Quebec review the need to provide health services in the English language.

At the time, *The CJN* referred to the PQ's decision as "a heartless and vindictive policy...unnecessarily preying upon and sharpening the fears of the anglophone minority, especially the elderly and the frail."

We believe that still to be the case, even as it would be in the event of the closure of Montfort Hospital.

The concern by Bouchard for the rights of the francophone minority in Ontario is laudable. So too would be an equal concern, were he to demonstrate one, for the anglophone minority in Quebec.

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Greater Toronto Area

Government names more alleged Nazi war criminals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The list of alleged Nazi war criminals facing deportation has grown to nine as federal authorities announced the names of two more suspects last week.

Toronto resident Peteris Vitols and Serge Kisluk of St. Catharines will face court proceedings to strip them of their citizenship. Federal authorities allege the men lied about their wartime activities when they obtained Canadian citizenship.

Documents filed in Federal Court claim Kisluk, 74, failed to divulge to Citizenship and Immigration officials his wartime collaboration with Nazi authorities in Ukraine from 1941-43.

Kisluk, Vitols face deportation

They claim he served "as a member of the German armed forces and as a member of the Ukrainian auxiliary police (Schtuzmannschaften) in the Turiysk Raion, Kovel District, General Commissariat Volyn-Podolia, a local auxiliary police under the command of the Germans."

The documents also allege he participated "as a member of the German armed forces and of the Ukrainian auxiliary police, in the commission of crimes and atrocities against members of the civilian population in Ukraine."

The second man, Vitols, 81, is alleged to have collaborated "with the occupying German authorities as a member of the Madona District Police in German occupied Latvia." It's also alleged he served in the 281st Schutzmannschaft Battalion (Schuma 281) during that time, was a member of the Waffen SS and was associated "with organizations actively engaged in atrocities against the civilian population."

Vitols' lawyer, Donald Powell, who is also his son-in-law, has mounted a legal and public relations campaign to convince Justice Minister Allan Rock to stay the proceedings. He said government lawyers have backtracked from allegations made a year ago, in which they claimed he "participated in atrocities against the civilian population."

The later set of allegations claim he was merely associated with organizations that perpetrated atrocities, Powell said. The government case is flimsy and confused because it relied on a discredited Soviet-produced book, Powell added.

Kisluk and Vitols bring to 10 the number of men named as alleged war criminals. One of the 10, Antanas Kenstavicius, died recently on the first day of his hearing. Federal officials have said they will name 12 suspects by the end of March.

Canadian Jewish Congress commended the government for bringing the two most recent cases forward.

"I would only wish the government would name the other two tomorrow," said Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber. "Even a month delay is too long."

Farber said Congress has known about Kisluk since 1981 when it forwarded information about him to legal authorities. "It's somewhat disappointing that it took 16 years to deal with this case," he said.

Scientists to examine Judaism

TORONTO – The Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists, Hillel International and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto are sponsoring a Shabbaton entitled Torah and Science: Building Bridges.

The program will take place on March 7 and 8, at the Shomrai Shabbos Synagogue, 585 Glengrove Ave.

The Shabbaton will explore the relationship between science and the Jewish tradition. Also it will offer students ther personal perspective of Jewish scientists, doctors, and engineers as how they reconcile Judaism with their personal lives.

The participants will examine to what role does science play in Judaism and what can Judaism offer to science.

The speakers include Dr. Janice Halpern, Rabbi Mark Dratch, Professor David Novack, Dr. Aryeh Gotfryd, Yitzhak Kurtz and Reuven Gellman.

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Greater Toronto Area

Peel school board dismisses Fromm as teacher

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Controversial teacher Paul Fromm may soon be looking for a new job.

The board of trustees of the Peel Region Board of Education last week approved the senior administration's recommendation that Fromm be dismissed as an adult education teacher. Fromm has been suspended without pay and his teaching contract will be terminated on Aug. 31.

Fromm has said he will file a grievance in a bid to set aside the board's decision.

In dismissing Fromm, the board noted that he disregarded a 1993 warning against participating in programs organized by white supremacists.

"As a teacher, Fromm's conduct must be perceived to uphold the values and beliefs which are fundamental to the education system and the Peel Board of Education — including multiculturalism and ethnocultural equity. Fromm's remarks and activities have demonstrated a profound disrespect for these principles," said Janet McDougald, vice-chair of the board.

Fromm landed in hot water after B'nai Brith Canada produced a videotape and other evidence suggesting Fromm had violated the board's ethnocultural policy and he ignored the 1993 caution. The evidence showed he participated in a 1994 memorial symposium for U.S. white supremacist Revilio Oliver, which was sponsored by the National Alliance, a racist group in the United States. In addition, B'nai Brith pointed out that Fromm spoke at a March 1996 conference in Vancouver organized by extremists.

"We commend the Peel Board for having the courage to stand up for their convictions...Paul Fromm will no longer be working for the Peel Board of Education because all students, including adults, deserve a learning environment that is inclusive and free from prejudice and bias. They are to be applauded for their precedent-setting decision," said Rochelle Wilner, national chair of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

Karen Mock, national director of the League, said a coalition of groups had advocated Fromm's dismissal. Clergy representing several Christian denominations had urged his removal, as did the B'nai Brith lodge in Halton Peel and the Peel Multicultural Council.

"This case shows the importance of effective networking among community groups," Mock said. "We were assisted in launching our complaint and gathering evidence by Alan Dutton, David Lethbridge and several members of B'nai Brith lodges in British Columbia and the Halton/Peel lodge, Har Tikvah and Solel Congregations," she added.

Fromm, founder of the Canadian Association for Free Expression, told the *Toronto Star* the board's decision will have a far-reaching impact. "It isn't just me. Any teacher who makes any political statement that someone might disagree with will leave that person open to dismissal," he said.

The 1993 warning to Fromm came after Canadian Jewish Congress and the Native Canadian Centre (NCC) complained about his associations with racist groups and his remark of "scalp 'em" during a 1991 presentation by an NCC spokesman to the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Race Relations.

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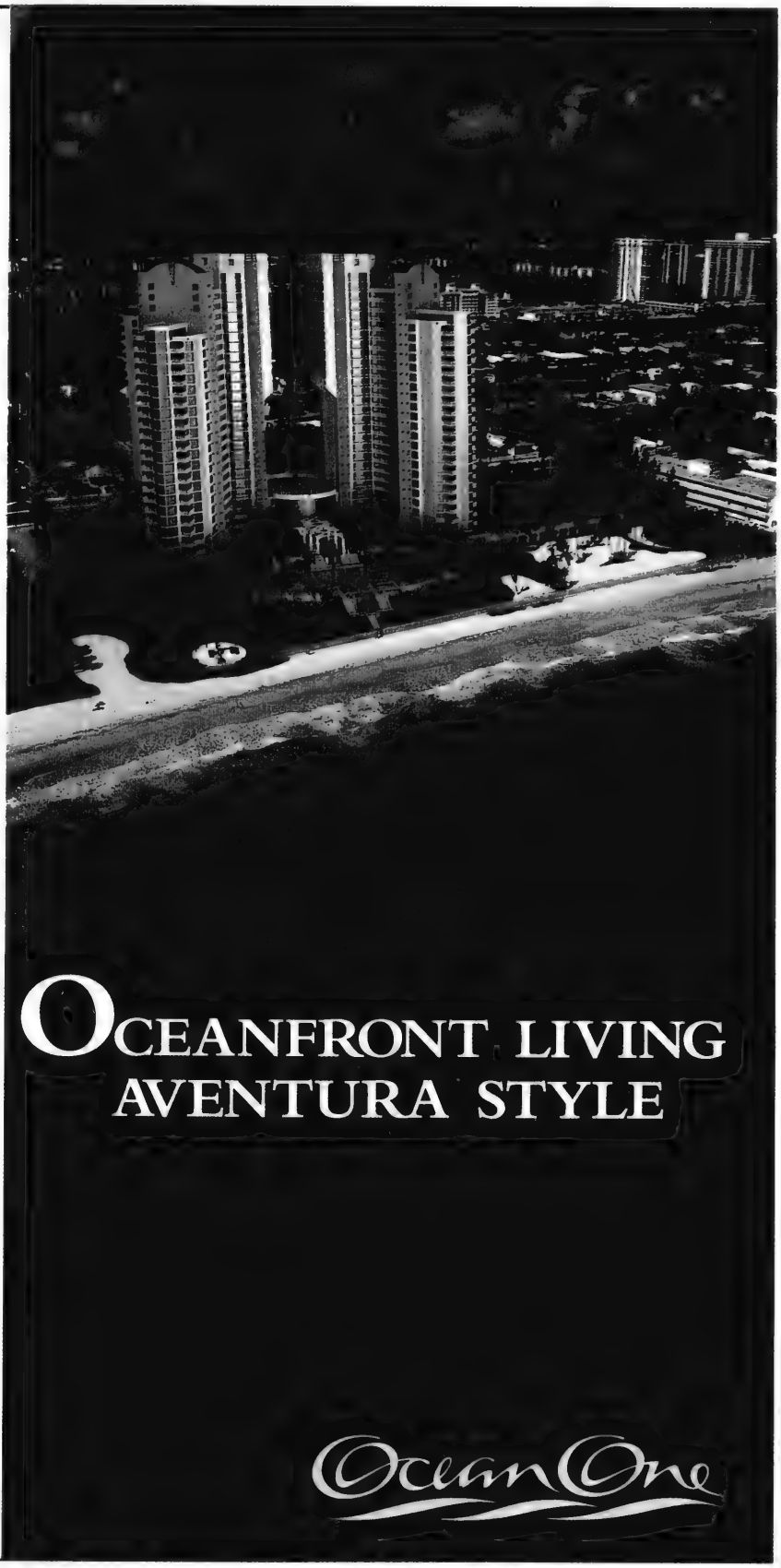

Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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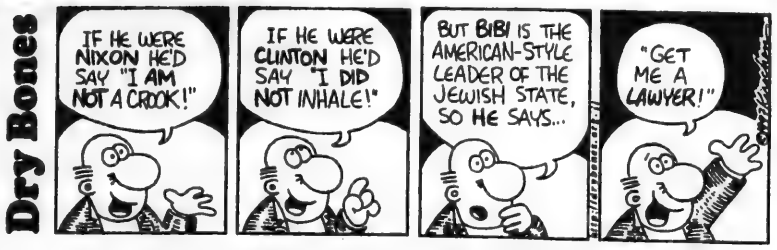
Dry Bones
IF HE WERE NIXON HE'D SAY "I AM NOT A CROOK!"
IF HE WERE CLINTON HE'D SAY "I DID NOT INHALE!"
BUT BIBI IS THE AMERICAN-STYLE LEADER OF THE JEWISH STATE, SO HE SAYS...
"GET ME A LAWYER!"

Indirect responsibility

A report circulated last week indicated that more than 1,500 people in Ontario were on a waiting list for heart surgery and that as many as 55 people may have died from their cardio-vascular conditions for lack of timely medical intervention.

The news passed relatively unheralded from one day to the next, simply one more item on a lengthy, daily list of expected unpleasant items.

If the report of these deaths was true, then we as a society, and especially the people who purport to be our leaders, must stand before the mirror of conscience and re-examine, re-evaluate and redirect our priorities.

The death of these individuals should have shaken us to our souls. But there was no public outcry. God spare us if the report of so preventable a human loss now leaves us unmoved. If the report was true, there could have been no greater proof of our society's failure to care for our fellow human beings. And no failure would deserve greater condemnation.

The CJN recently noted that in biblical times, when an unknown person was found dead in a field outside the city perimeters, the leaders of the community nearest to where the body was discovered were compelled to publicly proclaim *"Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it."* (Deuteronomy 21)

Nechama Leibowitz, the venerated biblical scholar, has observed that the "concept of bloodshed was interpreted in a very broad manner to include even indirect responsibility for the death of a human being through neglect to attend to his elementary needs. The public as a whole and the community nearest to the slain and its elders are all responsible for the terrible deed committed in the field. Their whole way of life, their social order, economic, educational and security institutions are answerable..."

We urge our federal and our provincial leaders to re-examine our political priorities. The concern for heightened fiscal responsibility must never, ever countenance so egregious a societal failure as that which may be occurring today in our health care, and indeed, in other fields of care.

As we have written regarding social welfare policies, "there is no ambiguity; the obligation to help those who are in need is uncompromising. It is incumbent upon us all. It is the moral, the just and the proper way to behave."

Can we as a society, in full conscience, say that we bear no indirect responsibility for the reported deaths of those approximately 55 human beings through our failure to attend to their elementary needs? Can our leaders, in full conscience, say "our hands have not shed this blood?"

Words and promises

Last weekend, Yasser Arafat reportedly told the Arab League meeting in Cairo that Israel's intention to build homes on Har Choma was "an attempt to blast to smithereens the peace process."

Last month at Erez checkpoint in Gaza, when he signed the Hebron redeployment agreement, he reaffirmed his commitment to "fighting terror and preventing violence" by, among other things, "preventing incitement and hostile propaganda."

How can Arafat's words in Cairo be reconciled with his promise in Erez? They cannot be.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"One of the first results of our movement...will be the transformation of the Jewish question into a question of Zion."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
March 3, 1914 The Montreal Jewish Public Library opened.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Feeling proud about Aliyah

I recently returned to Israel for my third trip and I am amazed at the changes that have occurred. My first trip was in 1976 when there were only three million people; at the time of my second trip in 1990, there were less than five million people; and now, on my most recent trip in 1997, I was told there are close to six million people. My most lasting impression this time were of the new immigrants.

Very close to the arrival area for El Al passengers to Tel Aviv was the arrival area for new immigrants from the former Soviet Union. While I waited for my luggage, I sat there and observed some of the new immigrants. These particular Jewish immigrants were arriving from a Muslim region. They looked undernourished and were a dentist's nightmare. Although I could see the trepidation on the adults' faces, the children played games, oblivious to the dramatic change taking place in their life. All Diaspora Jews who helped fund this massive immigration should be very proud.

Dr. Edan F. Orvitz
St. Catharines, Ont.

Canadians want equal treatment

I have the deepest respect and appreciation for the efforts made by the Jewish Vocational Service (JVS), as well as by all of our community, to provide employment, especially in these difficult times.

I was distressed to see an article saying that the JVS had invited all recent immigrants of under three years residency in Canada to participate in a blitz to find jobs. As well, only "recent graduates" are permitted to use *The CJN*'s free Jobs Wanted column (Montreal edition only). What about the rest of us?

I am a Canadian-born Quebecer, a community-oriented person in the 30 to 65-year-old range, not a full graduate, but very experienced, as are thousands of our own co-religionists. Why is not the effort made to give us priority or at least equal treatment? This is not without disrespect for the immigrants. I love and respect them. They are essential to our community.

We, too, want to renew our lives and need good jobs, not leftovers. This type of treatment results in depression, ruined lives and exits from our shrinking, beautiful Montreal.

Ben Linden
Montreal

Editor's Note: Though the article referred to was only in our Montreal edition, the letter is relevant to our Toronto readers as well.

Kehilah not the key to Peretz

In his review of Ruth Wisse's new anthology of I.L. Peretz, Rabbi Baskin writes: "For 25 years Peretz served as an official of the Jewish community of Warsaw giving untiringly of himself as a prolific writer, publisher, teacher and dramatist."

As I read this, and I could be wrong in my reading, Rabbi Baskin is somehow relating Peretz' public persona, his literary and public writings with his post in the *gmina*, the Warsaw kehilah.

Not so. The job with the kehilah was just that, a job that gave him livelihood. It had mainly to do with records, vital statistics, the cemetery. In one sense it was indirectly related. It freed him to act as litterateur in his spare time. He was a lawyer, but his licence to practise had been removed under suspicion of revolutionary activity.

Harry Gersh
Toronto

The end of timidity and silence

The amazing success of the World Jewish Congress, representing world Jewry, in putting pressure on the Swiss banking authorities to divulge the truth about billions in money, art, and jewelry, proves once again to the world, Am Yisrael chai.

Our parents, grandparents and past generations were convinced that timidity and silence was the way to deal with their lives, but this new leadership under president Edgar Bronfman, together with U.S. Senator D'Amato, and U.S. President Bill Clinton, and no doubt many other righteous thinking people, is the reason for Swiss banking officials finally admitting the truth — that there was money, art and other valuables entrusted to them. A drop-in-the-bucket fund of $70 million has been set up for the survivors.

Our present and future generations are being appealed to to carry on this new, and obviously productive diplomacy on any matters which may concern world Jewry.

Samuel Rappaport
Montreal

Calgary spotted great teacher

That was a great article about "Dynamic Netivot teacher," but why no mention of Agi Romer Segal from Akiva Academy in Calgary?

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Sandy Corenblum
Akiva Academy
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Perspectives

Observations on the mood in Quebec

Looking deeper into the recent FEDERATION CJA survey

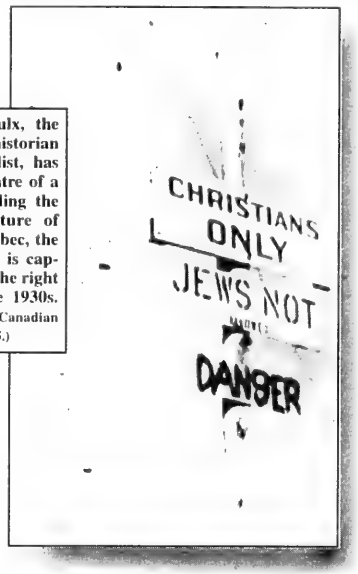
By JACK JEDWAB

For decades, Quebecers have been inundated with questionnaires and/or surveys attempting to gauge opinion on political matters and most notably on constitutional issues. Not a month goes by without the latest figures being released on how many Quebecers are either for or against federalism or sovereignty.

In the aftermath of the narrow referendum results of Oct. 30, 1995, even a slight increase or decrease in support of federalism seems to affect the ever-volatile mood of Quebecers. To satisfy their respective supporters, both federalist and separatist spin doctors make every effort to put their desired interpretation on the results of surveys on the constitutional future. But the anxiety over the political situation is constant for many Quebecers.

Many Quebec analysts stress the differences in opinion on the constitutional future between Quebec's "divided" francophone population and the presumably monolithic non-francophone communities.

At times, this approach has led to sweeping generalizations about the attitudes of the province's ethnic and linguistic minorities. Caution certainly needs to be exercised when assessing the opinions of subgroups, in this case minority communities within the Quebec population.



Lionel-Adolphe Groulx, the controversial priest, historian and fervent nationalist, has recently been the centre of a public debate regarding the origins and the nature of anti-Semitism in Quebec, the ugliest face of which is captured in the signs on the right from Monreal in the 1930s. (Photo from The Canadian Encyclopedia, Hurtig, 1985.)

In this regard, certain conclusions drawn from a recently released survey of Montreal's Jewish community conducted by FEDERATION CJA illustrate the need to situate some of the observations about the community within a broader context.

Over a year after the Quebec referendum, both *The Canadian Jewish News* (Dec. 12, 1996) and the *Montreal Gazette* highlighted the "record levels" of pessimism about life in Quebec reported by the Montreal Jewish community respondents in a survey which dealt with a broad range of issues. Almost two-thirds of respondents said they were "pessimistic" and about one-quarter were "very pessimistic" about life in Quebec. Nearly 80 percent viewed negatively the long-term political and economic outlook for the province and some 65 percent regarded the social outlook (whatever that means) as unfavorable.

Without diminishing the significance of these findings, it is useful to place them in a temporal context and to contrast them with the opinions of non-Jewish Quebecers. *The CJN* did indeed make reference to the 1991 FEDERATION CJA survey, noting that half the respondents were pessimistic about the economy and over two-thirds about the political situation. The increase over the five ensuing years is not surprising in the aftermath of the 1995 referendum results and the deterioration of economic conditions in the province.

But in surveys of public opinion among the broader Quebec population, francophone and non-francophone, a significant number of persons also continually expresses pessimism about the future political and economic prospects for the province. In short, such pessimism is by no means confined to the Montreal Jewish community.

Where there appears to be an important divergence with the attitudes of Quebec's French Catholic population in particular, is in the stated intention of non-francophones who say they intend to leave the province at some point in the future and particularly if Quebec were to separate. In the federation survey of Montreal Jews, slightly over one-quarter suggested they would leave Quebec over the next five years and another 23 percent stated they were unsure. It should be noted that these numbers are not much higher than those which appeared in the 1991 survey when the same question was asked.

While the results are an important indication of the mood of the Montreal Jewish community and certainly reflect a serious problem, the number of persons who actually leave is far smaller than those who say they will. This will likely be borne out with regard to the 1991 Jewish community respondents when the results of the 1996 census are released later this year.

Whether they expressed the intention to leave or not, all respondents were asked to identify the reasons which would contribute to a departure from Quebec. As reported in *The CJN* on Dec. 12, 1996, about 80 percent identified the political situation, 53 percent the economy and about one-third the language situation as "very important" considerations. As an aside, only 10 percent of Sephardim identified language as a factor.

As the questions were asked in so "open-ended" a fashion, it is likely that many Quebecers as well would probably have enumerated the political and economic considerations to an equally significant degree in identifying reasons for people to leave. On the basis of this survey then, it may be misleading to attribute a greater weight to one factor than another. Indeed, it is clear that most of those who cited economic considerations also agreed that political factors influenced people's decision to leave. It should be noted that in various public opinion polls, many Quebec politicians have tried to distinguish economic from political instability as the reason for possibly leaving. Such a distinction is, at the very least, problematic.

The leadership of the Montreal Jewish community, through FEDERATION CJA and Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region, has a responsibility to convey as accurately as possible the mood of the community both to Jews and to non-Jews in Quebec and in the rest of Canada. This is especially important with respect to the issue of perceived anti-Semitism in Quebec as measured in the FEDERATION CJA survey.

In this regard, it should be noted that *The CJN* erroneously reported that over three-quarters of respondents believed that there was "significant" anti-Semitism in Quebec. (Dec. 12, 1996) Upon closer reading, the 1996 FEDERATION CJA survey cannot support such an interpretation. In fact, the survey indicates that while 14.8 percent of Montreal Jews claim that there is a great deal of anti-Semitism, another 61 percent stated that there is "some" and not "significant" anti-Semitism in the province. It is imprudent to equate "some" with "significant" as is done in *The CJN* article. Indeed, one could argue it may be more appropriate to add the 24 percent of respondents who said there was little anti-Semitism to the 61 percent who said there was some anti-Semitism.

For a more complete idea on the current state of opinion among Montreal Jews on anti-Semitism in Quebec, it is useful to examine the other questions included in the survey. These include the finding that a slight majority of Montreal Jews does not believe that there is more anti-Semitism here than in the rest of Canada; that the prevalent feeling is that anti-Semitism has not increased in Quebec in recent years. Rather, a greater number of respondents believe that the level of anti-Semitism has stayed the same.

Whereas in 1991 some 61 percent of the sample believed that anti-Semitism had increased in recent years, in 1996 some 35 percent felt it had increased. In 1996, nearly 50 percent felt that anti-Semitism had either stayed the same (39 percent) or decreased (8.5 percent). These findings do not imply that people should be satisfied with the status quo regarding anti-Semitism either in Quebec or elsewhere in Canada. Clearly, the actual degree of anti-Semitism throughout the country remains far too high. Moreover, in Quebec during the year 1996, there have been some pernicious incidents of anti-Semitism from both marginal and mainstream figures. But it would be inappropriate to make sweeping generalizations about rampant anti-Semitism in Quebec, a view which the Montreal Jews surveyed by FEDERATION CJA do not appear to support.

On the basis of this survey, one should be extremely cautious about drawing any links between the issues of political and economic uncertainty and the degree of anti-Semitism. While some analysts have pointed to the historical relationship under such circumstances, the federation survey simply does not provide a strong foundation upon which to make such links.

Generally, the findings of this survey on such issues as political and economic instability are in line with the polling of the broader population, notably those who voted for federalism in the last referendum. The survey reinforces the overwhelming support among Montreal Jews for federalism. On the issue of expressed "intention" to leave, there are also similarities in polls conducted among non-francophones (although there are many francophones within the Jewish community) that indicate large numbers of other, non-Jewish persons who might also consider leaving.

Just as in 1991, the more recent findings point to continued serious challenges, not only for Quebec Jewish leadership, but for Quebec political leaders on the whole regarding these issues. It is unfortunate that for "partisan" reasons, too many Quebec politicians fail to acknowledge some of the realities expressed in this important survey. The leadership of the Montreal Jewish community will have to expand its efforts at coalition building and work even more closely with non-Jewish leadership to further explain, in a non-threatening manner, the consequences of our political situation to politicians and other decision-makers in the province.

Jack Jedwab is the executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region and teaches the course, Minorities in Quebec at McGill University.

Opinions

Media's view of Israel is slanted

The tragic helicopter crash last month was the worst military accident in Israel's history. Seventy-three soldiers died.

By Viva Press in Halifax

Much has been said about this crash. Or has it?

The Jewish press has had extensive coverage, but what about the mainstream press? Why, in Halifax, was the press coverage so minimal?

The TV news reported the crash the day it happened. The local papers reported the crash the day after it happened. The news stories covering it were buried in the inside pages.

And that was it. Unless one had access to the Israeli sites on the Internet, news of the event ended there.

I can guess why news from Israel may not feature prominently in the press in Halifax. Perhaps it's because not many Nova Scotians have ties with the Middle East, though that seems a little lame, since the Middle East is one of the hot spots for news.

Whatever the reasons for the lack of coverage of the Middle East, I can't make excuses for the weak coverage here of world news in general.

In my third-year journalism class at King's, there are 23 people. At least one-third of them admit they have no interest in world news. This is a little scary for me, since my classmates and I are the journalists of the future. Some of them have told me "far-away" news does not affect them. This doesn't make sense to me. We are a part of this world and decisions made far away can have an effect on us here in Canada.

Many people I know in Halifax did not know about the collision between the two helicopters in the north of Israel. Yet interestingly, most of them knew about the skirmish between the Jews and the Arabs in the Hebron market near the Avraham Avinu complex, when both sides pelted eggs, apples and oranges at one another.

My only explanation for such an incongruity of emphasis is that the Hebron incident received more coverage than the air crash. Now, my question is, why? Why would a food fight receive more coverage than the worst helicopter crash in a country's history? Was it because in the food-fight incident Israel was seen as the "bad guy?" Or, was there another reason?

I am part of a newsgroup that consists of Jewish student journalists in North America. A recent topic of debate was the media coverage Israel does or does not receive in the mainstream press. For the most part, the argument favored those who said good news from Israel isn't reported enough. I agree with this side of the dispute. Israel gets the spotlight in news, but only when Israel is seen as the bad guy.

One of the students who contributes to this Jewish student journalist newsgroup argued that Israel is not a perfect country and that Diaspora Jews should not disregard this fact. Among other things, he pointed out that Israel violates human rights. Still, despite his contentions, he said the mainstream press already gives Israel enough negative coverage. He was directing his comments to the Jewish press that must have more balanced reporting.

Israel is known for its freedom of press. You can say what you want, when you want, where you want, and the Israeli government will not try to stop you. This freedom of press is both a sore point with me and something of which I am very proud. It is why I am annoyed that a food fight that pitted Jews against Arabs got more coverage than a tragic disaster that left 73 dead. On the other hand, I wouldn't want this freedom of press stopped. It is important that people know what's going on.

Another reason why there is so much coverage on Israel is that reporters find it far easier to have free access to news there than in any other Middle Eastern country.

I guess what I'm asking, then, is for more mainstream press coverage of Israel, but that this coverage should deal with the positive aspects of Israeli events as much as it focuses on the negative aspects.

Slogans conceal a hateful message

A month dedicated to the learning of black history is currently being commemorated worldwide. In Montreal's Dawson College much debate over the fine line between freedom of expression and racism has emerged from this educational celebration.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

One event in particular, which was planned by the black student societies at Dawson, involved members of the Nation of Islam coming to the school to "educate" black students about their rich heritage. When that group's members arrived at Dawson, many Jewish students found themselves frustrated because of the Nation of Islam's poor record regarding racist sentiment and incitement. Jewish students, backed by the campus Hillel organization, began to protest their presence at the school.

This move upset the black student societies and sparked a fierce debate over truth, pride and freedom of expression versus racism. The debate, however, was completely out of place in the halls of Dawson considering the context in which it found itself.

"That's why you call yourself Mr. Reubenstein, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Silverstein. Because you been stealing rubies, gold and silver all over the earth. That's why we can't even wear a bracelet or necklace without calling it Jewelry." This remark made on Nov. 29, 1993 by Khalid Abdul Muhammad, a leader of the Nation of Islam, is just one of a wide range of "compassionate" and "educational" quotes by members of the organization. Statements such as this are clearly and blatantly racist, leaving no room for any debate at all.

The burden of exposing the truth was left solely in the hands of the Jewish students and Hillel, for no other student group or administrative body had the courage to see truth or justice prevail. Members of Hillel were on their feet defending all the victims of the Nation of Islam's racial hatred, not just Jews, but whites, Christians, women, homosexuals and all those who oppose the views of the organization and its demagogic leader, Louis Farrakhan. Since Hillel was the only group to utter a word of protest against the hatemongers, the blame for ruining this activity in celebration of Black History Month fell uniquely on Hillel's head, adding fuel to the fire of racial rhetoric.

The Nation of Islam attempts to promote black pride by portraying blacks as the exclusive victims of racial intolerance. According to the Nation of Islam's doctrine, the racial intolerance experienced by black people for generations has come at the hands of practically all non-black people. In exalting their own race at the expense of others, the Nation of Islam claims to be working for the betterment of the black person's quality of life in America.

Racism is a threat to stability of any kind; however, racism of this kind is exceptionally dangerous. As the Nation of Islam disguises its wicked and hateful message behind slogans of pride and education, many followers are disillusioned and tend to overlook the significance of the hidden bigotry. This type of racism perpetrates the violent villification of many peoples, while those spreading the rhetoric often think they are acting in the best interest of their community.

Perhaps now, in celebration of Black History Month we can all learn something about the difference between promoting pride and spreading racism. Pride comes from one's history; it is a matter of heritage that is measured by evaluating the accomplishments and contributions of ones roots. Pride comes to those who are exalted by who they are, not through the anger over who they are not. Human beings are not each other's stepping stones for attaining loftiness. When one group of people truly advances in the world, the entire human race benefits and advances together. We all share the same world, and only by truly learning about the treasures of one's cultural accomplishments can any race effectively combat intolerance and bigotry targeted against them.

Hopefully the subsequent weeks of Black History Month, and the future, will be witness to an inspiration of pride and courage extending from the achievements of the heroes of black culture. That way Hillel can go back to promoting Jewish causes on campus, instead of defending all those who are not represented by the narrow views of the Nation of Islam, and the black student societies can flourish with success in advancing the state of black people today.

Although it is frightening that last year's Million Man March on Washington, which was organized by the Nation of Islam, was quite successful and it seems that Louis Farrakhan's popularity is on the rise, there is a piece of history that is somewhat relieving. On May 26, 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "I have a dream," at the largest civil rights demonstration ever. Marching arm in arm with King that day was Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. There is still hope; we must simply find the appropriate means to attain our dreams.

Rochester dialogue could be a model

Time was — some 70 years ago — when the joint appearance of a Christian clergyman and a rabbi made headline news. Any kind of dialogue between them was considered a major breakthrough.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

It was usually the Jews who were eager to engage in such discussion, hoping for larger recognition by the Christian majority and for a frank acknowledgment of the historical inequities and injuries the Jews had over the centuries suffered at the hands of Christendom.

More of this happened after World War II when the revelations of Christian silence and even collusion in the Holocaust became apparent and caused church people to have greater contact with Jews. Dialogues began to flourish, but when the Six Day War came and Jews felt that they were once again standing all alone, the new inter-religious venture faded once again and for a while disappeared.

Now comes news out of Rochester, N.Y., that the contact between the two religions has been renewed in a remarkable way — although for the time being on a local basis only. Participants in a milestone agreement between the Rochester Board of Rabbis, the Jewish Community Federation of the City and the Roman Catholic Diocese were signed last year. Surprisingly little attention has been given to the matter, which came to my attention only recently.

The following are some of the recommended provisions of the agreement: to combat and to respond publicly to all forms of anti-Semitism, racism, anti-Catholicism and religious intolerance; to promote richer and more frequent communication that will serve to instruct, enlighten and heal; to initiate efforts to ensure appropriate and accurate curricula when teaching about each other's faith traditions; to explore areas in which resources or parallel services such as in family services might benefit both communities; to strive to enlighten and become more sensitive to each other in areas of particular concern, such as the link with the State of Israel for Jewish people and issues of the sacredness of human life for Catholics.

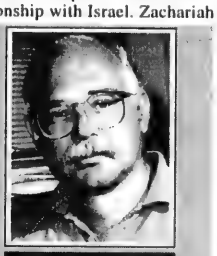
The agreement was fleshed out by policies to put it into effect. Signatories were representatives of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Nazareth College of Rochester and the Anti-Defamation League.

I welcome the agreement and I hope that it will spread to other communities as well. But even more important for me: we need such dialogue badly within the Jewish community. It makes me very sad that it is easier these days to talk with religious leaders of another religion than to talk with my opposite numbers in the Jewish community. I recall the talmudic judgment on internal strife. When the Romans were laying siege to Jerusalem in the year 70, the Jews might have had a chance of withstanding the onslaught. But, muses the Talmud, this did not come to pass and Jerusalem was destroyed because Jews were fighting each other rather than a common enemy. The Talmud calls it *sin'at chinam*, baseless hatred. Intimations of such destructive sentiments have surfaced in Israel, and we here do our best to imitate such self-destructive attitude and practices.

The Kirshner File

Canada's relationship with Israel examined

Only a handful of scholars have bothered to plumb the depths of Canada's relationship with Israel. Zachariah



By Sheldon Kirshner

Kay, a Canadian resident of Jerusalem, is one of the precious few who have risen to the challenge, not once but twice.

Nineteen years ago, he wrote *Canada and Palestine: The Politics of Non-Commitment.* Now he has written *The Diplomacy of Prudence: Canada and Israel, 1948-1958*, published by McGill-Queen's University Press recently.

Both books share a common theme, said Kay, a political scientist who made aliyah in the 1970s.

Judging by their titles, Canada has always exercised deliberate caution in its approach to Jewish nationalism and to Israel itself.

Canada was favorably disposed to a Jewish homeland in Palestine, but drew the line at a full-fledged Jewish state, explained Kay, who was in Toronto recently on the second leg of a Canadian lecture tour under the auspices of the Montreal-based Association of Canadian Studies. Once Israel came into being, Canada was cautious in its support of Israel, trying to strike a balanced position between Israel and its Arab adversaries.

In *The Diplomacy of Prudence*, the most ambitious treatment of Canadian foreign policy in the Mideast since David Bercuson's *Canada and the Birth of Israel* (1985), Kay fleshes out his thesis by examining Canada's response to several key issues: recognition of the new state, the status of Jerusalem, the Palestinian refugee problem, arms sales and the 1956 Suez war.

Israel had to wait more than seven months for Canadian de facto recognition and a further four months for de jure recognition, Kay points out. The delay stemmed in large part from Canada's reluctance to offend Britain, the former colonial power in Palestine.

Canada then permitted an Israeli diplomat, Avraham Harman, to take up residence in Ottawa as Israel's first consul general. In the interests of maintaining balance, Canada raised the status of Lebanon's representation and permitted Egypt to open a consulate general as well.

Canadian judiciousness was also reflected in matters concerning protocol. Canada did not raise the rank of Israel's official representative here to minister plenipotentiary-cum-ambassador until 1953. And the first non-resident Canadian ambassador to Israel, stationed in Greece, was not appointed until a year later. Four more years would elapse before Canada dispatched its first resident envoy, Margaret Meagher, to Tel Aviv.

According to Kay, Canada moved slowly in the exchange of diplomats with Israel out of domestic considerations. Canada had no formal relations with the Vatican at this juncture and was reluctant to irritate Canadian Catholics. Once this irritant was removed, Canada dealt with Israel on a reciprocal basis.

Canada's attitude toward Jerusalem was similarly dictated by compromise. Despite heavy Catholic pressure on Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent to line up behind the Vatican's stance for Jerusalem's total internationalization, Canada adopted a more pragmatic policy.

Canada accepted Israeli secular control over the western portion of the city, but, in consultation with Britain, did not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

The Palestinian refugee issue, though not an impediment in Canada's links with Israel, remained a constant Canadian concern. Canada became the fourth largest contributor to the United Nations relief agency caring for the refugees and, in a modest gesture, admitted a number of English-speaking and French-speaking Palestinians from Jordan and Lebanon.

During the first decade of Israel's existence, Canada was a reluctant supplier of military equipment. Canada abided by the UN embargo on the shipment of arms to the Middle East. But in January 1949, after selling a batch of training aircraft to Egypt, Canada sold a smaller number of trainers to Israel. Subsequently, Canada let Israel buy 100 machine guns, 18 anti-aircraft units, about 18,000 rounds of ammunition and tank parts and tracks.

Canada, however, denied Israel's separate requests to buy Mosquito planes and F-86 Sabre jets. In Kay's view, the F-86 affair was particularly symbolic of the Canadian government's diplomacy of prudence.

Jewish community leaders, ranging from Senator David Croll to Canadian Jewish Congress President Samuel Bronfman, exerted pressure on St. Laurent to push through the F-86 sale. In September 1956, the transaction was approved by the cabinet. But in the wake of Israel's invasion of the Sinai Peninsula, St. Laurent suspended all arms shipments to Israel. Israel never bought the F-86, settling instead for French Mysteres and Mirages.

Kay identifies Lester B. Pearson, then foreign minister, as "the foremost factor" in the first decade of Canada-Israel relations. Pearson played an integral role in every decision that had a bearing on Israel, but never was he as visible as when he proposed the creation of a UN peacekeeping force to monitor the truce following the 1956 Arab-Israeli war.

Diplomacy of Prudence

In summarizing Canada's overall policy toward Israel, Kay maintains that the cabinet was guided first by a consideration for its Western friends, especially Britain, then by Israel's security needs and finally by UN requirements and domestic constraints.

"Canada tried to stay uninvolved wherever possible," he writes, "and when involvement became necessary it acted with balance and modesty and in concert with its allies."

Kay, who holds a BA degree from the University of Manitoba, combed Canadian and Israeli archives to produce *The Diplomacy of Prudence*, which, he claims, is the only study of its kind anywhere. He describes it as a sequel to *Canada and Palestine: The Politics of Non-Commitment*, a spinoff of his Hebrew University PhD.

Currently, Kay is hard at work on his third book, which, he says, will bring the story of Israel's ties with Canada up to 1968. Due to the 30-year rule at the Israel State Archives, he cannot as yet delve into the period from 1968 onward.

Kay, a past lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan, Trent University and the University of Ottawa, is the founder and a member of the Israel Association for Canadian Studies. In conjunction with the Halpert Centre for Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University, the association sponsors seminars, lectures and conferences.

"There is considerable interest in Israel in Canadian studies," he observes.

A semi-retired widower with four children, Kay was born in St. Boniface, Manitoba, the scion of Lithuanian and Ukrainian Jewish immigrants. As a boy in Winnipeg, he belonged to the Habonim Zionist youth group.

In 1974, he and his wife, Nomi, whom he had met in Jerusalem, decided to settle in Israel. Two months prior to their departure, she died. The tragedy did not deter him from making aliyah, nor did it impede his growth as a scholar, judging by his performance in *The Diplomacy of Prudence*.

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Yiddish Corner

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

ביטראָג פון זאָגלעמביער יידישן ישוב צו דער געשיכטע פון פאַר־מלחמה׳דיקן פוילן

פון א. קאַטאָוויצער

אין דער געשיכטע פון צווייטן טויזנט יאָר יידישער גלות, איז דאָס קאַפּיטל גלות פוילן דער סאָמע אייגנאַרטיקסטער. עד איז כּאָראַקטעריסטיש דערמיט, וואָס אין דער גאַנצער געשיכטע פוילן איז דער יידישער קיבּרן געווען אַ טייל פון איר באַפעלקערונג, אין דער לענג און בּרייט פון לאַנד — אָבער תּמיד געטרייַ זיך אָפּגעטאָן.

די ידן פון פוילן האָבן תּמיד געהאַט אויסצושטיין פּיינשע און גיסטיקע צרות מצד די פאַלאָקן, וועלכע אַלס קאַטאָליקן האָבן געפֿרעדיקט פון אַלע פּלאַטפֿאָרמען דעם גדאַנק, אַז ידן האָבן דערמאָרדעט יעזוסן.

אין רעזולטאַט דערפון, איז די געשיכטע פון פּוילישע ידן דורכגעוואָפּט מיט דזיפות און שחיטות, וועלכע האָבן אָבער געהאַט די וויקונג צו ברענגען דאָס פוילישע יידנטום מער צוזאַמען, עס ענגער פאַראייניקן און גיעפּידט דערצו, אַז פוילן איז געווען דער שטאַרקסטער צענטער פון יידישן לעבן, פון יידישער קולטור און נאַציאָנאַלזם.

אַ ספּעציעלן אָרט אין דער חשיבות פון יידישן ישוב אין פוילן האָבן געשפּילט די זאָגלעמביער ידן. זיי האָבן געשפּילט אַ גרויסע ראָל אין דער אויספֿאָרמירונג און געשטאַלטונג פון יידישן לעבן.

זאָגלעמביע, זייענדיק דער צענטער פון דער גרעסטער קוילן-אתדוסטריע אין אייראָפּע, און ליגנדיק געאָגראָפּיש אינעם האַרץ פון אַמאָליקן אויבערשלעזיען (דייטשלאַנד), האָט געצוויגן צו זיך די אויפמערקזאַמקייט פון 200 טויזנט ידן, געפּלאָגט און געיאָגט, וועלכע האָבן זיך שוין אין 16-טן יאָרהונדערט דאָרט באַזעצט און מיט דער צייט געוואָרן אַ גרויסער צענטער פון חסידות, חלוצים, פון דער יידישער אַרבעטער באַוועגונג און פון אַ יוגנט, גרייט צום קאַמף פֿאַרן בּעסער פּאָלק.

דער צוזאַמענשטעל פון יידישן קיבּרן איז געווען אַ פאַרשיידן-אַרטיקער. ער איז באַשטאַנען מערסטנס פון האַנטווערקער, קליין-העגדלער, יידישע אַרבעטער, ווי אויך מיטלקלאַס עלעמענטן.

מיט דער צייט האָבן די זאָגלעמביער ידן אויסגעבויט יידישע פאָלקס-שולן, העבּרייאישע שולן און אויך יידישע מיטל-שולן, וועל-כע האָבן אַרויסגעגעבן מנהיגים, פּראָפעסיאָנאַלן און פּאָליטיקער. די זאָגלעמביער ידן זיינען געווען אָקטיוו פּאַרטיאַן אין די שטאָט-ראַטן פון די פּוילישע שטעט און שטעטלעך. זיי האָבן אויך געהאַט זייער אינטענסע פּאַרטיייער אינעם פּוילישן פּאַרלאַמענט, וועמענס אויפֿגאַבע עס איז געווען צו שטיין כסדר אויף דער וואַך אין קאַמף פֿאַר יידן-רעכט אין פוילן, און זיך אַנטקעגנשטעלן דעם טעמפּער פון דער פוילישׂ אַנטיסעמיטישער אינטעליגענץ.

דאָס זאָגלעמביער יידנטום האָט ביגעשטייערט אידע בעסטע זין און טעכטער צו דער צוויטער עליה און וואָלט באַשטימט געווען אַ גרויסער פּאָטענציאַל אינעם אויפבּוי פון מדינת ישׂראל, ווען ניט דער אָחוריות׳דיקער היטלעריזם, וואָס האָט אָנגעצונדן די צווי-טע מלחמה קעגן דער וועלט און דעם אויסראָטונג-קריג קעגן יידישן פּאָלק. אָלס רעזולטאַט דערפון האָבן מיר פאַרלירן אַ דריטל פון אונדזער יידישן פּאָלק איבער דער וועלט.

די זאָגלעמביער ידן זיינען געווען צווישן די ערשטע פּאַרפּי-ניקט צו וועלן דורך די רוצחים. דער אויסראָטונג-פּראָצעס איז געווען אַ פולשטענדיקער. נישטאָ מער קיין יידישע מאָמע, טאַטע, אָדער קיין קינד אין די שטעט און שטעטלעך פון זאָגלעמ-ביער געגנט. נישטאָ מער די פּריידּ אויף די יידישע גאַסן. פוילן — דער גרעסטער צענטער פון יידישן לעבן, איז איצט כּמעט ידן-ריין.

די על-פּי-נס געבליבענע זיינען צעשפּרייט און צעוויט איבער אַלע עקן פון דער וועלט. אַ קליינע צאָל לעבן-געבליבענע האָבן געפּונען זייער טריסט אין מדינת ישׂראל. נאָר אַ קליינעם טייל איז געלונגען צו קומען קיין קאַנאַדע, וואו זיי באַמיען זיך, אין די ראָמען פון זייערע מעגלעכקייטן, זיך אויסצולעבן קולטורעל און נעזעלשאַפטלעך, אויפן שטיגער פון דעם אָמאָליקן זאָגלעמביער יידישן ישוב.

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Sincerely,

Edwin Goldstein

P.S. For over 30 years, I have made Baycrest my personal commitment to the community. Today, I am prouder than ever of the work Baycrest does and the professionals and staff who make it all happen. This is the time to share your pride and commitment. Baycrest is calling on you.

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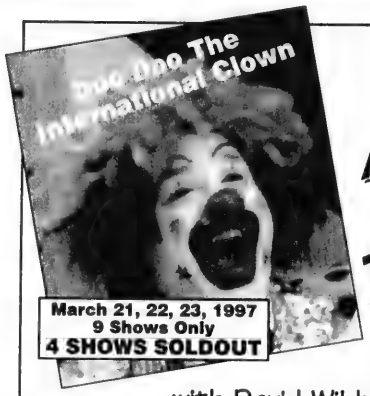

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Budget changes could help reduce taxes

By GEORGE WEINBERGER
Special to The CJN

Changes proposed in the Feb. 18 federal budget could save you taxes.

According to the budget, if you donate publicly traded securities before 2002 to a charity such as UJA Federation, you will only have to pay half the tax you would otherwise pay if you first sold the shares and then donated the cash. And the higher the gain on your donated shares, the greater your tax savings.

Let's take a simple example. If you sold stock for $2,000 that you bought for $1,000, you would pay approximately $400 in taxes on your capital gain at the top marginal rate. Under the new proposals, if you donated the same stock to a charity, you would only have to pay about $200 on the accrued gain. The stock donation would get you a $2,000 receipt on which you would save about $1,000 in taxes.

The government, recognizing the impact of dramatic public spending cuts on charities, has proposed several other measures to assist them in raising funds. The limit on charitable donations that you can claim each year on your tax return will now be 75 percent of your net income, up from 50 percent in 1996 and 20 percent in 1995.

If you donate assets to a charity, you will be able to claim donations of up to 75 percent of your other income, plus 100 percent of the taxable capital gain or recaptured capital cost allowance (i.e., tax depreciation) resulting from the gift.

Ottawa has also attempted to "level the playing field" for most charities. In the past, you could claim donations totaling 100 percent of your income on Crown gifts — to the government, universities, hospitals or other public institutions. It was a powerful incentive that often made it more attractive for large donors to give gifts to such establishments instead of other charities. To correct this imbalance, the budget proposes to reduce the limit for claiming Crown donations to 75 percent of net income. It is going to be the same for all charitable organizations.

Many people have set up their own private charitable foundations to which they have made donations, often with shares, debt or assets of family-owned companies, instead of cash.

Now, Finance Minister Paul Martin believes that "such gifts are not truly charitable because they are not made unconditionally." As a result, a special non-refundable 50 percent tax will be levied on the foundation for these donations in the future.

Be sure to analyse the budget's impact if, during your lifetime or in your will, you contemplate contributions to your private foundation, intend to donate gifts of shares or debt of your family-owned corporation or plan to contribute publicly traded securities to a charity.

Details of the proposals affecting charitable donations have not yet been finalized, so be sure to consult your financial advisors before you take any action.

The federal government has enriched tax incentives for charitable giving to encourage Canadians to make donations. Now it is up to us to respond by increasing our commitment.

George Weinberger is a partner with KPMG and chair of the Professional Advisory Council for UJA Federation's Bequest and Endowment Fund.

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UWO ISRAEL DAY

University of Western Ontario students Mark Zelunka, Elana Grosser and Shayna Rosenbaum (president of the Jewish Students' Union) staffed a Tu b'Shvat table at a recent Israel Day on campus. The event featured a poetry reading by Shel Krakofsky, performances by London Hebrew Day Schools students, the Hot Latkes Klezmer Band and two comedians from Comedywood. Representatives from various Jewish and Israeli organizations were also on hand.

Greater Toronto Area

York Region teens seek place of their own

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — If York Region's Jewish teenagers have their every wish fulfilled, the Jewish community will provide them with an ultra-cool, nearby, safe place to hang out. Music and a juice bar would add the finishing touches.

The hang-out was a recurring theme at the recent youth symposium held at Westmount Collegiate under the auspices of UJA Federation. A Jewish teen sports league was also suggested.

About 50 teens showed up for the event, the federation's first major outreach effort since Saul Cohen took on the new position of York Region outreach worker last month.

The Sunday event, held to determine needs and introduce teens to existing services, was initiated by a committee studying services in the region. Members decided it was best to get input directly from those involved, said committee chair Dov Altman.

"You are the future of the Jewish community," UJA Federation president Sandy Brown told participants.

The community can provide them with staff and "hopefully" a centre, Brown said, indicating that whatever results from the symposium will be a joint effort of teens and the federation.

"What I hear today gave me confidence that you can make this thing move in a direction that is positive. I'm going to go back to our leadership and say this is a very important thing, so that you, who will be leaders of the Jewish community in the not too distant future, will have the nourishment you need to get there."

The whole symposium was conceived and organized by teens, noted Cohen, who stressed the importance of their follow-up if anything is to come of it.

For high school students, the social aspect is very important, noted several participants. One suggested that a religious program like a Shabbaton might be a long-term goal, but to attract a high school crowd in the first place, a dance would have more appeal.

Rebecca Wortzman, 18, a student at Vaughan Secondary School, noted that transportation was another important factor. In the brainstorming session she facilitated, a low-cost shuttle service was proposed.

Thornhill Secondary School student Ronen Gaisiner, 14, wants "fun" and "interesting" programs.

Another participant suggested extending outreach to junior high students, who might be more eager to try a new group, especially if it has the cachet of being endorsed by older kids.

At an age where career and life decisions are imminent, it's necessary to become familiar with something in order to decide whether you want to be a part of it, said Susan Jackson, director of continuity programming.

Vaughan student Elyse Axelrod, 15, attended the symposium at the suggestion of her mother. "I really didn't want to," she admitted. But she thought the students came up with "some really good ideas" that address the scarcity of activities for Jewish teens in the area.

Participants plan to spread the word. "We [at the symposium] are a small part of the Jewish community, and we have to talk to others to see what they want to do," said Carly Naster, 15.

Michelle Melov, a friend of Carly and Elyse's, was impressed that the community sought the opinions of teens themselves.

Some of the participants are already involved Jewishly in organizations like Tsabar (Israeli scouts) or B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO).

Brian Wasserman, going on 19, is active in BBYO so he can "connect to what's out there." He was a member of the committee that organized the symposium.

The day-long event also featured a talk by Eli Rubenstein of United Israel Appeal who urged teens to make their voices heard. A video of local teens discussing their Jewish identity and involvement served as a springboard for discussion.

According to a demographic study released last year, York Region, Canada's fastest growing Jewish community, has an estimated Jewish population of 50,000, the third-largest in the country after Toronto and Montreal. UJA Federation has traditionally included the area as part of Metro.

Judith Dan to be honored

TORONTO – The Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School will pay tribute to the late Judith Dan, when the school's arts integrate program is dedicated in her memory.

The program will be held at Beth Emeth Synagogue on March 11 at 8 p.m.

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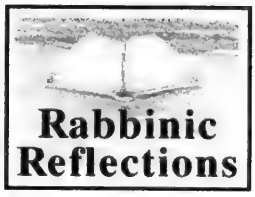


Rabbinic Reflections

A time for taxes

By RABBI MARTIN S. COHEN

There must be something about springtime that makes people want to pay their taxes. In this day and age, we all know when taxes are due, but not everybody knows that they were due on the first of Nisan — also a springtime date — in ancient times as well.

To this day, in fact, the Sabbath that falls just before the month of Adar begins (or, in years with two months of Adar, before the second one begins), is called Shabbat Shekalim, in commemoration of the half-shekel tax paid by Jewish people all over the ancient world towards the upkeep of the Temple; the tax was due just one month later.

The origin of the tax is recorded in Scripture in a passage that can bear some interesting analysis. Moses was bidden to take a census of the people. In fact, the Torah records two separate censuses that were taken, one at the end of the first year of wandering and another towards the end of the Israelites' desert sojourn. What these censuses have to do with the Temple tax is made clear in the passage that is read as the maftir passage in synagogue on Shabbat Shekalim.

The passage, taken from the 30th chapter of Exodus, starts out by warning Moses that one of the unwanted side effects of taking a census is the risk of plague. The plague, Scripture asserts, is avoidable, however, and the way to ward it off is for all those counted to give up a half-shekel as what the Torah calls *kessef kippurim*, a kind of atonement tax intended to head off the danger before anything untoward has time to happen.

There is no hint in the Torah that this is to be an annual event. That Scripture makes a point of saying the money was to be used for the upkeep of the desert sanctuary suggested that an annual tax was the proper way to allow all citizens to participate in the maintenance of the Temple.

The Torah makes a special point of noting that each citizen must pay precisely one-half shekel, that rich people may not give more, nor poorer pay less.

This stands in stark contrast to the way funds and materials were collected for the construction of the Tabernacle in the first place. There, the Torah is equally clear that there is no limit on donations and that people may give or not give as their hearts prompt. Why were the rich allowed to give more and the poor less towards the construction of the Tabernacle while each person had to give precisely the same amount towards its upkeep?

I suppose that hidden within the distinction is something Scripture is trying to say about the nature of our spiritual lives. The *construction* of the desert sanctuary is symbolic of the way each of us sets about *constructing* a life of communion with God — some of us richer and others poorer, some more successful and others less so, some of us more possessed of the inner strength necessary to live a life of service to God and others of us less sure of our way.

The mitzvah of supporting the Tabernacle with an annual coin, on the other hand, is symbolic of the fact that God offers each of us the same Torah to follow or — God forbid — to reject. The sameness of the coin all must offer suggests the challenge of investing the rituals and rites that form the stuff of Judaism with enough will and sense of spiritual purpose to make them appropriate acts of worship by individuals.

Taken together, the twin mitzvot of contributing to the building of the sanctuary and contributing to its upkeep suggest the paradox that rests at the core of organized Jewish worship: the need to embrace the same Torah as the rest of the people at the same time as we are bidden to fashion personal lives as distinct and different from the spiritual lives of other people as we are from them.

The resolution of the paradox is the great goal of Jewish spirituality and it strikes me, therefore, as appropriate, even mildly encouraging, to consider that the same paradox that rests at the core of our spiritual lives today has such a clear reflection in the Scriptural account of the construction of the earliest Jewish sanctuary, the desert Tabernacle.

Rabbi Cohen is the spiritual leader of the Beth Tikvah Congregation in Richmond, B.C.

Oh Brave New World...

By RABBI MARK DRATCH

The Brave New World is here. Dolly, a lamb born in July, is the creation of scientists at Scotland's Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. Dolly is not like other sheep. She was cloned from genetic material taken from the udder of a 6-year-old ewe and is an exact genetic duplicate of her "mother." And so the stuff of science fiction is reality, as is the possibility of man's creating man in *his* own image.

Comparative Law

What does Judaism say about this phenomenon? While there is no precedent for cloning per se, Jewish tradition does recognize the capacity for creating life by other than natural means. The golem, a creature created in mystical ways through the use of divine Names, is the prime example. The Talmud records that the Babylonian sage Rava created a golem (Sanhedrin 65b); the most popular one is attributed to Maharal of Prague; and tradition has it that the Vilna Gaon told his disciple Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin that as a boy he had decided to make a golem, but desisted. It seems to me that Judaism is not concerned about creating life by artificial means.

There are, however, other halachic questions. Let's assume that some DNA was taken from Reuven and cloned into Shimon. Does Shimon have a mother or a father? Is Reuven his father, or are Reuven's parents his parents? Or is his mother the lab scientist who performed the procedure? Do they receive separate shares of the inheritance or must they divide one portion? Does Shimon have a unique identity apart from Reuven, or is he one and the same with him? In practical terms: Are they both married to the same woman? Is one liable for the debts incurred by the other? If Reuven has already gone to shul or put on t'fillin in the morning, must Shimon do the same?

The closest parallel in Jewish texts is a discussion of co-joined twins. These twins have the identical genetic material, they develop from one egg and they are attached to one another. The Talmud, Menachot 37a, questions: If such twins have two heads, on which head must he/they put the t'fillin? If he/they are the first born, must a parent pay five shekels or 10 for the pidyon haben? Jewish law recognizes them as two distinct and separate individuals. They must wear t'fillin on both heads.

Of greater concern are the moral issues that such scientific knowhow creates. And the ethical community does not know how to respond. May a person be cloned to provide organs for potential transplant? It seems to me that if Shimon is considered a separate human being, then he is entitled to the integrity of his own body and organs. Thus, he may not be viewed as inferior to Reuven or as merely a resource for "spare parts."

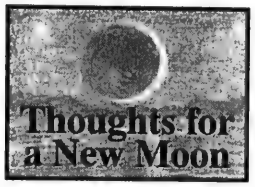
May an exceptional leader or scholar be cloned over and over again for the contributions he could continuously make toward the welfare of society or the understanding of Torah?

It seems to me that the answer is no. Judaism respects the unique contributions that each generation, its leaders and its scholars, can make. *Dor dor vedorshav* (each generation and its leaders) and *Yiftach bedoro keShmuel bedoro* (Jeptha in his generation is as authoritative as Samuel in his generation) express the rabbinic understanding that each generation must have leaders who are uniquely appropriate to it and its special needs.

And opportunities must be given to others to make their own contributions to the world. Rashi, in his commentary to Hullin 7a, comments, "If our children who come after us will find nothing to contribute, how will they achieve fame?"

Thus, cloning vegetation or even animals in order to further medical science or to improve agriculture is morally neutral and, it seems to me, halachically permissible. Cloning human beings is wrong.

Jewish Life



Finding hidden messages

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Last month I introduced the theme of hidden truths present within our text and our universe.

The theme appears several times in the Book of Esther and the holiday of Purim. Esther is instructed to hide her identity from the king and to hide her relationship with Mordecai; G-d hides His Divine intervention from the reader.

The hidden realities echo through the text. However, in the spirit of Purim, I would like to share another aspect of hidden meanings as food for thought.

The Canadian Jewish News printed a small article commenting on the reading from the book of Isaiah that coincided with the tragic helicopter collision in Israel. The passage from the text read that week included Isaiah 7:3 (the number 73 depicting the number of lives lost in the disaster). The text mentions the name Sha'ar Yishuv, which was the location of the accident. The text further mentions "two smoldering tails," eerily bringing to mind the image of the two helicopters colliding. The coincidences between the text and the historical event are noteworthy, but in what way?

Many times several of my students raise the question of our seeming inability to identify the Divine presence in the world around us. If G-d did such miraculous things in the Bible, why are we not seeing miracles today? Why did G-d speak to us through prophets in the past but sends no prophets now?

These questions reach to the very core of our identities and our individual relationships with G-d. The possible answers are complex and multi-faceted. Needless to say, my students asked me to share my thoughts on the Isaiah passage and the tragedy in Israel.

I mentioned to these pupils that if one were to consider the text prophetic in that it predicted the event, that alone is not a message.

Prophecy must teach us something about ourselves or our society or our relationships. Prediction without meaning does not advance us; it does not show us where we have erred or prescribe a more beneficial path for the future. I was ready to dismiss the coincidence at that point, but my students relentlessly pulled the imagery apart and produced the following:

One group of Jews were in one helicopter and another group of Jews were in a second helicopter. The two groups came at each other and collided, leaving carnage in their wake. The helicopters were filled with ammunition and therefore kept exploding. When anyone could finally approach the site, nothing remained. Perhaps, say my students, this is a warning against civil war. Perhaps the message from the Bible and the tragic event do have meaning. We have been so divided since Rabin's death we have even clashed violently with each other. Perhaps, say my students, the message is that we must never become two groups of Jews colliding, for we may leave nothing in our wake.

Perhaps the rabbis were correct in saying the secrets of the universe issue from the mouths of the very young.

Heartfelt condolences to the
Friede's and the Miransky family
on the death of their mother

Saba

We will miss her smile, humour,
wisdom and mentchlikhkite

Committee for Yiddish
Friends of Yiddish

The Albright syndrome

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN
Special to The CJN

A month ago, the *Washington Post* revealed that newly appointed secretary of state Madeleine Albright, although raised a Catholic, had been born into a Jewish family and that many of her relatives, including three grandparents, had died in the Holocaust.

The reporter who broke the story, which was apparently news even to Albright, backed it up with Auschwitz transport lists, documents from Czech and Jewish archives and interviews with family friends and relatives.

Albright says her parents, who brought her from her native Czechoslovakia to America as a child, never told her they were Jews who had converted to Christianity.

Some of her associates, including sources within the Israeli government, have speculated publicly whether she had truly been in the dark about her family's Jewish past, since others appear to have known about it all along.

As editorial writer Philip Taubman wrote in the New York Times: "How could someone as worldly and intelligent as Ms. Albright never have inquired about her background, never have known that three grandparents perished in Nazi concentration camps, never have guessed her parents' Catholic faith might be adopted?"

On such a personal matter it seems impertinent to ask, as if investigating a Watergate-style cover-up, what Albright knew and when she knew it. That is entirely her business; there is no correct timetable for making discoveries about one's roots. Indeed, by pursuing such fruitless avenues of inquiry, one is apt to miss the main significance of the *Post*'s Albright discovery.

The truth is, Albright's story is not so rare. During the Holocaust, multitudes of European Jews shed their religious identities as they struggled to survive under the most dire conditions imaginable. Also, countless Jewish children were passed into Christian hands and raised in the religion of their rescuers. Some of the so-called "hidden children" later found their way back to Judaism; some did not. Even after half a century, their stories and true identities are still emerging.

An astonishing statistic: According to a caretaker of Vienna's sprawling Central Cemetery, fully one-half of the persons laid to rest in recent years in that historic Jewish burial ground lived as agnostics or lapsed Christians, revealing their Jewish birth to others only on their deathbeds.

Peter Kuhn, a 27-year-old financial analyst in Toronto, has discovered his Jewish roots only in recent years. His Czech-born mother, having been orphaned at three, had enshrouded the essential details of her painful past in the silence typical of many survivors.

"For me, it's been a big, big awakening," Kuhn says. "It's given me an identity. I've come such a long way, it's hard for me to remember how much I was in the dark before."

One day in 1994, Torontonian Leon Eidelberg made an even more momentous discovery. A survivor of the Lvov ghetto, he came home from grocery shopping to find a telephone message from the son that he and his wife Mira had left as an infant with a Polish-Catholic family in 1943.

After Mira was killed, the family holding their son moved away, leaving no forwarding address.

After the war, Eidelberg searched throughout Poland and, downhearted, left for Palestine in 1948. In Italy, he met and married a second wife, Nusia, with whom he came to Canada and had two sons. Although the search for his Polish-born son became dormant, Eidelberg never gave up hope of finding him.

In 1994, the International Red Cross found his son, Jerzy, in Gliwice, Poland. When Jerzy came to Canada to meet his 81-year-old father, their tearful reunion was televised across the country.

"The visit was extremely emotional for everybody," recalls Jackson Eidelberg, Jerzy's half-brother, born in Montreal in 1949.

On his next visit, Jerzy brought his wife and children. When Leon Eidelberg died in October 1996 at the age of 83, it was with the knowledge that he, like the biblical Jacob, had found a long-lost son and touched the faces of grandchildren he had never dreamed existed.

* * *

Call For Romaniote Jews: Greek-speaking Romaniote Jews from Janina and the environs of Epirus and Corfu, whose ancestors arrived there in the first century CE, may number no more than 1,000 around the world. They are being sought by Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue in New York, the only Romaniote congregation in America, for help with a permanent museum display. Call Hy Genee at 212-673-4441 or Murray Eskononts at 718-648-7374.

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Community Matters

TWO ROUTES FOR UJA FEDERATION WALK '97

UJA Federation is adding a second route to the 1997 Walk for Israel so that more people can take part in the Jewish community's most popular annual event.

The first contingent of walkers will be *Stepping Out for Israel* on Sunday May 25 at 10:30 a.m. from the Promenade Shopping Centre to North York's Centennial Centre on Finch west of Bathurst. The second route starts at 12:30 at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, heading north and then east to the Festival.

"The two routes will make it more convenient for people to take part," explains Walk Chair Carole Sterling. Last year's Walk drew more than 7,000 community members.

The money raised goes toward meeting the needs of new immigrant children arriving in Israel.

Recruitment for the Walk begins next month when volunteers visit Jewish schools to make presentations and give out sponsor kits. In addition to synagogues and youth groups, for the first time, UJA Federation will be promoting the Walk in libraries and shopping malls in order to reach a larger segment of the community.

"We're really branching out this year to meet the needs of the community," says Fran Grundman, who is co-chairing Walk recruitment with Arlyn Zimmerman. "We've come up with some innovative ways to go beyond traditional boundaries."

The Festival at Centennial Centre, 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. will feature live musical performances, a kosher barbecue, arts & crafts, a petting zoo, pony rides and Mandell Entertainment.

New attractions include virtual reality machines and a Sony play station.

Carole Sterling is supported by a Walk Cabinet which includes: Jeffrey Cohen, Maura Cooperberg, Fran Grundman, Marcy Kroach, Corey Mandell, Gilda Niman, Tracy Rain, Avi Rodak, Laya Rusonik, Brian Schachter, Miri Schneiderman and Arlyn Zimmerman.

More than 7,000 participants marched down Bathurst Street at last year's Walk.

A Matter of Class

Community Matters is pleased to introduce A Matter of Class - a regular column profiling Jewish supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation. In our first column, we take a look at Temple Sinai's innovative educational initiatives.

Dr. Ira Schweitzer, Director of Education at Temple Sinai, doesn't want his school to be a drop-off centre where parents leave their children for a crash course in Judaism.

"We want the whole family to be involved," says Schweitzer, who was hired by the synagogue 8 years ago to make family education a priority. "This way, whatever they learn in the classroom can be reinforced at home." In fact, parental involvement is so important at Temple Sinai Religious School, parents are invited to attend selected classes from junior kindergarten all the way up to grades 11 and 12.

The school is also involved in a program, funded by UJA Federation that trains educators to teach in classrooms with both parents and children.

In grades 4, 5 and 6, between 65 and 70 families a month participate in classes. In grade 9, parents are encouraged to join their children in parent-teen dialogues 5 times a year with the help of Jewish Family and Child Service facilitators. This year, topics include drugs and alcohol, stereotyping and prejudice and various aspects of life in Israel. Temple Sinai's Bar Mitzva Institute for boys and girls also offers parental participation in three classes, and for students in grades 11, 12 and OAC, the school runs the Sinai Society - a once a month gathering where critical issues are discussed.

As part of the family classroom, parents and their children take part in many activities bringing lessons to life, such as making Purim gregors (noise-makers) and hanging home made mezuzot, during Chanuka, at special home dedication ceremonies.

"These kinds of activities teach people how to do things Jewish," explains Schweitzer. "It gives them a sense of ownership and commitment to living according to Jewish customs and traditions."

Temple Sinai Religious School is one of 33 supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education. For more information about education at Temple Sinai call (416) 487-3281.

Grade two students at Temple Sinai making mezuzot for Chanuka celebrations.

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Community Matters

ISRAEL EXPERIENCE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Lori and Sheldon Disenhouse have been actively involved with UJA Federation for years, but this summer, the entire Disenhouse family is getting in on the act as chairpeople of UJA Federation's Family Fun Mission to Israel.

The mission, from August 4-13, is designed for all family members with a unique combination of history and adventure. The fun-for-all-ages itinerary includes a jeep ride through the Galilee, inner-tubing down the Jordan River and a climb up to Masada. Some of the participants, including the eldest Disenhouse daughter Sari, will celebrate their bar and bat mitzva ceremonies in the ancient synagogue high atop Masada, the monument to Jewish revolt against Roman rule.

"This is the perfect way to mark our daughter's bat mitzva and to make the occasion all the more special," explains Lori, a volunteer in Jewish Women's Federation. She says Sari 12, Josh 10 and Yael 7 are looking forward to travelling with other kids and making new friends.

"Nothing compares to the atmosphere on a UJA Federation mission," she adds.

Sheldon Disenhouse, a member of UJA Federation's Board of Directors, says the mission is a "great opportunity to combine what the kids learn in school with real life experience." He also says the Family Fun Mission is the natural choice because UJA Federation "is such a big part of our everyday lives."

The cost for a family of four (2 adults 2 children) starts at $5,975 plus airfare. Meals, deluxe hotels, ground transportation and special events are included. A minimum UJA Federation campaign pledge of $1,000 per family is required for participation.

For more information contact Mark Freedman at (416) 631-5691.

Sheldon and Lori Disenhouse with their children (L) Yael, Josh and Sari.

Performance to benefit Yiddish studies at U of T

You can be sure Avi Hoffman's commitment to Yiddish is no act. That's because a portion of proceeds from the Yiddish entertainer's upcoming Toronto premiere performance of *Reflections of a Golden Peacock* will help support theYiddish Studies program at U of T.

The play, which tells the story of Yiddish poet Itzik Manger, is this year's gala fundraiser sponsored by The Committee for Yiddish Studies at U of T, an arm of UJA Federation's Committee for Yiddish.

U of T Committee for Yiddish Chair Bayla Chaikoff is pleased to welcome Hoffman back after his success at last year's gala and says "you don't have to speak Yiddish to enjoy the show."

Reflections of a Golden Peacock premieres on Sunday March 16, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St. A special reception will follow. Tickets are $50.00 and can be obtained by calling (416) 787-0526.

Avi Hoffman creator and star of "Relections of a Golden Peacock."

Otzma delivers Israel hands-on

Twenty-three year old Aviva Waxman is convinced there's no better way to experience Israel than to live and work there.

The University of Western Ontario graduate is one of four Torontonians participating in the 1996/97 Project Otzma. The ten month UJA Federation funded program, which goes from August to June, sends young adults to Israel as volunteers to strengthen bonds between Israel and the Diaspora.

For the first three months, Otzma participants attend Hebrew classes and work on a kibbutz. After that, they spend another three months volunteering at an immigration absorption centre or an aliya youth village, followed by three weeks at projects of their choice such as a desert agricultural settlement, studying Jewish text in Jerusalem or helping out at an army base.

The final portion of the program is spent at UJA Federation funded Partnership 2000 sites in the Eilat-Eilot region where volunteers work together with local residents to enhance the community's quality of life.

Waxman, who had visited Israel once before in 1990, chose Project Otzma this time because she "didn't want to experience Israel from inside a bus window." Only half way through the program, Waxman says she "already feels like she's at home."

Otzma participant Karen Silverstein, who returned last year, called the time she spent volunteering at a day centre for the elderly in Eilat "a life changing experience." Now that she's back home, Silverstein plans to continue volunteering in the community.

Applications for Project Otzma can be obtained by calling Karen Worb at (416) 631-5731.

1996/97 Otzma participants (L-R) Aviva Waxman, Eitan Szmuilowitz, Adam Tizel and (bottom) Brian Ziedenberg at Kibbutz Ma'ayan Zvi.

New clothing wanted

UJA Federation's Fashion Division is asking local businesses to donate new surplus clothing for distribution to needy Jews living in the Former Soviet Union and in our own community.

Hundreds of letters have been sent to manufacturers, retailers, distributors and importers asking for contributions of coats, sweaters, denim, sweats and children's clothing.

Laurie Cohen, who is co-chairing the clothing drive with Jeff Alter, says the inspiration for the project came from true life stories about hardships suffered by poverty stricken Jews living in countries such as the Ukraine, Belarus, Azerbaijan and Bulgaria.

Some clothing will also be distributed locally through the *Just A Second* clothing store operated by Jewish Family and Child Service.

Participants to date include The Incredible Clothing Co., Princess Garments, Silvert's Clothing, Remco Forwarding, Coatz, Riggins Apparel Group and Texappeal. If your business would like to make a contribution please contact Elana Carr at (416) 631-5736.

Greater Toronto Area

Aliyah Centre helps students with Israel decisions

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Students who are considering aliyah, especially those with Israeli backgrounds, would be well advised to call the Israel Aliyah Centre, said Miri Gur, aliyah shlichah, at a recent student meeting.

Israelis, whether or not born in Israel, can miss out on the benefits accorded to new olim, without realizing it.

"If they study in a university in Israel in a recognized program and then go on aliyah, they might find their benefits are gone," Gur said. (Benefits, such as rent subsidies or free tuition, are limited to a specific time period after the move to Israel.)

About three dozen university students gathered at the Lipa Green building for the meeting, which was organized by York University student Jay Wohlgelernter.

"A lot of students spend time in Israel, and a very common feeling coming back is, 'I want to make aliyah when I finish my studies,'" Wohlgelernter said. He organized the session to counter a problem of theirs: an ebbing away of motivation if they don't take steps to move toward their goal.

The Aliyah Centre, Jewish Campus Services and Tehilla were partners in organizing the meeting. Wohlgelernter credited Jonathan Snobell, a student at Yeshiva University, for coming up with the idea.

"This is to get the wheels going," Wohlgelernter said.

An alumnus of the Magen David Adom volunteer program who has also studied for a year at an Israeli yeshiva, he expects it will be another seven to eight years before he is ready to make aliyah himself.

The event was the first of its kind geared specifically to university students. Gur offered information about employment internships, programs and an essay contest in which first prize is a ticket to Israel. The contest is sponsored by the University Student department of the World Zionist Organization.

Rebecca Jacob, a second-year University of Toronto student, participated in a job internship program, testing computer software at a company in Jerusalem. "It's a great way to sort of get your foot in the door," she said. "I made a lot of friends."

Gur discussed army obligations, which vary according to age and whether the person is Israeli by birth. She noted that a representative of the Israeli army will be in Toronto this spring for those who want more extensive information.

Of the options Gur mentioned, the WUJS Institute in Arad has the only program offering paid employment on a tourist visa. The one-year program begins with six months of ulpan, and the work half can be extended for a further six months.

The advantage, stressed Gur, is that "you're still not an *oleh chadash* and your rights and benefits are not starting to run out."

Another program worth noting is the one that retrains new olim as English teachers for elementary through high school. To qualify, they need a bachelor's degree and are promised a job for the first two years after graduating.

One student asked if it was necessary to go to ulpan for those already familiar with Hebrew.

"You don't have to, but it's a benefit," answered Gur. "It's free for the first five months. If you plan to live in Israel, the more you know, the better you are. If you ask me, grab the opportunity." Evening ulpanim, held after working hours, are also available, she noted.

University of Toronto student Yoni Stanleigh, thought the meeting "would end up being a lot of talk and no action" but said he found it "very positive. The opportunities are there...It's a good thing to know."

Wohlgelernter hopes to have a follow-up program scheduled before Pesach.

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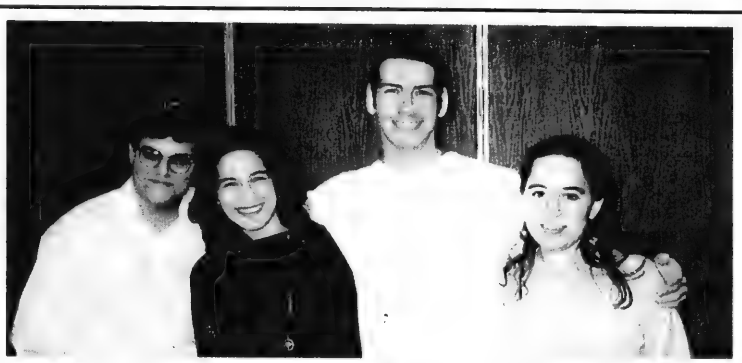
Tuesday, March 11, 8:30 pm
Ohr Somayach Thornhill
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
613 Clark Ave. W.
Admission $5.00



DOROT 2 LAUNCHED BY STUDENTS

From left, York University students Moishe Weinberg, Sidura Ludwig, Dave Gordon and Janna Cohen are all smiles at the launch of Volume 2 of *Dorot*, the Jewish literary magazine they started last year. The new volume includes poetry, prose fiction, non-fiction, and photographs. Its co-sponsors are the Zuckerman Charitable Foundation and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. [Frances Kraft photo]

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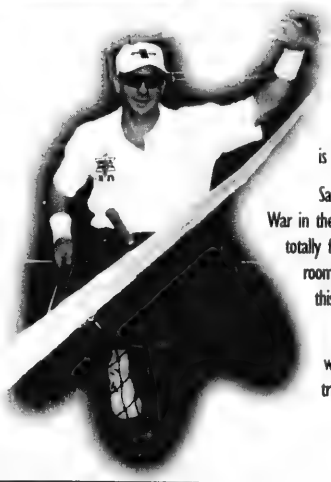

Eyal Sartov. Totally Focused.

Eyal Sartov is Israel's number one tennis champion. His toughest shot is his forehand topspin from the baseline. 'Opponents fear it the most' he says. And there is his psychological strength, which he believes is 'a tennis player's most precious asset.

Sartov is a double amputee below his knees. In 1978, he stepped on a mine left over from the Six Day War in the Golan Heights. Being a tennis pro means hard work, an exceptionally high level of discipline and being totally focused. Sartov trains twice a day at the Beit Halochem Centre in Tel Aviv. He works out in the weight room almost 10 hours a week. He's on the court, in his special tennis wheelchair, with his coach, fine-tuning this cross court shots, perfecting his backhand, and enhancing that feared forehand topspin.

'In the Middle Ages, they used to lock up invalids in a room. Now we ski, climb mountains, parasail, waterski, go deep sea diving, windsurf and play tennis! It's the most wonderful way to help the spirit triumph over the body.' says Sartov.

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...WATCH FOR THEODORE BIKEL IN CONCERT - JUNE 2, 1997

Greater Toronto Area

Argentinian rabbi visits Canada

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Ruben Sasersdein, spiritual leader of Dor Hadash synagogue in Buenos Aires, has come to Canada to see how some of his flock are doing.

He told *The CJN* in a recent telephone interview that two years ago the chair of the Jewish community of Winnipeg and an official of the Manitoba government came to Buenos Aires to invite Argentinian Jews to settle in Winnipeg.

The first contingent of four families has just received landed immigrant status, and some others came a few months ago. Two more families are arriving shortly.

"They are doing OK," the rabbi said. "They are learning English at government schools, sending their kids to school and looking for jobs."

A new committee, headed by Sid Halperin, current head of the Winnipeg Jewish community, has just been formed to help the Argentinians in practical ways, such as finding employment, and housing.

"They [the Argentinians] like the place," Rabbi Sasersdein said. "They have formed a close relationship with the Jewish community and are invited for dinner and Shabbat and things like that. But they are worrying about finding jobs."

Economic conditions are the main reasons these people are leaving Argentina, the rabbi said. "They worry about the lack of future for them there," much more than they worry about anti-Semitism, even in the wake of the bombing of the community centre in 1995.

The rebuilt centre, which will be in the same location, as demanded by the insurance company, will have more security in place, as well as more facilities.

The Jewish population in Argentina, which now stands at 209,000 (mainly in Buenos Aires), is decreasing, Rabbi Sasersdein said, partly as a result of assimilation and intermarriage, but mainly from immigration.

"Twelve hundred went to Israel last year. It is beginning to be a problem."

Nevertheless, he said, the community in Buenos Aires is strong, with schools, community centres and "a Jewish network" which, he said, lessens the assimilation and intermarriage rate.

The rabbi was in Toronto to meet with officials of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services and with Canadian Jewish Congress officer Irving Abella "to develop a relationship between my congregation and the Jewish community here. We think that maybe it is not so easy to get jobs in Winnipeg, so we should think about other places in Canada."

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS
Visitors gather at the wall on which the names of the victims have been painted at the site of the AMIA bombing in 1995. ***[Photos by Elena Rosen, St. John's, Nfld.]***

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Greater Toronto Area

The Family of the late

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gratefully acknowledge expressions of sympathy extended to them during their recent loss.

Advt.

THE BORINS BEAT

Every week I change the words on display outside my office, like . . . **A goal is a dream with a deadline.** I guess, as a fundraiser, my favourite is . . . **The more you give, the more you get.**

A few weeks ago I was moved by the words **Jeremy Diamond** wrote in The Globe and Mail about his late beloved grandfather **Irving Lerman.** Irving was a real original who loved the **Blue Jays.** We were both there at the birth of the Jays. Irving got to throw the opening pitch when his **Thrifty's** sponsored a home game. Jeremy's dad is **Charlie Diamond,** a real mensche. He and **Rochelle** quite often share a shabbat meal at their home with a **Reena** client. He'll always make time for a guy like me to pick his brains over some breakfast fare at the **United Bakers** . . . and the hour we share usually flies by. I'm thrilled that **Charlie** and **Edwin Goldstein,** past chair of the **Baycrest Board,** read my words. **Lou Mostyn** reminded me of his **Sami** days with **Peter Munk, Richard Cole** and **Gerry Schwartz.** I brought greetings to Charlie from his old friends, *(15 years with the Avenue Road Hockey League)* **Al & Sheila Mostyn.**

Harley Mintz dropped by our table to ask about our golfing prowess. Harley is excited to once again be helping with the combined **Reena/Jewish National Fund 2nd Annual Golf Tournament** on June 18th. Harley will be of enormous help to **Mike and Sue Feldman,** Reena's co-chairs for this year's tournament. I really don't know where he gets the energy!!! Sitting nearby was **Michael Florence** who I had seen a few days earlier at our barber . . . **Vito & Sam.** I meant to tell Michael Florence that **Honey Sherman** is also helping with the golf tournament. Also saw **Judith Bloom** and **Genya Intrator** and of course the ubiquitous **Ruth Ladovsky.**

I enjoy comparing T.V. mohel stories with **Dr. Aaron Jesin,** mohel & family physician. He likes the one on L.A. Law & the Seinfeld one is my favourite.

You have to sparkle when you see some of **Sol Unger's Act II** creations. There was **Jean Altman** showing her special pendant with a diamond added for each grandchild. I counted 10!!! How about **Mike Zigelstein** surprising **Mary Bertucci** with a sparkling diamond engagement ring!

Sorry I was not able to get together with the late **Gerry Morris** recently. **Hillard Conway** & I were looking forward to it. Gerry's words were enjoyed by **CJN** readers for years.

Congratulations to **Elli Davis** who once again is #1 sales rep in Canada for **Royal LePage.**

Can't wait to see **Al Waxman** as Willy Loman at the **Stratford Festival. Judd Hirsch's** Willy Loman captivated everyone in **Death of a Salesman** at **Mirvish's Royal Alexandra Theatre.** I was telling **Sheila Engel & Phil Ladovsky** how I finally landed on **"Broadway"** with my wonderful new assistant **Eleanor Ziv.**

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in May, 1997. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss the dedication opportunities still available

Jews, Germans discuss past at conference in Berlin

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a child of Holocaust survivors and director of Toronto's Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre, Pnina Zilberman, 46, is well aware of the common denominators linking her second generation counterparts.

On a recent trip to Germany, where she attended the country's first public conference on the relations between descendents of Holocaust victims and victimizers, she was struck — not for the first time — by common elements she shares with children of perpetrators.

"Number one is secrets," said Zilberman. Although there are survivors who are open about their past, it's common for both victims and perpetrators never to have talked to their children about life before 1950.

"There's a tension there. We would be afraid of asking about something our parents don't feel comfortable discussing."

The issue of trust is another shared element, Zilberman said. "We were taught not to trust. There are commonalities, but for the opposite reason."

As if to emphasize the five decades that have passed since survivors started rebuilding their lives, Zilberman learned about the conference — which was organized by Berlin's Institut für Vergleichende Geschichtswissenschaften and the Second Generation Trust in London, England — via the Internet.

The two-day conference, held in Berlin, was tremendously significant, she said. Not only was it held on the 52nd anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz (which has been designated Holocaust commemoration day in Germany), but some of the German organizers, born after the war, risked strained or even severed relationships with their parents for pursuing such interaction.

"I admire all these Germans who are willing to take on this kind of involvement," Zilberman said. Following the conference, it was decided to hold future meetings only in Germany to show support for them, she added. The conference attracted a moderate amount of local media attention.

Topics covered included intergenerational transmission of the Holocaust, trauma in victim and victimizer families, the necessity of researching family history, facilitated encounters between descendents of victims and victimizers and the need to cope with the emotional aspects of remembering.

Zilberman was the only Canadian among the 450 at the conference. Other Jewish participants came from Great Britain, the United States, Israel, Australia and Europe, but the majority were Jewish and non-Jewish Germans.

Of the non-Jewish participants, Zilberman was particularly interested in a Dutch group whose parents had collaborated with the Nazis. Apparently they began as a government-funded, self-help organization 14 years ago, she said. One of them marvelled at how nice Zilberman (as a child of survivors) was to him.

For her, one of the frustrations of the conference was that "people were upset, but in a nice, diplomatic way. I wanted to see more emotion."

Although the conference evoked no tears, it was very intense, she said. She herself didn't feel the full impact until she returned home. The experience "served as a catalyst for me to revisit my [personal] baggage."

Following the conference, Zilberman spoke to teenagers at a school in Stadthagen, a town of 25,000 people which had a pre-war Jewish population of 55. "These kids have never seen a Jew in their lives. They are...the grandchildren of the perpetrator society."

Zilberman is planning an exchange program for local public high school students and their counterparts in Stadthagen, geared to begin in 1998. The program, she says, is one way of continuing the work that began at the conference.

A wrap-up session attended by about 40 participants was held immediately following the conference. Participants discussed the possibilities of opening dialogue in their respective communities, a more difficult task in Canada than the United States, Zilberman said, because of the issue of war criminals who found refuge here.

Also, Canada "is more on the traditional side. I think we have to change it; we cannot live on in anger, we cannot live on constantly blaming — not that I'm forgiving [the perpetrators]...what I'm trying to do is take one step ahead and open a dialogue."

Zilberman insists she doesn't dwell on the negative aspects of the Holocaust. Her work is one way of dealing with her legacy.

"Nothing is going to bring back my grandparents, my aunts, my uncles. The fact that I was born I see as a gift, and I celebrate being alive every day."

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Greater Toronto Area

Dratch leaving Shaarei Shomayim

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Rabbi Mark Dratch, for five years, spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in North York, is leaving Toronto at the end of June.

He will be assuming the position of spiritual leader of Agudath Sholom synagogue in Stamford, Conn.

It will be a homecoming in a sense, as Agudath Sholom is where he served for two years as assistant rabbi at the start of his rabbinic career.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Rabbi Dratch said somewhat wistfully that things would be perfect if he could "take this city and transplant it."

The decision to leave was "long and difficult," he said, adding that "it won't be easy."

The reason he is leaving, he said, is that he and his wife wanted to be closer to their families.

"[Toronto] is a very family oriented city. We felt that our children were lacking a family of their own."

Toronto, he said, is "a wonderful city, and Shaarei Shomayim is a wonderful congregation. I enjoyed developing relationships within and outside the shul."

Rabbi Mark Dratch

made the synagogue "open for a wide number of people, and different levels of commitment."

"I wanted to show the beauty of Torah and Judaism, that it has something to offer everyone. There are many models of Judaism to be comfortable with that are halachically appropriate."

Rabbi Dratch has expanded opportunities for women at Shaarei Shomayim, in study, prayer and congregational involvement. He is perhaps best known for allowing a Rosh Chodesh women's service.

"My philosophy in general is to be true to halachah, and yet at the same time find an opportunity for everyone."

A pray and learn service he instituted, run by Elliott Malamet, is designed for "those who don't feel comfortable" in the large, main service.

Rabbi Dratch also instituted a synagogue seder, which serves "those who might not have a seder, or might not know how to run one." Some 160 people attend, including many Russian immigrants, he said.

A rabbi's job, he mused, is that of "a teacher, leader, comforter, counsellor, preacher. Sometimes we fail — sometimes we aren't there, or we don't respond appropriately, or we are so overwhelmed by our duties or family responsibilities that we don't do what we would want to do."

Most people, however, show their appreciation, he said, and that is very necessary. "We want to recognize when we are on the right track."

Michael Goldrich, president of Shaarei Shomayim, called Rabbi Dratch's going "a loss for the synagogue and the community. But we dealt with each other with mutual respect, and in a dignified way, and so we have to understand."

He said that a search for a replacement is already underway, and that they hope that there will be no break in rabbinic leadership.

Greater sense of responsiblity

He praised the Orthodox community of Toronto, especially the "calibre of its rabbis and its institutions. The dedication of its people is wonderful."

He also praised the "congeniality that allows for respectful disagreement" in the city.

Choosing his words carefully, he said that he believes, nevertheless, that Toronto has needs to be addressed, especially concerning cooperation and respect between people. "Sometimes people are judgmental, and not respectful of differences."

The Orthodox community as a whole, he said, needs to have a greater sense of responsibility in dealing with disagreements, especially about Israel, and religious values.

People have to recognize problems that are not just in the Orthodox community, but in the larger Jewish community as well, such as spousal and child abuse, special needs children, and religious divorce (*get*).

He said that he is proud that he

CLARIFICATION

The Feb. 13 story about the opening of the Second Cup at the Bathurst Jewish Centre stated that the Second Cup in Jerusalem sells "some kosher products." In fact, that Jerusalem store sells *only* kosher products.

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Greater Toronto Area

BJC DONATION

Ceramic artist Herman Reches recently donated three of his sculptures to the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC). At left, Reches is seen in the BJC atrium with his sculpture of Moses descending Mount Sinai. Based on last Saturday's parshah, the work is dedicated to Reches' parents, Lazer and Yente, who perished in the Holocaust. Near left is Lazer Reches, circa World War I, when he fought in the Austro-Hungarian army. Herman Reches, a survivor in his mid-80s, is artist in residence at the Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. [Frances Kraft photos]

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Group disappointed in Netanyahu

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ruth Matar, founder and leader of Women for Israel's Tomorrow (The Women in Green), has a simple question.

"If we don't have the right to live in our holy cities of Hebron and Jerusalem, why do we have any right at all to live in Tel Aviv or Haifa?"

If Israel lets go of "the graves of our forefathers, the land purchased by Abraham, and where King David's first kingdom was, we have let go our justification for the land of Israel."

This is exactly what Yasser Arafat is counting on, Matar told *The CJN* in an interview last week. She was in Toronto for the only Canadian stop on a North American speaking tour.

Ruth Matar

The organization is very disappointed that Benjamin Netanyahu, whom they supported in the last election, has turned out to be "a weak leader. Of course, he is subject to tremendous pressure, from the United States, from the [Israeli] left, and from his own supporters."

Israel has not only abandoned the Jews in Hebron, Matar charged, it has also abandoned its Arab population, who used to be able to appeal to the High Court, but now find themselves unable to do so. They are subject, she said, to kidnapping , interrogation and torture by the Palestinian Authority.

In Hebron, she said, Jewish settlers are not allowed to move around freely, to build, or to occupy property previously owned by Jews and abandoned after the 1929 massacre. In fact, those properties, previously considered state property by Israel, were turned over to the Palestinian Authority.

"Jews are so concerned about Jewish property in Switzerland and in France — as they should be. But here, [Israel itself] turned over Jewish property to this murderer."

As well, Matar said, Arabs are permitted free passage all through Hebron, while Jews are prevented from leaving their own area.

The Women in Green have always said that Arafat has planned that as soon as the attention is off Hebron, he would turn his energies to Jerusalem. And that is what has happened, Matar said, in the Har Choma housing development in East Jerusalem.

Before Israel took Jerusalem in 1967, she explained, Jordan used the hills around the city to fire shells at the Jewish inhabitants. After 1967, "the Labor government realized that to protect a united Jerusalem, they had to make the hills part of the city."

They began to build a ring of settlements on the hills, including Talpiot, and the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus.

"Har Homa is the last opening in that ring," she said, noting that it will be built mostly from property expropriated from Jews.

All the permits have been obtained, she said, and the High Court has ruled that it is legal to build.

The reason that Arafat is so opposed to Har Homa, she said, is that it is the nearest part of Bethlehem.

"Arafat is anxious to breach that opening, and have easy connection with the Arab community in East Jerusalem."

Matar charged that "Arafat is now emboldened to say that the first tractor will unleash a bloodbath. That is negotiation through threats — if we give in, there will be continual threats."

The same situation, she said, is taking place in Ras El Amud, an area near the Mount of Olives, next to the road going past the cemetery, land which was owned by Chabad over 100 years ago.

"They don't want us there either," she said. "It is a dangerous situation for Jerusalem if we cave in."

The situation in Jerusalem is no different than that under the previous government, Matar said, citing the existence of 20 Palestinian Authority ministries, contrary to the Oslo Accords, and the Mufti of Jerusalem inciting Arabs to kill Jews.

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Greater Toronto Area

Conference planned for survivor generations

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Holocaust survivors, their children and their grandchildren are invited to a conference here March 12 to break through what one organizer calls the "silent secrets" of survivor families.

The day-long Institute for the Study of the Impact of the Holocaust on Survivor Generations, to be held at the Westin Harbor Castle, will look at survivors' trauma and how it is often transferred to their children and even grandchildren.

The workshop is part of the three-day annual meeting in Toronto of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. The conference will feature local experts in Holocaust-related trauma: John Sigal, a psychoanalyst and professor at McGill University; Andre Stein, author, University of Toronto professor and survivor; and Doris Epstein, a psychotherapist who has often worked with survivor families.

It will be chaired by Dr. Eva Metzger Brown, a clinical psychologist at the University of Massachusetts and herself a child survivor of the Holocaust.

Brown told *The CJN* in a telephone interview that one goal of the Holocaust seminar is to build bridges between professionals and survivors.

But it will mainly explore how trauma is often passed down, and how to break through the "pockets of silence" that often pervade survivor families.

Brown's own practice straddles general trauma — losses brought about by death or divorce — and dealing with the lasting anguish the Holocaust caused its survivors. She said it seemed plausible to her that the two should be brought together because of their "parallels."

"I can't imagine anyone having gone through the Holocaust, seeing people being shot and babies thrown against walls, not being traumatized at some level," she said.

That trauma has been well-documented. It often involves nightmares and fears of loss and separation, all of which "can lead to a sense of helplessness and a feeling that no one will believe you."

Brown likens Holocaust survivors' symptoms with those of survivors of sexual abuse.

And there's a need, she stressed, for children of survivors "to tell their story, to tell what it was like to be raised by survivors. We need them to speak out."

Members of the second and even third generations have been found to exhibit the same tendencies as those of survivors, Brown said. On the positive side, many have done well in life, spurred to succeed by survivors.

For details on how to register for the conference, call Brown at 413-256-8066, or e-mail her at [embrown@psych.umass.edu].

BBYO PREPARS FOR SHABBAT

BBYO International BBG Shabbat was recently held where BBYO'ers from around the world simultaneously celebrate. Here Toronto B'nai B'rith Girls begin preparation for their Shabbat experience. Forty teens came out to particpate in the chalah making program at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

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By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE CHANGE

What's New and About People deadlines are now Mondays, 10 days prior to publication date, i.e. Monday, March 10, is deadline for March 20 issue, and Monday, March 17, is deadline for March 27. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829

Thursday, March 6

ISRAEL ALIYAH SERIES

Israel Aliyah Centre series of information meetings for those planning aliyah or returning to Israel begins 7 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clarke Ave. W. Meetings held every Thursday in March. Subsequent sessions at Lipa Green Building.

Sunday, March 9

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present 100 Years of Zionism: Part 3, From Shtetl to Statehood (including rare films), **Jerry Zeidenberg** and **Chaim Weizmann**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim. Guests $2. **Jerry and Sandra Genesove**, coordinators.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Congregation Habonim invites you to hear **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht**, founding director of Nishma, talk about Enigma of Jewish Ethics, i.e. Why Jews Have a Unique Ethical and Moral Perspective, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre Rosh Chodesh Adar Bet and Purim seminar, 8 p.m., 678 Sheppard Ave. W. $12. 631-9395.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth! Come listen, come tell, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

ROSH CHODESH

Bring in Rosh Chodesh Adar II b'simchah at the Women's Rosh Chodesh celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 7:45 p.m. davening followed by songs by senior girls choir of Netivot HaTorah, and shiur by **Martin Lockshin**, Chaliah, Neirot and Nidah — does the punishment fit the crime?

Monday, March 10

JEWS & MUSLIMS

Jacob Lassner, Northwestern University, lectures on The Jewish Discovery of Islam in the Modern Age, 8 p.m., Koffler Centre for Pharmacy Management, 569 Spadina Ave., Room 108. 978-5301.

Tuesday, March 11

RABBANIT CHANA HENKIN

Rabbanit Chana Henkin, founder and dean of Nishmat, Jerusalem Centre for Advanced Jewish Study for Women, speaks on The Book of Esther: A Woman's Insight Into a Story for Our Time, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Register. 229-2600.

SECRET COMMUNITIES

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood and Petach Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation meeting, guest speaker **Gloria Mound**, speaks on Secret Jewish Communities (Marrano) in New Mexico, Brazil and Other Countries. Non-members $3.

BIKUR CHOLIM

Bikur Cholim luncheon honors **Dr. Yehuda Shields** and **Ida Tennenbaum**, 12:30 p.m., Torah Emeth Jewish Centre, 1 Viewmount Ave. Women only. $25.

Wednesday, March 12

PUPPET MAKING

Joanne Dabrowski of Jewish Storytelling Arts group explains how she makes life-size puppets at the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, boardroom. **Janet** 225-2002 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

EAT WELL, BE WELL

Wellness Education Group of Baycrest Centre session, Eat Well, Be Well — Healthy Eating for Seniors, North York Public Health

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

nutritionist, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. Register by March 11. **Denise Oakes**, 785-2500, ext. 2341.

Thursday, March 13

OUR FUTURE

Rabbi Irwin Witty, Board of Jewish Education, speaks on Our Future: Torontonian Jewry in the Year 2000 — What Will It Be and What Can It Be?, adult education class, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

EATING DISORDERS

Jewish Student Federation of York University program on Jewish Women and Body Image, focusing on predominance of eating disorders in the Jewish community. Agenda includes film, an expert in the field and experiences of students dealing with anorexia nervosa, 1 p.m., Room 307, Student Centre.

PASSOVER PRESENTATION

United Synagogue Day School Parents Association offers A Passover Presentation with the authors of *To Life*, the new low-fat kosher cookbook, plus an evening of boutiques, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue, $10 in advance, $15 at door. **Denise** 484-4482.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Screening of *Pillar of Fire*, Chapter V, Israeli television documentary, 7;50 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation. Sponsored by Arza-Canada, Herut-Likud, Mercaz-Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation, Central region, and Beth David. 633-5500 or 633-3988.

COCKTAIL PARTY

A cocktail party for Jewish singles 26-46, 8 p.m. to midnight, Summit House Grill, 480 Eglinton Ave. E. $20. Proceeds go to Jewish Family & Child Service Gordon S. Wolfe Children's Holiday Fund. Reserve. **Jordana** 927-9818.

And What Else Is New

OHR SOMAYACH

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto presentations by lecturer/ author **Rabbi Meyer Schiller.** Call 905-886-5730.

Monday, March 10, Judaism and the Suicide of the West, 8:30 p.m., Temmy Latner Jewish Learning Exchange, 446 Spadina Rd., Suite 203. $5.

Tuesday, March 11, Pluralism, Truth and Tolerance: Can They Be Reconciled?, 8:30 p.m., Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. $5.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT GALA

Adath Israel Brotherhood's Las vegas Night Gala featuring casino, silent auction, entertainment by Chutzpah, Klezmer Band, Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., $10. Tickets at door.

TORAH AND SCIENCE

Torah and Science: Building Bridges, a Shabbaton for university students sponsored by Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, March 7 and 8, Congregation Shomrai Shaboth-Chevrah Mishnayoth, 585 Glengrove Ave. W. Speakers: **Rav Chaim Sacknovitz**, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto; **Prof. David Novak**, the J. Richard and Dorothy Shiff chair of Jewish Studies, University of Toronto; and scientists and professionals from the Orthodox community. For information, Jewish Students' Union, U of T. 978-0422.

FIRESIDE CHATS

Temple Sinai adult education committee three-part mid-week series of fireside chats, A Reform Rabbi Reads the Shulchan Aruch, The Code of Jewish Law, with **Rabbi Lawrence M. Colton**, begins Wednesday, March 19, 8 p.m., 487-4161.

ORAYNU EVENTS

Oraynu, Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism, 364-7002.

Oneg Shabbat, Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., Don Mills Foundation, 1 Overland Dr. Topic: Jewish Jeopardy. Non-members $8. RSVP

Lecture by **Dr. Jerald Bain** on Creativity in Secular Humanistic Judaism, Wednesday, March 12, 8 p.m., 407 Lytton Blvd. Non-members $8. RSVP.

PASSOVER HAGGADAH

Rabbi Moshe Stern's five-week series on the Passover Haggadah runs Wednesdays, March 12 to April 9 at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. Haggadot will be provided. Men and women invited. No charge. 787-1631.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan, an egalitarian, lay-led worship for liberal Jews, now holds Shabbat services every Saturday morning at 10 at the Bloor JCC, Room 204.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Associated Hebrew Schools Parents' Association programs.

Parenting Insight, **Rachel Ornay**, Tuesday. March 11, 9:30-11 a.m., Danilack. Hebrew/English spoken. Members $5, others $7. 905-731-7216.

Discussing sex with your children workshop, social worker **Doris Wexler** Wednesday, March 12, 8 p.m. Kamin Centre. Members $5, others $7.

ADOLESCENT PEER GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service and the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region new program for teens, Adolescent Peer Group, ages 13-18, held in Promenade Mall at JF&CS offices, beginning March 31.**Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215,

CLASS FOR WOMEN

Ohr Somayach Thornhill weekly Wednesday morning class for women on the topic Bereshit with **Rebbitzen Rena Schochet**, director of Women's Studies, 9:30 a.m., at Chapters Book Store, Yonge St., north of Steeles. No charge.

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Working Together with Service Providers, sponsored by Safehaven and Bloorview MacMillan Centre, speakers Janice Greenberg and June Chiu of Bloorview MacMillan Centre, Wednesday, March 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Register prior to March 12, **Robin Gofine** 398-6022, ext. 26. To arrange childcare, **Carla**, ext. 22.

PURIM CELEBRATION

Romanian Language B'nai Brith Lodge Dr. W. Filderman, celebrates Purim, Thursday, March 20, 6 p.m., 15 Hove St. $15 per person covers dinner and a live band.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Parents and Kids group — Peer socialization group for children who have difficulty making friends or who behave in a socially inappropriate way, begins March 19; The Self-Confident Woman begins March 11; The Challenge of Anger for Women begins March 17; The Single Parent Challenge — Balancing Parenthood and Personhood, begins March 17. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

GLUECKEL OF HAMELN

Historian **Natalie Zemon Davis**, author of *The Return of Martin Guerre*, speaks about Glueckel of Hameln: a Jewish Life, a European's Life, a Woman's Life, Wednesday, March 19, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Membership now due, $12 per year; Scarborough Town Centre, Thursday, March 13; Tuesday, March 18, group discussion on Home Security, 10 a.m., dancersize with **Honey Ross** 11 a.m. to noon, bingo 1-3 p.m.; Sunday dance with live band, March 23, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Atlantic City and Cape May, March 31-April 4; Buffalo April 3; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-18; group tour to Israel May 7-20, call for information 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 13 is a lecture by **Yaakov Staow** on Medical Alternatives. Purim party Saturday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., music and dancing to Teddy Band, singer **Dalia Dahary,** members $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: musical *Dames at Sea* in Buffalo, Sunday, June 1; *Camelot*, Stratford, Sept. 17. In the planning are presentations on trips to Ottawa and Rochester. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La Briyut Wellness Centre Parkinson's Support Group meets Tuesday, March 11, 1:15 p.m. Physiotherapist **Rebecca Gruber** discusses the Role of Exercise and Physiotherapy in Parkinson's. **Ruth**.

Literary luncheon, Richard Bassett speaks on Purim: Lots About the "Festival of Lots," Monday, March 24, 11:30 a.m. Members $7:50, non-members $9. Register at Information Desk.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets Wednesdays 7 p.m. On March 12 Israeli consul **Irit Waidergorn** is guest speaker. **Anna**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Volleyball Camp during March Break, March 10-14, **Grant**, ext. 374 or **George**, ext. 235

Free Tax Preparation Assistance for Seniors in cooperation with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, by appointment Tuesdays to April 1. **Teme**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Jewish Theatre Committee announces the play contest winner of the Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest, *Bitter Apples* by **Victoria Keidan,** will be premiered in a professionally directed staged rehearsed reading between May 15 and May 18. **Bill Emery**.

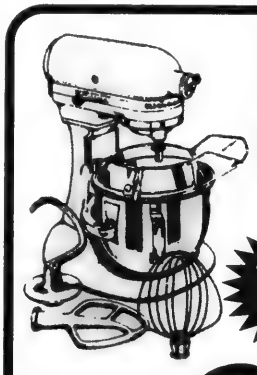
Bloor JCC Seniors Club — Thursday, March 6, 2 p.m., **Dr. E. Ali,** naturopath physician, speaks on The Uses of Herbal Products; Thursday, March 27, 2 p.m., Purim party; Board of Education class for seniors, focusing on Arts and Culture includes films, book readings, discussions, Tuesdays, 2:15 p.m. **Judy.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

BAYCREST APPOINTMENT

David Mahy has joined Baycrest Centre's Human Resources Department as director, Employee Services. Most recently he ran his own human resources consulting business and prior to that he was vice-president of Human Resources for Central Park Lodges.

David Mahy



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Survey finds Calgary Jews active, not very observant

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — The Calgary Jewish community is not a particularly observant one, but it is very active, with higher than average rates of synagogue membership and attendance at Jewish day schools. In addition, community members appear to be in agreement with the trend toward keeping a larger proportion of UJA dollars in Calgary to fund local needs.

These were among the preliminary findings of the Jewish Community Needs Assessment Survey, released recently. Included in the survey, which was sent out in the fall to 2,000 Jewish households in Calgary, were a series of questions about participation in Jewish life. In many ways the survey confirms what we already sense about ourselves as a community, said Daphne Taras, the University of Calgary professor who conducted the survey for Calgary Jewish Community Council (CJCC).

In a way, Taras said, "we operate like a village within a larger centre — our friends tend to be Jewish and there is a concentration of Jews in the southwest. Jews tend to cluster with other Jews despite the fact that professionally, we are well integrated. The survey itself can be seen as an indicator of the level of involvement. Of the 2,000 surveys mailed out, 680, or 32 percent, were returned in time to be included in the initial tabulations. An additional 80 surveys have since been returned and these responses will be factored into the final report.

According to CJCC president Nate Feldman, the response rate showed that "people in the community are concerned. They want to participate and that in itself is rewarding."

The preliminary results seem to indicate that in terms of the division of UJA dollars between local, national and international needs, CJCC is on track with community sentiment. Respondents to the survey indicated that they are comfortable with sending a smaller proportion of UJA funds to Israel than has been sent in the past.

Wide range of issues

In response to the question, "How would you allocate $1,000 that you donated to Calgary United Jewish Appeal only," respondents replied: Calgary (UJA member organizations; Camp BB, Calgary Jewish Centre, Akiva Academy, Calgary Jewish Academy, Community Council, Jewish Family Service): $625.21, Canadian National Jewish Organizations: $139.87; Israel (through United Israel Appeal): $234.92.

"It is clear that the community is on side with keeping more money in the community," said Feldman. "But it is also clear [that respondents] recognize our ongoing responsibility to support Israel."

The survey addressed a wide range of issues of interest to community planners — from usage patterns of various institutions, to priorities for funding. This information is expected to be of help in drawing up future plans for the community, in assessing whether needs are being met, and in establishing priorities.

However, the consensus is that it is premature to draw definitive conclusions. More analysis and further cross-tabulations are needed before the full significance of the survey can be determined.

Feldman feels the report provides community leadership with much food for thought. "The information presented is very interesting," he said, adding a warning. "But it has to be seen as information only. It provides the basis for some answers but it won't provide all the answers."

Both Marilyn Burke, chair of the Calgary Jewish Centre, and Mara Kline, co-president of Jewish Family Service, said that their boards will be looking at the findings very closely, with an eye to making adjustments in programming.

In presenting her report to the CJCC board, Taras expressed the view that the survey results are accurate because the mailing list was drawn up by CJCC, and included both contributors and non-contributors to UJA and members and non-members of the Jewish Centre.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Metro Toronto Singles Presents a **Spring Singles Gala** at the Richmond Hill Country Club, 8905 Bathurst St. North, Thurs. March 27th at 8pm. For more info. call 416-222-7111.

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From coast to coast

Quebec court ruling leaves El Al 'in limbo'

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The recent Quebec Superior Court ruling delaying — and possibly putting the kibosh on — plans to transfer international commercial flights from Mirabel Airport to Dorval has also left El Al "in limbo," says its Eastern Canada sales manager.

Regularly-scheduled Monday and Wednesday El Al flights to Israel from Mirabel will continue as they always have, Cohen stressed in an interview.

But like other international carriers, El Al planned to make its move to Dorval by the spring.

Because of the court ruling, El Al and other international carriers will not know whether they can relocate until it's decided once and for all whether the planned consolidation of domestic and international commercial flights to Dorval is a go.

Cohen said the delay has put just about everything related to the move on hold, ranging from scheduling to logistical operations that have to be coordinated and timed with precision and programmed into computers in a timely manner.

El Al had even hoped to move to Dorval earlier than other international carriers because the airline realized how convenient Dorval is for customers compared to Mirabel, which takes about twice as long to reach by car and which requires time-consuming transfers for travellers connecting from domestic to overseas flights.

Ironically, in business terms, there's been a silver lining for El Al stemming from the delay.

Air Canada was scheduled to launch Montreal to Tel Aviv flights in June, but has warned it might cancel plans to do so if it didn't hear by late last week whether the consolidation to Dorval would be taking place.

This, however, seemed very unlikely since an appeal of the Superior Court ruling by the Aéroports de Montréal (ADM), a non-profit corporation that manages Mirabel and Dorval airports and announced the planned move about a year ago, won't be heard until April 7.

Cohen acknowledged that if Air Canada carried through with its threat, El Al benefits because it would allow it to maintain its share of the local market.

But given the situation, Cohen said he would still like to see international commercial flights get off the ground from Dorval as soon as possible so as to benefit the public at large.

Jewish culture festival to return

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — KlezKanada, a celebration of Eastern European Jewish music and culture that drew almost 300 people from Canada and the United States to the Laurentians for its inauguration last year, will return this summer.

The format and content will be similar except that the event has been expanded to four days, from three, Aug. 20 to 24, and will again be held at Camp B'nai Brith in Lantier. This year's artists-in-residence will by the Klezmer Conservatory Band of Boston.

The band will be featured at a major outdoor concert the night of Aug. 23, to which the public at large is invited. KlezKanada chair, Dr. Hy Goldman, thinks 1,500 may turn out for the evening. Last year's concert with Brave Old World, another top U.S. klezmer band, drew 1,100.

The regular program will feature lectures, discussion groups, workshops in various instruments and voice, and smaller concerts, including a nightly KlezKanada Kabaret, led by noted scholars and musicians. Films, including some going back to the '20s, will be shown daily.

A theme of Three Cities of Yiddish Excellence: Lodz, Vilna and Warsaw will be explored through film, music and lectures by professors Robert Shapiro of Yeshiva University and Gershon Hundert of McGill University, as well as through an archival exhibition. The 100th anniversaries of *The Forward*, modern Zionism and the Jewish labor movement will also be observed.

Another highlight will be a panel discussion on Yiddish/Jewish Theatre Around the World, with such theatre personalities as Bernard Mendelovitch of London, Mina Bern and Broadway song-and-dance man Bruce Adler of New York, and Bryna Wasserman, director of Montreal's Yiddish Theatre.

Stage actors Mendelovitch and Bern will also appear together in a dramatic presentation.

Excerpts from the new New York musical *Vilna hat a golem* will be performed by Jeff Warschauer of New York and Deborah Strauss of Chicago, and New York singer Adrienne Cooper and pianist Zalman Mlotek will present excerpts from the their musical *Music in Extremis: Songs from the Ghetto Theatres*.

A nostalgic night is promised when Joe Borock of Philadelphia, one of the last great klezmer clarinetists of the '40s and '50s performs and talks with Hankus Netsky, musical director of the Klezmer Conservatory Band.

Among the other faculty confirmed to date are: Yiddish scholar Emanuel Goldsmith of New York, singer Shura Lipovsky of Amsterdam, New York impresario Moshe Rosenfeld and raconteur Michael Wex of Toronto.

Although there will be opportunities to brush up on one's Yiddish, English will be the main language of the sessions, Goldman said.

"The goal is not Yiddish immersion, but to enhance appreciation of the creativity that came out of Yiddish culture, something that is too great to simply be jettisoned."

Registration will be limited to 300 (200 on-site and 100 off-site), and accepted on a first come, first served basis, Goldman said.

Accommodations at the camp range from the retreat centre, which offers private rooms, down to ordinary cabins, with price scaled down accordingly. "The retreat has 112 beds, and we've already had requests from 170 people for them," he said.

KlezKanada is under the auspices of the Committee on Yiddish of the Jewish Education Council of Montreal.

Goldman is already thinking about the 1998 KlezKanada. That summer the International Association of Yiddish Clubs will hold its conference in Montreal, and some kind of joint programming is being considered.

For information on KlezKanada, call the Jewish Education Council, 345-2610.

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From coast to coast

Holocaust play real winner

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — A play about the Holocaust written and directed by two 17-year-old Parkside High School students in Dundas, was recently named the outstanding production at the local level of the province-wide Sears High School Drama Festival.

The play, *Everyone has a Name,* will now go on to the south-western Ontario regional festival in Windsor at the end of April, where 270 school plays will compete. Five will be chosen winners.

Alana Vertlieb and Niduk Wijayasingha, who wrote and directed *Everyone Has A Name*, received merit awards for writing and directing, and 15-year-old Samantha Waxman, who plays the leading role of Old Tzipora, received the excellence in acting award for her portrayal of an elderly survivor telling her story to her children.

This was the first win ever for Parkside High School where Vertlieb and Wijayasingha attend Grade 12 and Waxman is in Grade 10.

Tzipora's story is told in flashback, her recollection of a happy childhood with her brother and younger sisters and their beloved zayde interspersed with her memories of Auschwitz.

The three students say they were thrilled with their win, although neither Vertlieb nor Wijayasingha has writing or theatrical ambitions.

Vertlieb, however, a graduate of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and participant of last year's March of the Living would like to teach about the Holocaust.

Waxman, also a former Hamilton Hebrew Academy student, hopes to go into theatre. She takes drama at Parkdale and has appeared in plays at summer camp and in public school.

There will be a repeat performance of *Everyone Has Name* at Westdale Collegiate in Hamilton on March 21 as well as two performances at Toronto's Beth Sholom Synagogue, one for students and another for March of the Living participants. The event is organized by March of the Living co-chair, Barbara Banks.

CJC ONTARIO REGION MEETS FRY
Federal Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) Hedy Fry (centre) meets a delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, at the Royal York Hotel to discuss matters of mutual concern. The CJC officials included: community relations vice-chair Len Rudner (second from left), and political liaison committee chair Cary Green, and vice-chairs Marlene Sklar and Neal Goldstein. [Daniel Fine photo]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Berna & Allan Feldman are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Debra to Brian, son of Anne & Harvey Taub of Montreal. Proud Bubbie is Anne Studnitz of Winnipeg.

Mazel tov on your 50th anniversary Morris & Masha Weintraub. Love from your children and grandchildren, Tom, Debby, Shannon & Lucas.

Mazel tov Eli & Pauline Goldberg on their 30th wedding anniversary, Jan. 30, from sons Nathan and Isaac, parents Aron & Bluma Kaufberg and Cemach & Pola Oszlak.

Happy 65th birthday to Murray Lazer, Feb. 7. With love and best wishes from his wife Helen and family.

Ralph & Florrie Kay celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary Jan. 4 out for dinner with their children and grandchildren. No one cooked, everyone enjoyed.

Mazel tov to Albert & Helen Waisglass on their 50th wedding anniversary, Feb. 9. All our love and best wishes from your children and grandchildren.

Marvin & Sylvia Singer celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary Feb. 14. Mazel tov from children Sharon Wonnacott. Rosalie & Ken Pal, Jack & Irene Singer, and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Shiffy & Al Wasserman on their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 17. Love from all your children and grandchildren.

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French museums to exhibit 900 works taken during war

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — Four French museums have announced special exhibits of some 900 works of art that the Nazis took from France during World War II.

Some of the works might have been looted from Jews, and exhibit organizers say they hope that such pieces will be claimed by their rightful owners.

The exhibits — which include works by Picasso, Cezanne and Matisse — will open April 9 at the Louvre, the Musee d'Orsay, the Pompidou Centre and the Musee National de la Ceramique.

The event comes in the wake of a report by France's state-spending watchdog accusing the national museum network of having made little or no effort to return some 1,995 works of art that were entrusted to them shortly after the end of the war.

The museums were required by law to try to locate the owners or heirs of the art.

In addition, the French government recently announced that it would conduct a probe into Jewish property seized during World War II.

French Jewish leaders had been astonished at recent revelations that French national museums had failed to seek the rightful owners of the works

The 900 works will be displayed with a record of historical background that might help in locating their owners.

Some of the works are believed to have been seized from Jews who were deported to concentration camps or were fleeing persecution.

Israel strikes at Hezbollah

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli fighter planes struck Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon last weekend in retaliation for earlier clashes that left one Israeli soldier dead and another seriously wounded.

Sgt. Lior Shabtai, 19, was killed and an officer was wounded last week when Hezbollah gunmen fired a missile at an Israeli tank.

Shabtai was buried in the military section of the cemetery in his hometown of Rishon leZion.

Last week's battle was a continuation of clashes of the previous night. During the exchanges, some 20 Hezbollah gunmen tried to overtake an Israeli position in the security zone.

At least four Hezbollah gunmen were killed, according to an army spokesperson.

During the battle, Hezbollah forces launched rockets and mortars at the Israeli position from a number of locations, some of them residential.

Israel later filed a complaint with the five-nation group monitoring the ceasefire that went into effect last April.

Ben-Ami, Beilin bid to lead Labor

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — MKs Yossi Beilin and Shlomo Ben-Ami submitted their candidacies for Labor's leadership at the party's headquarters on Hayarkon Street last Sunday, joining MKs Ehud Barak and Ephraim Sneh who have already done so.

At a press conference after handing in his candidacy forms, Beilin lashed out at Barak for "fudging and blunting" his positions to make them palatable for voters of various sectors and at the centre of the political map.

"It is unthinkable that Labor chooses a leadership candidate who doesn't make his positions clear, just because he claims he can win the elections. We should beware of repeating the mistake made in the election of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in choosing a man who loves to win," Beilin said.

He warned against trying to gain the support of the elusive political centre, which he called an optical illusion, since it disappears to the right come election day.

Ben-Ami, who also spoke to reporters after announcing his candidacy, said the Bar-On affair has exposed "a disgusting situation which endangers democracy, regardless of whether charges are pressed ultimately or not."

He said, "Israel is now in one of its most difficult hours, as its public integrity is on trial," indicating that Labor must lead in the campaign for public integrity.

Ben-Ami rejected proposals by Barak, Beilin and Sneh to remove his candidacy and form a coalition with them, in exchange for a key position.

He called for the restructure of Labor into a coalition of sectors and groups, to restore the party's lost social character and appeal. He said he will act to legislate free education for the ages of three to five and for academic studies.

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IDF pullback on agenda

[Cont'd from page 1]

Likud critics of Netanyahu, such as MK Ze'ev Benjamin Begin, charge that the issue of "reciprocity" is not just being deferred but abandoned.

Despite the Hebron redeployment, the release of Palestinian women prisoners and the ensuing pullback, Israel has not received any dividends in return, Begin said.

During the next few days, Netanyahu will hold a series of consultations with security officials and ministerial colleagues regarding the scope of the pullback scheduled for this Friday.

Last month, Clinton asked Netanyahu to agree to a pullback that involves about 10 percent of the West Bank.

Aides to Netanyahu have intimated that most of the pullback will be transforming areas which currently have a status of shared Israeli-Palestinian control (Area B) and designating them as territories under complete Palestinian control (Area A). Palestinians, of course, would prefer to gain territory under total Israeli control (Area C). As it stands now, about three percent of the territories are Area A, about 27 percent are Area B and 70 are Area C.

Netanyahu was to visit Cairo this week to meet with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Next week he is to go to Russia to meet with President Boris Yeltsin as well as members of the Jewish community.

Meanwhile, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat was to make a three-day visit to the United States, which will take him from Washington where he will meet President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, to Texas where he will meet with former president George Bush and his secretary of state James Baker.

He will then fly to New York and meet with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Arafat has maintained a volatile atmosphere in the West Bank while rejecting actual violence. Last weekend, the Palestinian Legislative Council called for a comprehensive strike to be held Monday to protest the Har Choma decision.

Trade visit wraps up

[Cont'd from page 1]

"On a personal note, I will always remember that Canada was one of the first countries in the world to fight for my release from a Soviet prison. The Canadians are true friends of Israel and the Jewish people," he added.

Eggleton told Sharansky "I am proud to be leading the largest and most prestigious group of Canadian business leaders ever to visit Israel. With the implementation of the free trade agreement we have started in a modest way with a solid foundation. It is clear from looking around at the variety of representatives in this room, many from some of Canada's leading companies, that the Canadian business community is eager to promote further trade and investments between our two countries."

At the conclusion of the lunch, the existing Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation agreement (CIIRDF) was extended for a further three years.

Israel and Canada agreed to continue to provide CIIRDF with $1 million a year from each country. As of June 1996, 12 projects had been approved representing almost $4 million in R&D cooperation in the fields of biotechnology and information technologies. This fund will encourage the small and medium-sized enterprises in both countries.

The Canadians were given many opportunities to make contacts on behalf of their firms with potential Israeli clients and agents. A similar mission from Israel to Canada, to be led by Sharansky, is slated to take place later in the year.

The theme of closer bilateral trade was repeated by Dan Propper, chair of the Manufacturers Association of Israel (MIA), at a MAI business breakfast in Tel Aviv in honor of the visit of Eggleton and his mission.

Over the next few years more than $25 billion (US) will be invested in the Middle East region, Propper said. He wanted to encourage the Canadians to do business with the Palestinians and Jordanians by investing in new industrial parks, such as the ones being built near Gaza and near the Sheik Hussein Bridge on the River Jordan.

The meeting ended with Eggleton witnessing the signing of a cooperation agreement between the MAI, signed by Propper, and the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters of Canada, signed by the Alliance chair Harry Shelson.

Eggleton also held a short meeting with a Palestinian business delegation in Ramallah and inaugurated the first Israeli franchise in downtown Jerusalem of The Second Cup.

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The Week in Israel

Feb. 24

• Israel sent one ton of medical supplies to Bulgaria in response to published reports of shortages in Bulgarian hospitals.

• A Tel Aviv court released details of the arrest of a Soviet spy during the 1980s. Roman Weisfeld, an electrical engineer who immigrated to Israel in 1980, was convicted nine years later of spying for the former Soviet Union and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Feb. 25

• One Palestinian was killed and three others were wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers in Hizme, an Arab village north of Jerusalem.

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai held talks with the visiting Turkish chief of staff and pledged that the two countries would continue to improve military ties.

Feb. 26

• Court-appointed psychiatrists concluded that Noam Friedman was mentally unstable at the time he opened fire on Palestinians in the Hebron market. The military court ordered Friedman be committed to a psychiatric hospital.

•Israel's High Court of Justice refused to release six Iraqi citizens held in Israeli jails for the past three years. The court said the Iraqis could pose a threat to security.

Feb. 27

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk to discuss the plan to build housing on Har Choma.

• Israel deported a Palestinian terrorist to Syria. The terrorist, Basem Ghanem, was captured in 1987 before he was able to take hostages.

• The permit to build on Har Choma was signed after the High Court postponed a petition to prevent construction on the site.

Feb. 28

• The IDF and the police were placed on high alert around Jerusalem as a precaution due to the signing of the building permit for Har Choma.

(With files from JTA)

Redeployment starting

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

It took Israel and the PLO three months to hammer out the modified Jan. 15 Hebron redeployment agreement, which orignally should have been implemented long before.

One of the reasons for the delay was that the PLO lacked trust in Israel's intentions. The Palestinians would not sign on the dotted line until Israel promised to undertake three further withdrawals from the West Bank, as called for in the Oslo peace process.

The negotiations were arduous, taxing the patience of U.S. intermediary Dennis Ross, but finally the two sides reached an understanding under which Israel's third redeployment would occur no later than August 1998.

The first of these redeployments is scheduled to take place this week. But already a controversy is brewing, turning on the depth of the planned withdrawals.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu maintains that the size of the areas to be allocated to the Palestinians is clearly an Israeli responsibility, subject to its security requirements.

His interpretation, sharply disputed by the Palestinians, is supported by the opposition Labor party and by the United States.

When Israel and the PLO were negotiating the terms of the 1993 Declaration of Principles — the foundation stone of the Oslo accords — the Palestinians demanded that at least three-quarters of the West Bank should be vacated by the third withdrawal. According to Uri Savir, one of the chief Israeli negotiators and a Labor party appointee, Israel balked.

The redeployments, perhaps with the exception of the third and final one, would be determined solely by Israel, and would not be spelled out in advance, he recalled.

The U.S. government has taken a similar position. In a side letter to the Hebron agreement, Warren Christopher, the then secretary of state, advised PLO chairman Yasser Arafat that Israel should redeploy its forces to "specified military locations" in the West Bank. This view has since been echoed by Ross and the American ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk.

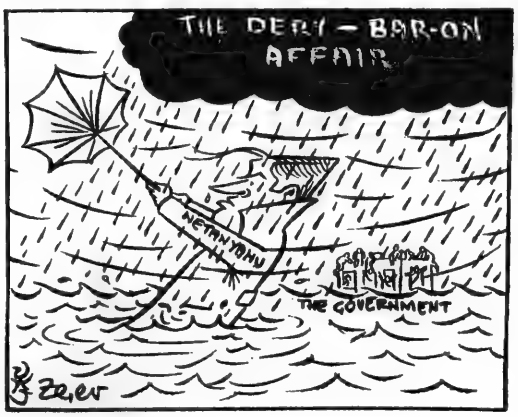
The Palestinians, however, point to a passage in Christopher's letter which states that the "secure and defensible borders" to which Israel is entitled should be the outcome of bilateral talks. Israel counters that this passage refers, not to the three redeployments, but to the permanent status discussions due to begin shortly. These will focus on, among other things, final borders, security arrangements and Palestinian refugees.

By all accounts, Israel intends to yield a minimal amount of territory in the first pullback, as little as two percent or as much as 10 percent (to compensate the Palestinians for Israel's decision to build the new Har Choma neighborhood in east Jerusalem). The Palestinians expect to gain upwards of 80 percent of the West Bank when the third redeployment is completed, but they are probably deluding themselves. They already completely control three percent of Area A, comprising the major Arab towns, and share with Israel about 27 percent of Area B.

Their goal is to acquire enough contiguous land to establish an independent Palestinian state. The Palestinians do not believe that their objective of wresting most of the West Bank (and the Gaza Strip) from Israel is excessive.

As the PLO never tires of proclaiming, the West Bank and Gaza form less than 25 percent of the Palestinians' historic homeland, which some Palestinian factions, such as Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine: General Command, still covet in its entirety.

Israel, of course, has its own territorial demands. The Labor party is more flexible than the Likud with respect to giving up land in exchange for peace. But there is a growing consensus that Israel should annex eastern Jerusalem and the adjacent Gush Etzion bloc, widen the coastal strip and thus incorporate parts of Samaria closest to the old Green Line, and retain a military presence along the Jordan River. Clearly, tough negotiations lie ahead.



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Assessing Cairo's cold peace

By JACK SILVERSTONE
Special to The CJN

CAIRO — The first memorable sight on the broad boulevard in from Cairo airport is a large frieze portraying the Egyptian crossing of the Suez Canal in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Discerning whether the option of war between Egypt and Israel is now firmly consigned to history and public statues, was one of the principal objectives of a 36-hour visit to the most populous Arab country of 62 million by a Canadian delegation representing the Canada-Israel Committee, B'nai Brith and Canadian Jewish Congress.

During an intensive day of meetings organized by the Canadian embassy in Cairo and led by Ambassador Michael Bell who accompanied the delegation, an uninterrupted stream of high-level officials and business leaders assured the delegation that the peace between Israel and Egypt was irreversible.

They were convincing, but Israelis are worried by the state of relations between the two countries marked more by an absence of hostilities than by deep bilateral ties.

After 18 years of peace, Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak has yet to pay an official visit to Israel; the flow of tourist visits is markedly uneven, with few Egyptians visiting Israel; the bilateral trade figures are one-sided; and Egyptian intellectuals are mostly anti-Israel. The arrest of an Israeli Druze working in Egypt on charges of spying, vehemently denied by Israel, has further strained relations. But what is probably the most troubling is the unrelenting anti-Israel invective in the Egyptian press, which often spills over into outright anti-Semitism.

Invariably the Egyptian response, when pressed by the Canadian delegation on the media-coverage issue, was to blame the so-called opposition press, referring to newspapers belonging to Islamic or Nasserist parties. However, it was a major government-oriented daily which recently published and then, after Israeli and international protest, retracted, a baseless and outrageous story that Israeli doctors had injected hundreds of Palestinians with AIDS.

The president of the powerful Council of Egyptian Industries, Ibrahim Kamel, met top Israeli leaders, including Benjamin Netanyahu, during a recent visit to Israel. He was optimistic about long-term Israeli-Egyptian relations but expressed doubt about the possibility of speeding up the process.

Media vitriol

Current two-way trade amounts to some $350 million, of which Egyptian oil exports to Israel account for about $200 million. These figures, which are regarded as paltry by the Israelis, were cited by Dr. Sallama Shaker, the senior official in the Egyptian foreign office responsible for Canadian affairs, as one example of the satisfactory state of bilateral relations.

While acknowledging the problem of media vitriol against Israel, she denied the government's ability to control it, contrary to Israeli assertions, and argued that it was a two-way street. She condemned attacks on the Egyptian role in the peace process, whether they come from Israeli sources or from Jews in the Diaspora.

Asserting an indispensable and pre-eminent Egyptian role as the leader of the Arab world in the peace process was Nabil Fahmy, chief political counsellor to the foreign minister. He was a leading figure in advising the Palestinian Authority on the recently concluded negotiations concerning Hebron. Fahmy spoke of Egypt's invaluable efforts in reaching the agreement on Hebron and rejected any suggestion that his country might have played a spoiler role in the protracted bargaining. He said that "with the Hebron accord, the door to peace has been unlocked." When asked about the violence in the Palestinian areas last autumn, he stated that a renewal of hostilities is not in the interests of the Palestinian Authority.

Fahmy expressed no doubts about the current Israeli government's desire for peace. He said, however, that it cannot be attained by trying to sidestep the only peace process available, namely the Oslo Accords. Any retreat from territorial concessions was a reversion not only to pre-Oslo but also to pre-Madrid concepts.

As for the tiny remnant of the once grand Egyptian-Jewish community of some 300,000, they are now mostly aged and deeply concerned about preserving the deteriorating cemeteries and synagogues, mostly in Cairo and Alexandria, some of which have been declared historic sights. The one remaining Jewish house of worship in Port Said was sold and demolished. The entire community consists of around 250 souls and has no role in national or regional politics.

The commitment of Egypt to peaceful relations with its neighbors to the east, as expressed to us by political leaders, their officials and the business sector seemed sincere. They seek stability and security, both internally and regionally.

But likely no less sincere are the intelligentsia, the media and the political extremes, who have exhibited little but unmitigated anger over the continued success of the Zionist enterprise.

This schizophrenic attitude toward Israel in Egyptian society is to be found even in the person of the deputy prime minister, Youssef Wally, who is considered one of the most pro-Israel ministers in the government.

He noted with pride the frequent visits of his officials to Israel, although he himself has never visited and has no plans to do so, saying that what is important is believing in good relations and not necessarily exchanging visits. So the Israeli desire for tangible symbols appears frustrated even by this friendly senior statesman, who unhesitatingly said that "peace, by hook or by crook, will dominate the region."

As for the official Canadian perspective, Bell, who prior to his Cairo assignment was Canada's top envoy in Israel and Jordan, was upbeat after the Hebron deal. The ambassador termed it an "important success."

Jack Silverstone, National Executive Director and General Counsel of Canadian Jewish Congress, is currently on a study leave in Israel.

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Fitness trainer urges three-way approach to wellness

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Are there many resolutions that are broken as often as the one to get physically fit?

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Salter is certified by the American Council on Exercise (ACE), a member of the International Association of Fitness Professionals and a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

As well, she has a BA in psychology from York University and a master of social work from the University of Toronto.

It is extremely important she says, that a trainer be properly trained. "Otherwise, you don't know if they understand anatomy, kinesiology and biomechanics, and how to program safe activities for different health issues."

Many people have had negative experiences with exercise programs, and part of Salter's job, she says, is to help overcome that.

Body image counselling is an important part of the "wellness puzzle" as she describes it, noting that many women have a false notion of what they really look like.

Stress management is another factor, she says. "Pure exercise can help people manage stress, but there are often other issues involved."

Salter begins by setting up a consultation, "so [clients] can get a sense of me, decide if they want to work with me, and discuss health concerns, such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, sports injuries, or back problems."

She completes a health history form and men over 40, women over 50 and anyone with health problems must obtain a physician's release.

Sessions cost $50 each and take place from one to five times a week, depending on how motivated a person is to work on their own. "Of course, part of my job is to keep them motivated," she adds.

Personal fitness trainer Jennifer Salter demonstrates proper techniques for doing sit-ups to client Bill Windrem. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

The key to Salter's program is planning and maintaining a balance between three types of training; cardiovascular fitness, strength training (with weights, for instance) and flexibility.

She also teaches people how to exercise properly. "It is easy to make mistakes, she says, such as using the back instead of the legs to lift weights, or performing certain movements that put the shoulder in danger.

"You can't do just one thing," she stresses. "Eating healthy is important, but if you don't exercise, you are still at risk — not as much, maybe, but you are still at a higher risk than someone who eats well and exercises."

Quoting a recent U.S. Surgeon-General's report on physical activity, she says a lifetime of inactivity is equivalent to smoking a pack of cigarettes a day.

Exercise has a myriad of benefits: a decrease in breast cancer in women, and a lower risk of colorectal, lung and digestive system cancers, she says.

"A study by the [U.S.] Cooper Institute of Aerobics Research, showed that in a study of 10,000 men, there was a 44 percent decrease in the risk of early death from coronary heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, stroke and cancers for those who exercise"

Exercise can be intimidating for those who are new at it, she acknowledges. It is not necessary to have fancy equipment or an exercise room in one's house, Salter says, explaining that she carries equipment such as stability balls in her car. However, if people intend to carry on seriously, she advises them to get what they need, especially weights.

New fellowships at Baycrest

TORONTO — Baycrest has been chosen by the Ontario Mental Health Foundation as its first partner in an innovative funding program to train mental health researchers in Ontario.

In an unusual type of collaboration, the organization will pool their resources to establish two post-doctoral fellowships at Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute. It is the first step in a new initiative to channel training funds through institutions as well as through grants to individuals.

"We chose Baycrest as the pilot site for this program because of its interdisciplinary mental health focus and the close link which exists there between research and clinical practice," says Dr. Howard Cappell, executive director of the Ontario Mental Health Foundation. "Also important are the Rotman Research Institute's strong commitment to training and the number of outstanding scientists who are available to act as mentors to students."

"These students will have the opportunity to work on basic science that can be applied through Baycrest's clinical services, thus adding to our understanding of the elderly and leading to better treatments," says Dr. Donald Stuss, director of the Rotman Research Institute. "They will also work on state-of-the art technology used in brain research. By collaborating on this type of educational opportunity, the foundation and our institute are ensuring that Ontario's young scientists are well trained to compete in today's world."

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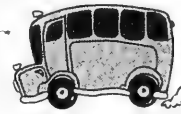

The Big Oak Tree

By Tamara Kathryn Smith

Judaism is a big oak tree and I am proud to be a leaf.

Every single leaf is an important part of the tree.

Learning Jewish things prevents the leaves from wilting.

If too many leaves wilt and fall the tree won't survive.

I am valuable to the tree so please teach me all you can.

I am 10 years old and in Grade 4 at Waverley Public School, Bowmanville, Ont. Sometimes it is lonely being Jewish in a small town, as I don't know any other Jewish children.

I want to travel to Jewish communities in Canada and meet other Jewish people. I would like to learn more about the Holocaust so that I may teach other children through school presentations.

I am trying my best to learn all I can about being Jewish and to help others. Please care about me and help me learn many Jewish things.

Tamara Kathryn Smith
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These young children in Tel Aviv were careful not to fall into this vat of chocolate. Last month the chocolate manufacturers of Israel sponsored a chocolate festival in the plaza of the Museum of Art in Tel Aviv. It was good to the very last dip. *[Israel photo]*

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All the Moses cartoons were fabulous.

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Kobi Ailenberg of North York
Allysa Moses of Thornhill
Derek Sobel of Edmonton

Each will receive a cheque for $20. from *The CJN*.

Kids! Keep coloring and sending us your cartoons.

CJ Kids

Book Review & cartoon too

Thank to Naamah, Noah's wife, the plants of the world are saved

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Everyone knows that when G-d was going to destroy the world in the flood, He commanded Noah to build an ark, and to bring into it two of every animal on the earth.

But what about Noah's wife, Naamah?

According to Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, in her beautiful new book *A Prayer for the Earth; the story of Naamah, Noah's Wife*, (Jewish Lights, 1996), Naamah was asked to "gather the seeds of all the flowers and all the trees" and make a garden in the ark, so that all the living things of the earth would be saved, not just the animals.

Naamah went all through the world, gathering seeds from flowers, spices, vegetables, and fruits, planted them in clay pots and took them to the ark.

She pretended not to notice dandelions, but G-d ordered her to gather their seeds too. Sasso explained that to make them feel better, G-d made certain that dandelions would cover the earth.

Life was very hard in the ark, but whenever things got too much for Noah and Naamah they would "breathe the sweet aroma of the flowers and sit in the quiet of the plants that they called Naamah's garden."

And when the rains stopped and the water finally went away, Naamah planted all her seeds and the world was full of color and life again.

The pictures in *A Prayer for the Earth*, which were done by Bethanne Anderson, are delightful, full of bright colors. She must have had fun drawing the animals in the ark — when the ark starts pitching from the flood, the mane of the lion turns green!

You will especially like this book if you enjoy nature and growing things — but don't most of us?

ESTHER & ACHASHVEROSH

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Hank's Diner & Ballroom, a balance of fun and formal

Planning a bar or bat mitzvah? Looking for a locale with the right balance of elegance and relaxation: formal enough to impart respect for a special event, and relaxed enough to encourage everyone to have fun? Or maybe you just want a place to dine out, with good food, good service and a touch of nostalgia in the atmosphere. In either case, **Hank's Diner & Ballroom** is the place for you.

In business for 12 years, **Hank's** has a reputation for committed, conscientious service at affordable prices. With decor reminiscent of the '50's and '60's, old-style booths and posters of Elvis and James Dean, the Diner is formal, but fun; the Ballroom can be decorated according to your wishes.

Hank's hosts Sweet 16's and engagement parties as well as Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, offering a complete dining, entertainment and decor party package. Under one roof, **Hank's** helps select your menu, does in-house catering, books your DJ, designs your centrepieces and balloon decor, and co-ordinates your colours. (Outside catering is also available.)

The menu is versatile: everything from chicken fingers and fries for kids to formal dinners for adults. Our Herb Garlic Salmon is mouth-watering and our Mediterranean Chicken Breast is talked about for days after the party. Add service and decor, and you have a recipe that guarantees satisfied customers — and explains **Hank's** mile-long list of testimonials.

You've already heard this, though, from your neighbours. What **Hank's** really wants to tell you about is the 1997 Annual Price Sell Off. Prices start as low as $15.95 per person Monday—Friday, $19.95 Saturdays and Sundays. And there's more: book your 1998 party now, and use the coupon from the ad for an additional $100 off.

And that's not all: on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m., **Hank's** is hosting an Open House. This will be a party in its own right, with DJ, hors d'oeuvres and decoration, so you'll see how the ballroom looks during a simcha. The staff look forward to meeting you.

Hank's Diner & Ballroom are located at 10 Alden Road in Markham, one block east of Woodbine and John. Call **Hank's** catering hot line now: 905-474-9930.

Sable et Or: gilt-edged suit salon is glowing addition to Yorkville

A new Yorkville boutique as compellingly unusual as its name has added an exciting new dimension to buying ladies' suits.

Sable et Or, French for "sand and gold", beckons you into a stunning salon of sandy golds, yellow pastels and gleaming maple floors. Awash with light even on a rainy day, it's home to the hand-sewn suits created by French designer Annie Dantheny. These exquisite garments — to which Sable et Or has exclusive North American rights — are distinctively different from the run-of-the-mill. A boon to professional women, they are impeccably fabricated in pure wool, pure linen, Thai silk, and high-quality viscose.

Because the shop caters to an international clientele, the emphasis is on year-round wear. Though you'll certainly find whatever you need for spring, there's always a selection of transitional garments. At any given time, you'll see over 50 Dantheny designs in French sizes 36 to 50, for every season and occasion from conference to cocktail, in a rainbow of colors: gentle pastels; warm, upbeat hues for fun times; the more demure tones of the business world; and the deep blues and blacks of traditional evening wear.

For the younger woman, there are designs by Bestini and Allumette; you'll even find something here for your children. While 80% of the garments are by Dantheny, proprietor Daisy Bryniak keeps her eyes open for one-of-a-kind items — including the knickknacks and fragrances which give Sable et Or some of its special atmosphere.

Here, the keyword is service. Ms. Bryniak, who designed the entire store herself — including elaborate floral decorations and elegant wrought-iron furniture — will assist you in mixing and matching colors and even buttons. You can also order any suit in any season, with a waiting period of four weeks. All alterations are included in the price, for as long as you own the suit; and whenever the garment is altered, Sable et Or will have it dry cleaned for you at no extra charge. Daisy is also happy to assist you in wardrobe planning, a facet of the business that allows her to express her design talents and indulge her love of working with people.

Ms. Bryniak travels to Paris every two months, to do her purchasing and oversee special orders in person.

At 162 Cumberland St. on the north side, three doors from the Four Seasons Hotel, Sable et Or is open seven days a week: Monday to Friday 10:30 to 6:30, Saturdays 10:30 to 6:00, and Sundays 1:00 to 5:00. If other times fit your schedule better, feel free to call for an appointment: (416) 922-3684. Sable et Or accepts all major credit cards and Interac.

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LifeStyle

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"People often have the misconception that planning a wedding, bar or bat mitzvah has to be a stressful and tedious experience," states Marla Kay, organizer of "A Celebration of Stars," a trade show which assembles a large variety of party professionals serving the Jewish community.

"As a bridal and party consultant for 15 years, I know how wonderful it is to plan a simcha. There are so many details to be looked after. For the past 4 years at each of my shows, I have brought together over 50 professional "stars" of the party industry to display their wonderful products and services."

This year, the Celebration of Stars Wedding, Bar and Bat Mitzvah Show will take place on Tuesday, April 1, 1997 at the Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, 100 Elder St., in North York. It starts at 6 p.m. and runs until 11 p.m. Once again, as in past years, at 8:30 p.m. Ines Di Santo, designer/owner of Chez Moi Fashions will present her '97 collection on a fabulous runway fashion show, featuring bridal, evening wear and bat mitzvah creations.

"There are a lot of bridal trade shows offered to the public," says Kay. "The Celebration of Stars Show" is geared solely to the Jewish community. All of the exhibitors rely on Jewish simchas for the core of their business."

When you attend the Celebration of Stars Show, all of your entire party needs will be represented and you will be able to meet our party's finest on an informal basis. You have the luxury of making an instant decision based on what you have seen, heard or tasted, or mull it over and decide at a later date. Many of the exhibitors will be offering show discounts and numerous give-aways. Each of the various stages of party planning will be available and by having more than one company displaying their unique talents in a particular category, you have the choice of which individual will suit your needs. You may choose from a variety of party professionals who will strive to maintain the highest standards of excellence in their particular area of expertise. You will be offered bridal and party consultants, catering (Kosher), invitations, florists, make-up artists, personalized party favours, photography, videography, calligraphy, cakes, creative room decor and centrepieces, orchestras, DJ's, and even alternative entertainment for your guests such as virtual reality. Some of the "stars" are very well known in the simcha industry and there will also be some new faces as well.

"Every Celebration of Stars Bridal, Bar and Bat Mitzvah Show that I have organized has proved to be so successful for both guests and exhibitors that as soon as I finish one, I begin plans for the next one," says Kay. "Organizing a party is what I do best and I think that it is certainly reflected in my shows."

Come and see for yourself that the Celebration of Stars has got it all and is one show that you don't want to miss. Admission and parking is free. For further information you can contact Marla Kay at **905-882-2042**.

A Celebration of Stars

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Golda Meir (Na'amat President 1932 to 1934) is pictured (middle row 2nd from right) in Toronto in 1925 with members of Toronto's Club One.

We carry on Golda's ideals today...

Members of Toronto Na'amat leadership meet in Jerusalem as they continue to build Golda's dream of full equality for women.

Founded in 1925 by Golda Meir (former Prime Minister of Israel), Rachel Yanait Ben Zvi (Israel's first First Lady), and other dynamic young women of Israel's pioneer era, Na'amat has always aspired to achieve women's highest goals.

Did you know?

NA'AMAT is Israel's largest women's organization, with 350,000 members.

NA'AMAT has branches in 14 countries around the world with 3500 members across Canada.

NA'AMAT Israel operates 837 day care centres caring for 25,000 children...gives residential care to traumatized children who cannot be placed in foster homes...runs 14 vocational high schools and two residential agricultural high schools for older children who need more than the regular school system can provide.

NA'AMAT Toronto co-founded and actively supports the Bialik Hebrew Day School ... Habonim Dror Youth Movement ...Camp Gesher.

They were decades ahead of their time.
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To fight for women's rights, status and dignity
To strive for an equal place in society
To create the best lives for their families
To care for the children.

NA'AMAT Israel's Legal Department has thirty branches throughout the country, staffed with lawyers who help abused women, widows, single parents, women with financial or estate problems, and Agunot (women seeking a Get – a Jewish divorce).

NA'AMAT Toronto runs a free legal advisory clinic for women with similar problems.

NA'AMAT Israel's five Centres for the Prevention of Violence in the Family have aided over 4,000 women victims. NA'AMAT's new shelter and counselling centre in Tel Aviv for women victims and their children is a model of its kind.

NA'AMAT Toronto is carrying out a programme of awareness education for victims of domestic violence that include workshops and wide distribution of their resource guide, "I Can't Believe It's Happening..."

NA'AMAT Israel provides both emotional and legal support for Agunot and is making unstinting efforts to convince both the Knesset and the Beth Din to change the unfair laws that make these women suffer.

NA'AMAT Toronto helps organize and lead the Vigil for Agunot that is held annually on the Fast of Esther.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Munch's art reveals modern man's inner conflict

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A major exhibition of the works of Norwegian artist Edvard Munch (1863-1944), opened last week at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO).

The exhibition of the world-famous painting, *The Scream* (1893), one of three oil versions known to exist, will coincide with the exhibition, Edvard Munch: Symbolist Prints, from the Vivian and David Campbell Collection.

Munch was a painter and printmaker who explored all the aspects of life and revealed modern man's inner conflicts — tragedy, intense and dramatic love affairs, beauty, abandonment, agony and death.

The oil painting *The Scream*, which is on loan to the AGO from the Munch Museum of Oslo, Norway, will be on exhibition until April 20. It has been used in popular culture to express social and political commentary and is the most reproduced work of art after the *Mona Lisa*, notes Michael Park-Taylor, associate curator of European Art at the AGO.

The 58 symbolist woodcuts, etchings and lithographs from the Campbell collection including *The Kiss, Vampire, Madonna* and *The Sick Child*, and an oil painting titled *Girls on the Jetty* (c.1903) can be viewed until May 25.

Approximately 25 related lithographs of *The Scream* exist, five at the Munich Museum, five in public collections and the others are held privately. One of these lithographs titled, *The Geshrei* (*The Cry*), is included in the Campbells' collection and will be on view during the exhibition. David explained that each of Munch's works is different, for the artist would stop, make changes and then continue.

The Campbells began collecting Munch's works in 1964, two years after the Munch Museum opened in Norway. David told *The CJN* at a preview of the exhibition that while they were on a trip to Norway, "My wife recognized what a genius Munch was — and she opened a new world for us."

Vivian says, "You can't just look at Munch's art, you must stop and see what he is trying to say — he reflects all the emotions of man." She notes that her favorite is a self-portrait of the artist.

The Campbells' Munch collection is the largest and finest in Canada and the third largest in North America. They are among Toronto's leading supporters of the visual and performing arts, Park-Taylor says.

Park-Taylor, who describes Munch as "the greatest print maker of all time," has been working on the preparations for the exhibition for three years. He says, "Munch was incredibly experimental and speaks to our time. Most artists are anecdotal or narrative but Munch melds them together and creates a universal image."

Maxwell L. Anderson, AGO's director says, "We are grateful to the Munch Museum for its generosity in lending us *The Scream* and to Vivian and David Campbell for their efforts in securing the loan. This icon of 20th century art commands unrivaled global fascination and the scholarship behind our exhibition provides penetrating insight into its origins and persistent aura for audiences everywhere."

Canada/PA trade agreement?

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Canada is likely to sign a free trade agreement with the Palestinian Authority in May, Canadian International Trade Minister Art Eggleton told *the Jerusalem Post* last Tuesday. This would bring trade relations between the two in line with those between Canada and Israel.

"The major principles of the agreement have been concluded," said Eggleton. "However, I must point out, you can sign an agreement, but it is the business communities that will have to carry out their contracts and increase trade."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Cowbunga! Paintings hit home

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Chip (Grafstein) Feldman grew up with seven sisters and a brother in a big house with a wraparound veranda at 70 Brunswick Ave. in Toronto. Her father, Moishe Grafstein, had a silk and wool store on College Street near Spadina.

In the house on Brunswick were a golden harp, a grand piano, a violin, a xylophone, an accordion, assorted brass and woodwinds and a set of drums. The Grafstein daughters formed their own all-girl orchestra, performing at concerts and community events.

Moishe Grafstein, open hearted, flamboyant, brought home a stream of visitors from the store, the street, the neighborhood, for a good dinner cooked by his wife Goldie. They stayed for an hour, overnight, a week, a month, even years. The front door was never locked and everyone was welcome.

It's not surprising that Feldman, who studied art at Central Technical School, projects the warmth of that lively household in her works at a solo exhibition March 3 to 28 in the Grosvenor Room (second floor restaurant) at the Metro Central YMCA, 20 Grosvenor St. just west of Yonge.

Feldman, who has lived in St. Catharines since her marriage in 1948, frequently reaches back to her roots and has painted 70 Brunswick, her father's store and scenes from Kensington the way it was.

She also focuses on the joys of childhood. Her painting *Cowbunga!* pulses with the exhilaration of two youngsters zooming down a snow-covered hill on a flying saucer. *Tagalong* illuminates children romping in a park with some frisky Dalmatian puppies. Both paintings are in her current show.

Feldman's art is sometimes labelled naive, perhaps because the colors are bright, the figures direct. A better description would be honest. This is a skilled artist with the ability to make a straightforward, happy statement.

Swoosh!, an acrylic collage by Chip Feldman.

Feldman works in oils, acrylic, acrylic and collage, water colors.

Her water colors are strong. *Red Hot Peppers* are just that and her floral; *Four O'Clocks are* brilliant yellow.

She has a penchant for the whimsical. *Song to the Evening Star* presents a full complement of 85 symphony musicians, some quite conspicuous, like the man who winces when his neighbor hits a sour note, or the ponytailed individual sporting an earring and Adidas. The conductor bears a striking resemblance to lawyer Eddie Greenspan.

The *Card Game and the Kibbitzers* takes an amused look at the human condition as three men seated at a picnic table try to concentrate on their game while ignoring intrusive spectators.

Feldman has earned awards at the Molson Art Show, Garden City Art Show, Rodman Hall and Folk Arts Festival. Her oil painting, *Light in the Window*, was chosen to travel with the Canadian Council of Women's Centennial Art Exhibit, showcased across Canada for six months.

She has had 17 one-woman shows in St. Catharines, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal.

Her commissions include a 14-foot x 20-foot mural at Sheridan Mall, a painting for Mohammed Ali and a collection of paintings created for the musical, *The Me Nobody Knows*, at Toronto's Crest Theatre.

Her works are found in collections at Niagara Structural Steel, Newman Steel, Heintzman Piano, Bayview Country Club, Niagara Public Library.

Hours for the Grosvenor Room exhibition are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

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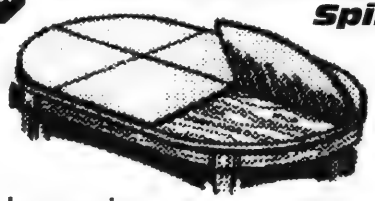
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Drawn From Memory settles old scores

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An unexamined life is not worth living, Paul Fierlinger observes as *Drawn From Memory*, the Toronto Jewish Film Society's latest offering, gets rolling.

Fierlinger is true to his word. He spares no one, including himself, in this feature, scheduled to be screened on March 9 at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackson Hall at 7:30 p.m.

It could be said that *Drawn From Memory*, a mix of animation, photographs and charcoal and pencil sketches, is basically a father-son story as well as a settling of scores.

Fierlinger, a Czech Jew, clearly disliked his father, a diplomat. The elder Fierlinger, who died in 1967, was a preoccupied and self-absorbed man who seems to have considered his son a nuisance. Fierlinger has neither forgotten nor, it would appear, forgiven him for his indifference.

Drawn From Memory, which had its premiere at the 1995 Sundance Festival in the United States, unfolds in chronological order.

Fierlinger was born in 1936 in Japan, where his father served as a commercial attache. Transferred to to New York City in 1939, the Fierlingers spent the war years in the United States.

Young Fierlinger was happy there, despite being shuttled to a succession of boarding schools and foster homes. In these places, however, he learned to love America.

In the summer of 1945, Fierlinger's parents returned to Czechoslovakia. He joined them a year later. His father attained prominence in the Communist government, whose prime minister, Zdanek, was Fierlinger's uncle.

Fierlinger's parents, members of the country's elite, belonged to the so-called "black limousine set." Fierlinger satirizes their hypocrisy mercilessly.

Much to their distress, he did not fit into the new scheme of things. He disliked the private school in which he was enrolled. (His roommates were Vaclav Havel, the current president of the Czech Republic, and Milos Forman, the movie director). He had difficulty with the Czech language. He was not enamored of the regime. He refused to take advantage of his position in society, becoming an apprentice coal miner, a bohemian and, finally, a freelance cartoonist under the name of Pavel Fala.

With his mother's death, Fierlinger made plans to escape. He had always dreamed of returning to the West and living in a democracy. In 1967, a year before the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, he moved to Holland and then to the United States.

Drawn From Memory, a pungent, coming-of-age film, recounts these memories with elan.

Gottfried both funny and tasteless

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — American comedian Gilbert Gottfried, whose most celebrated role was the voice of the parrot in the Disney movie *Aladdin*, brought his quirky brand of stand-up humor to Canada recently for two sold-out shows at Yuk Yuk's Comedy Superclub, as part of the Toronto Comedy Festival.

Gottfried responds to the audience's welcoming applause by pleading with his listeners not to get out of control, "because you'll poke someone's eye out." Thus begins an hour-long stream-of-consciousness comic monologue that is devastatingly funny, occasionally shocking and irredeemably tasteless at times.

Asked once what goes through his mind when he's on stage, Gottfried replied, "Everything. The Holocaust... my laundry... whether waxed or unwaxed dental floss is better... whether the mint flavor on toothpicks is poisonous... how many bristles are in a hairbrush."

Although it is disconcerting to hear mundane subjects discussed between references to mass murder, there seems to be method to Gottfried's madness. A child of survivors, he seems to be implying that the Holocaust and other modern atrocities, besides brutalizing millions of victims, have desensitized the rest of us into a callous numbness.

Strangely, his monologue is peppered with references to things that occurred 25 years ago or more, including the moon landing, the movie *Planet Of The Apes* and the TV show *Hogan's Heroes*.

Modern references like the following pop up only sporadically: "I was so happy that O.J. has the kids now," he announces, with typical razor-sharp irony. "I think he'll be a good father. If you have O.J. as a father, when he tells you to do your homework, you do it."

The Jews are a favorite sacred cow of Gottfried's. For instance, he satirizes the way "Jews have to announce everything. If you're Jewish, you can't keep anything in your head. If you drink a glass of water, you say, 'Oh, this is good water. Before I was thirsty, but now I'm not.'

"You could put a Jew in the desert, all alone. He'd say, 'Gee, it's hot in here. Look at all this sand! Who needs so much sand?'"

There's more than something nerdish about the way Gottfried repeatedly grips his head on stage. The pose evokes a hysteria reminiscent of the figure in *The Scream*, the famous Eduard Munch drawing now in Toronto. With his rich trademark voice, Gottfried tramples on our deepest fears and sensitivities as he delivers stand-up comedy for the post-Holocaust era.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Jewish Folk Choir Seeks Voices

Slated to perform its annual spring concert May 11 and at a festival in Ottawa in July, the **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir** is seeking a few experienced choral singers, particularly tenors. The repertoire features works old and new, traditional and modern, mainly in Yiddish, but also in English, Hebrew and Ladino. Included are well-known chassidic songs, a Yiddish oratorio on the poem *Tzvei Brider* by **I. L. Peretz**, and works by Jewish-Canadian composers **Milton Barnes**, **John Weinzweig**, **Louis Applebaum**, **Ben Steinberg** and **Alexander Rapaport**.

Led by conductor **Esther Ghan Firestone**, the choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7:30 pm, Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 416-778-8878.

The Play's The Thing

• *My Mother's Courage*, a black comedy by award-winning Hungarian-Jewish playwright **George Tabori** previews March 13 and opens March 14 at Theatre Passe Muraille. Walking a tightrope between tragedy and comedy, the play tells the story of the summer day in 1944 when Tabori's mother, a Budapest resident on her way to a card game, is arrested, put on a train to be deported — and then escapes. Until March 30. 416-504-7529.

• *Driven Sane*, an "autobiographical journey from pain to liberation" written, directed and performed by **Justin Thomas**, tells of the author's battle to overcome the effects of early childhood abuse; it contains some Jewish content. Thomas' fans include **Mel Lastman**, **Princess Diana**, **Jack Lemmon** and **Federico Fellini**. Held over at the Manulife Centre, Studio Suite 4912 (Bay & Bloor), Toronto. Adults $18. 416-969-7667.

Film Notes

•**Len Blum**, Toronto-based scriptwriter, has been jetting back and forth to New York for various public relations activities associated with *Private Parts*, the film he scripted for Paramount based on **Howard Stern's** scatological confessions. The movie opens this week in theatres across North America — not surprisingly, with an "R" rating. Meanwhile, Blum has signed on to a new cinematic project with Hollywood "golden-boy" producer-director **Ivan Reitman**, formerly of Hamilton and Toronto.

Ballet

The National Ballet of Canada is presenting its Les Grands Ballets Canadiens program March 5-6 at the Hummingbird Centre in Toronto. Part of the program, *Perpetuum* is based on music by Johann Strauss and choreographed by Israeli Ohad Naharin who is the artistic director of the Batsheva Dance Company.

For tickets call 416-872-2262.

In The Spotlight

Bestselling New York-area author and professor of neurology **Oliver Sacks** (*Awakenings*, *An Anthropologist On Mars*) recently gave a reading in Toronto from his latest book, *The Island of The Colorblind* (Knopf, $31). Redolent of **Stevenson**, **Melville** and **Darwin**, Sacks' account of his voyages to several exotic islands in the South Pacific, where he set up a one-room medical dispensary, reads like a 19th-century adventure narrative combined with a modern medical detective story.

While investigating an isolated community of islanders born totally colorblind on the Pingelap Atoll, as well as a puzzling neurodegenerative paralysis on Guam, Sacks found that the experience reawakened his lifelong passion for botany and in particular, for the primitive cycad tree. His book is an intriguing personal reflection on matters neurological, botanical and geological.

A potted fern — a cycad — shared the stage with Sacks at Convocation Hall. When he walked on stage, he went straight to the plant, studied its leaves, then announced, "It's a lady!" much to the audience's great amusement. Afterwards, someone asked why he regarded the cycad as such an important part of creation. "I would have thought it was self-evident," he replied. "But beauty, I guess, is in the eye of the beholder."

His love of primitive plants arose in his London childhood, he explained, when his mother and aunt tended a garden full of ferns — which were replaced with Jerusalem artichokes during the war.

"I tend to have a feeling for the primitive; so basically I don't like flowering plants — I think of them as irritating Johnny-come-latelies that have disturbed the stately mesozoic tempo where my friends flourished. Similarly, I prefer invertebrates to vertebrates, inorganic chemistry to organic chemistry and the subcortex to the cortex. That's why I like the cycad."

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Business Profile

Entrepreneur creates a virtual mall

David Lucatch: Valu-net International

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The statistics are in and they are formidable. An estimated seven million Canadians have access to the Internet, fully 23 percent of the population. Thirteen percent of them log on from their homes. Around the world, it's believed 50 or 60 million users are hooked up to the worldwide computer network, with 250,000 more joining each month.

Last May, the *Ottawa Citizen* reported there were between five and 10 million individual Web sites (Internet addresses) worldwide and that number was doubling every six months.

In short, it appears the Internet is spreading as fast as a computer virus, making it a natural medium for businesspeople to look to for advertising and sales.

But how to get noticed if you're one business among thousands in the brave new world of Internet commerce?

Entrepreneur David Lucatch believes he's hit on the answer. Create a "supermall," a "virtual storefront environment" in which businesses are grouped together as if in the traditional glass and concrete shopping structure. Add a "theme park environment" featuring entertainment, education, sports, contests, games and other promotions to generate traffic.

Consumers with access to the Internet will be able to dial up the "supermall," pick a category of merchandise or services and click on an icon to get access to the businesses listed. Then they'll be able to "stroll" down the business' virtual aisles, examine merchandise, compare costs and, in the end, order and pay for the goods they want.

Up and running for the past few months, Valu-net International [www.valuenetwork.com] has taken the 19th century concept of catalogue shopping, merged it with 20th century notions of advertising and sales and created a 21st century model for consumer transactions.

Lucatch, Valu-net's president, believes he's hit on the wave of the future as more and more people turn to computers to handle the business of everyday life. Young people are as familiar with keyboards and computers as a previous generation was with the telephone and television, while even seniors are getting into the act.

Recent research shows that retirees who've used a computer in their businesses have entered a comfort zone and are surfing the Net along with their teenage grandchildren, Lucatch said.

And a survey released in December by ACNielsen shows that of the 23 percent of Canadians aged 12 and older who use the Internet, 11 percent have already made an Internet purchase.

Retailers are coming to realize there's a vast potential market out there among computer users who can be reached easily and at a moderate price.

"We've taken the expense and the mystique out of the Internet," Lucatch said. "Our price is so moderate, we've made it affordable for every business out there."

Although the price varies depending on the service desired, at $139 per year for a full color "coupon site," any business can gain entry to Internet advertising through Valu-net. A "mini-site" — one page with full graphics — goes for $379 a year, the equivalent, Lucatch said, to a single printing of 2,000 black and white flyers. A custom site is available at $1,500 per year.

As a new company seeking to make a name for itself, "we're pricing ourselves to build volume," Lucatch says.

In addition to the "rent" charged merchants, Valu-net generates revenue through a transaction fee of under three percent and a percentage of credit card sales.

Employing the latest hardware from Sun Microsystems of Canada and software from Netscape Communications, Valu-net is planning to offer fully secure Internet electronic transactions in the near future.

David Lucatch

Netscape's most advanced encryption system allows for on-line credit card transactions to be completely confidential, Lucatch says. In about two years, an even more advanced technology will be introduced, called SET (Secure Electronic Transactions), which will eclipse the current "interim" technology and become the industry standard, he added.

"Valu-net's merchant system provides both the authorization of the credit card transaction and settlement of monies to the merchant through the Bank of Nova Scotia," Lucatch says.

So far, 650 businesses, mostly small to medium-sized, have signed on to the Valu-net supermall, with growth projected at 125 more per month. Valu-net has representatives in Malaysia and New Zealand and in other Canadian cities drumming up business and it plans to eventually enter the highly-competitive U.S. marketplace as well.

"We've developed a strategy to gain strength offshore and like a tidal wave hit the North American shore," Lucatch says.

So far, Valu-net is getting about 70,000 "visits" per week. Lucatch is close to signing three anchor clients" whose size and reputation should entice even more shoppers into the mall.

At 34, Lucatch is an energetic and ambitious entrepreneur. He studied computers in university but his degree is in commerce and economics. He started the company two years ago with the backing of an investment group who own a small percentage of the company. Although there are competitors — IBM has opened its own on-line mall featuring the Hudson's Bay Company — Lucatch believes Valu-net offers the best price coupled with the most sophisticated computer platform. The result is top of the line speed, encryption and reliability.

"We've invested in the best to be the best," he says.

Valu-net employs 15 people in its Markham head office, including six technical and design people. Altogether, about 75 people worldwide work with Valu-net to drum up business.

Lucatch said he expects Valu-net to continue to show strong growth in the future. Last January, fewer than 100 clients had signed on, generating about $10,000 a month in "rent." This year's client base generates between $30,000 and $40,000 per month. He expects that to jump to $50,000 to $60,000 by May as Valu-net adds more merchants

With a total of about $1 million invested in the business (little of which is bank loans), Lucatch expects Valu-net to become profitable by midyear.

After that, the sky's the limit, he believes. With a logo that features a graphic of a world map, Lucatch's ambition is to make Valu-net "go global." His enthusiasm and confidence in the venture is infectious. He believes he's entered on the ground floor of a business that has nowhere to go but up as more and more people jump on the Internet bandwagon.

"We're at the front of a rally new business empire," he says. "Since the introduction of television, there hasn't been a technology with the impact the Internet will have."

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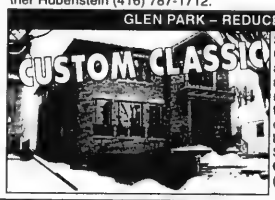

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BATHURST PALM DR.
Ideal starter [illegible] SOLD 2 bths, 50'x120' lot!

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20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT

Yonge/Clark, 2 Joanna Cr., 3 bdrms. + fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., cac,lge lot,imm. 416-929-9559.

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60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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196 VACATION PROP.- SWAP/EXCHANGE

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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BATHURST/STEELES
Sandwich Restaurant
G. Baron, Rltr. 665-3044

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Dynamic Principal req'd. for fledgling Orthodox elementary Day School in Ottawa. Half-time administration, half-time teaching Judaic studies. Salary commensurate with exper. Please reply to: R. Stulberg, 1675 Rhodes Court,Ottawa, K1H 5S8

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TEACHER WANTED

For Sunday School Talmud Torah.

Fluent in english, observant background, classroom experience a MUST

Mr. Rubinoff
(416) 785-1161

WANTED BOYS HEAD COUNSELOR

For modern Orthodox Summer Camp in Poconos, PA. Previous summer camp experience an asset. Must be team player. Camp also seeks **WOODWORK SPECIALIST.**

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(201) 575-4268 Ext. 11

Have fun, travel free & earn money! Organize your own groups to the destination of your choice. For info. 481-4484.

Kosher Pizzeria Mgr.- Shommer Shabbos individual w/initiative, marketing & organization. Must be willing to re-locate. Base salary + profit sharing.Fax résumé to:Jeff, 1-800-337-1353

Secretary-Financial for Private Day School, with strong spreadsheet & typing skills. A self-starter, able to work on multiple projects. Must be a team player. Some acct'g. background an asset. Send résumés to CJN Box 6894.

247 DAY CARE

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher plus assistant, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

Shepp./Bath., Mother of 2, offering Day Care in my home. A fun learning environ. 638-1686.

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Babysitter avail., exper., refs., reliable, 922-7818.

Babysitting, in warm loving kosher home. Thornhill. Call 905-731-8292.

Cleaning lady avail. from Mon.-Fri., refs. 780-9755.

Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. for Mon. & Wed. 416-231-3028 or 905-306-9026.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Looking for nannies from overseas for employment. Free of charge to employer 661-8385

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

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Polish cleaning lady, exper. is looking for a job, refs. Call mornings, 322-0689.

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Low fee/nanny/housekeeper
Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Flexible cleaner avail. with a car, for your area. 782-7592.

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Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. Joanna, 239-6638.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Hskpr./Nanny req'd. for busy hshld., live-out, must be legal with refs.905-764-6230,Thornhl.

258 HEALTHCARE

Exper. Nurse seeks position taking care of eldery, and children with special needs. Hospital or home, 24 hrs./day, refs. Liza, 905-669-4464.

Live-in caregiver, 15 yrs. exp. seeks job with elderly, Polish speaking, cooking/light hskpng. refs. avail. 416-654-0686.

Woman seeks job to take care of elderly, days work, house cleaning,refs.,exper. 763-7594.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

Looking for job taking care of elderly, exper., refs. 783-0819.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Beautiful upscale retirement residence, 50 mins. n. of T.O., steps away from Lake Simcoe, perm., short-term & vacation space welcome. 24 hr. supervision. 905-722-9750

Exper. lady seeks live-in employment as homecare companion to senior, cooking/light duties,refs. avail. 905-727-7330

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates** is searching for single, more mature men. We pay a finders fee to anyone who helps us acquire new male clients 50+. i.e., Uncles, Dads, & Grandfathers. Evelyn 905-709-3868.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1270** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

LET'S MEET & HAVE FUN! Ladies 18-26 **HALF-PRICE** For The Month Of March. Bringing People Together 905-731-5204.

Singles Support Groups, call Social Worker. 486-7400.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED
People are needed to care for children/youth, 24 hrs/day, as part of your family.
We provide training, support, a Board rate and cover most expenses.
Call
Foster Care Co-ordinator
Selma Elzas
at
Jewish Family and Child Service
638-7800 ext. 298

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, 30, attr., intell., unpretentious, seeks female friends who are interested in going to singles events, clubs, dances, etc. CJN Box 6886.

SJM, attr., late 40's, prof., enjoys tennis, would like to meet a prof. SJF, 35-45, intell., attr., n/smkr., **believes in Jewish values**, enjoys life & is serious about a relationship. Photo if poss. CJN Box 6895.

Truly good male, caring, young-at-heart, sensitive, enjoys movies, music, dining, great listener, mid 40's, seeks lady who shares similar interests for long-term relationship. CJN Box 6887.

Youthful woman in late 40's seeks "refrum" widower with young children. Can we share a life of love, joy, intell. & compassion? Please reply to CJN Box 6888.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - mid 30's. 633-1728.

Beautiful SJWFNM, 30's with depth, substance, wit; fit intellectually, emotionally, physically. Well educated, traveled, interesting, successful (with) interest in health, healing. Seeking refined prosperous man of similar age and interests, wanting to build happy home filled w/childrens laughter. Photo requested. CJN Box 6891.

Jewish male, 49, traditional, wants to have children & if you are a Jewish lady & want to have children too, call Alex 416-783-8382. Serious callers only.

Male, 35, scientist, (Prague) is coming into T.O. Enjoys nature, art, discussions,etc. Seeks a female with similar interests. Write: Petr, 30 Honiton Rd., Nottingham, U.K. NG8 6JP or call: 0044-115-927-7457.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Consumers needed to give opinions on new products & services. 2 hrs., $40. 539-9260

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Dining Room Set, Teak, 6 chairs, table & buffet, excell. cond., $1,800. 905-764-8839.

Morigeau baby furn., complete set, exc. cond., bedding & access. incl.$1,500.905-764-9449

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Looking for a very lge. din. rm. set & bookcase. 905-731-0968

330 OBITUARIES

EISEN, Issie - on February 17, 1997, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.

ZEIDENBERG, Murray - on February 18, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St.

CAPPELL, Murray - on February 20, 1997, late of 214 Cocksfield Ave.

BOGO, Esther - on February 21, 1997.

KESTENBAUM, Mendel - on February 21, 1997, late of 7 Goddard St.

STEINMETZ, Helen - on February 21, 1997, late of 35 Canyon Ave.

BLAUG, Betty - on February 22, 1997, late of 34 Lilywood Rd.

BELOVA, Sonia - on February 23, 1997, late of 4160 Bathurst St.

SCHAFFER, Thomas Israel - on February 23, 1997.

COHEN, Helen - on February 24, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.

LOOMER, Jacob Harry - on February 24, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

SAGER, Rhea - on February 13, 1997, late of 7001 Hoover Rd.

ABRAMS, Rose - on February 14, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W., #401.

KANE, Lou - on February 14, 1997, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W., #2006.

KONECKI, Adam - on February 14, 1997, late of 6091 Bathurst St., #201.

PERSOVSKY, Ida - on February 14, 1997, late of 52 Waterloo Ave.

SHIFF, Rachel - on February 14, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #310.

GILBERT, Henrietta - on February 15, 1997, late of 351 West 24th St., #9C.

ROSENKRANTZ, Eugene - on February 15, 1997, late of 17 Deverell Cres.

GERSHON, Elias - on February 16, 1997, late of 775 Steeles Ave. W., #1405.

WULFAND, Sheila - on February 16, 1997, late of 51 Robinwood Trail.

JACOBS, Leo - on February 17, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

NAIMAN, Miriam - on February 17, 1997, late of 133 Torresdale Ave., #305.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BLOOM, William (Bill) - on February 18, 1997, late of 7460 Bathurst St., #1208.

PESIN, Oleg - on February 18, 1997, late of 850 Steeles Ave. W., #611.

STEINFELD, Ora - on February 18, 1997, late of 10 Ruddington Dr., #1104.

ROSEN, Irving - on February 19, 1997, late of 30 Greenfield Ave., #1514.

SHIFMAN, Hilda - on February 19, 1997, late of Harold & Grace Baker Centre.

SHORE, Ethel - on February 20, 1997, late of 1111 Steeles Ave. W., #402.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

338 SHIVA CATERING

MY ZAIDY'S COR
Chabad Gate Plaza
7241 Bathurst St.
Thornhill
905-731-3831
CATERING
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SHIVA MEALS, BRIT MILAH, BAR/BAT MITZVAHS, MEETINGS
FREE BAGELS FREE DELIVERY NO G.S.T.
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We have freshly prepared foods to go.

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Call 391-1836
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550 WORKSHOPS

WALLENBERG HONORED

Queen Elizabeth and Israeli President Ezer Weizman recently attended the unveiling ceremony of the Raoul Wallenberg Sculpture at Great Cumberland Place. The sculpture commemorates the Swedish diplomat's efforts to save Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust. The monument was commissioned by the Wallenberg Appeal, a project of the International Council of Christians and Jews. [RNS photo]

Funding the legacy of the 6 million

By GERALD M. STEINBERG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Over 50 years after the end of the Holocaust nightmare, the bank accounts, gold, property and other assets taken from the victims or smuggled out of Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland, France and other areas of Nazi stronghold and conquest are finally being pried from the vaults.

Opinion

Some of these assets clearly belong to the surviving families and heirs; after some resistance, mechanisms to return them are being created.

But vast sums of money, estimated by some to be $7 billion or even more, including appreciation at nominal rates, cannot be returned to the families, because there are no survivors. The focus has now shifted to deciding who should control and what should be done with these funds and assets.

Representatives of the Israeli government, the Jewish Agency and the heads of various Diaspora groups have started to meet in the effort to develop common objectives.

There is general agreement among the Jewish communities here and in the Diaspora that the money and assets that cannot be claimed by the families of the victims should be dedicated to the memory of the victims, to fighting Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism, and to reviving the Jewish people through educational activities and programs. While these are the only appropriate responses, care must be taken to ensure that the money is not used to feed a bloated bureaucracy.

YAD Vashem would be an appropriate place to begin. As the world's central Holocaust memorial, it has sought to ensure that each of the approximately six million Jewish victims is remembered.

For many years the institution was under-funded; a few years ago, it was forced to reduce its activities and let go some of its researchers. Since then, the government has increased its annual budgetary allocation and other funds have been secured.

A large endowment, based on a part of the unclaimed assets of Jewish Holocaust victims, would provide Yad Vashem with the resources to fund ongoing education programs like the school for Holocaust studies, and develop related curricula and readings in many languages.

Additional funds, as available, could be divided among other institutions that fight Holocaust denial and deal with the problems and impact on second-, and now even third-generation survivors.

The land around Auschwitz that was being used to construct a shopping centre should be purchased and turned into a fitting memorial. The same approach could be applied, where appropriate and necessary, at the sites of other concentration camps in Europe.

We must not lose sight of the fact that the legacies of the victims — both as individuals and as members of the Jewish people — are best honored through Jewish education. After the Nazis, who physically devastated world Jewry, ignorance and assimilation is bringing a spiritual and cultural Holocaust.

In considering how to allocate the recovered and unclaimed funds, equal priority should be given to institutions and programs directly engaged in these efforts to preserve and revive our people and our culture.

Many Diaspora Jewish educational institutions are chronically short of funds for basic services, materials, and paying teachers. Improving the quality of Jewish education, not only in terms of religious practice, but, more importantly, by teaching history, literature, and Jewish culture, would help restore some of the losses that devastated the Jewish people in this century.

Israel is now the core of Jewish cultural life, and the programs that bring Jewish students and adults to Israel for summers, one-year study programs, and shorter workshops are growing.

By applying the money and resources stolen from the victims of the Nazis to these programs, the legacy of the six million will be maintained for all time.

Gerald M. Steinberg is a senior research fellow at the Begin-Sadat Centre of Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

Anti-Semitism in Australia rises

By JEREMY JONES
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

SYDNEY – Almost 300 anti-Semitic incidents occurred in Australia in 1996, according to information released last week by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

Included are vandalism of synagogues and other Jewish communal property, verbal and physical harassment and anti-Semitic graffiti.

About one-third of the incidents involved anti-Semitic mail and some 20 percent involved threatening telephone calls.

The incidents also included the desecration of Jewish graves in two cemeteries, the smashing of synagogue windows in five cities and various bomb threats to Jewish institutions.

"In 1996, anti-Semitic groups and individuals became more brazen in their rhetoric, more confident in their public posturing and more willing to directly harass Australian Jews," said council president Diane Shteinman.

The council's information comes from reports from areas with Jewish communities.

The previous highest total was in 1995, when 243 anti-Semitic incidents were recorded, according to the council.

"Racism can not be allowed to gain a foothold here, and our political leaders have a responsibility to be in the forefront of efforts to strengthen tolerance, fairness and the essentially inclusive nature of Australian society," Shteinman said.

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Maccabi mini-football coach predicts medal

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Yet another Maccabi Canada team, this time in indoor soccer, has been finalized for the 15th edition of the Maccabiah Games in Israel, July 14 to 24.

And coach Joe Amar of Montreal was so impressed with the booters after the national trials here that he felt Canada's prospects for a medal in the sport, also called "mini-football," are better than ever before.

"I think that this year's team will be the best that mini-football ever came up with," Amar said. "It's the first time in many, many Maccabiahs that we have a real chance for a medal. If I don't bring one back, I better quit."

The last time Canada garnered a mini-soccer medal in Israel was in 1981, when it took a bronze. And except for a hard-fought bronze medal Canada earned by beating Mexico at the Pan Am Maccabiah Games in Argentina in1995, performances at the Jewish Olympics have been spotty since that original bronze.

Canada finished in fifth spot in 1985, seventh in 1989 and eighth in 1993.

But Amar pointed out that those finishes are somewhat misleading. In 1993, for example, Canada lost to Israel 4-3, the only team among the field of 14 to lose to Israel by only one point, and was put out of the medal-running early.

What may spell the difference this time out, Amar said, is that this year's national trials drew a much higher calibre of talent, literally from all over the world. The final team of 11 athletes and six alternates was winnowed down from 37 who came from Vancouver, Winnipeg,Toronto, Montreal and other regions for the trials.

A few Canadians living abroad even flew in especially for the trials from Great Britain, Israel, California and Florida.

Maccabi Canada named its indoor soccer team recently. Among those making the team were (from left): Steve Lazarus, Collin Berenhaut, Jason Levitt and David Rossman.

For Amar, 42 and a veteran of the '85 team (this will be his third Maccabiah as coach), this year's indoor soccer team will do well because they are young (average age 22½), strong, and brimming with talent.

Winnipegger Collin Berenhaut, 19, plays for Canada's national outdoor soccer team "and could probably sign a professional contract tomorrow," Amar said. "He is that excellent."

Three members of the team – all from Montreal – are vets of '93: Jason Bressler, Oren Bitton (born in Israel and a McGill medical student) and Steve Lazarus, who also helped Canada win its bronze in Argentina in '95 and flew in from California for the trials.

The other team members include: Ron Eliachim and Roy Raviv (who flew in from Great Britain) of Montreal; Jason Levitt of Vancouver, and Dany Hadida (who flew in from Florida), Offer Winkler, Irvin Studin, and Dan Sankar, all from Ontario.

Six alternates will be on standby if some of the original picks can't go: Nicolas Pinto and Fabice Levy of Montreal and Shawn Rutenberg, Blake Dinkin, Leor Israelski, Fred Cowen and Mike Liechenko, all from Ontario.

Amar, who will be assisted in his coaching by David Rumack, said that as at previous Maccabiahs, Israel, Argentina and Mexico will be the teams to beat. Canada will be in the same division as Israel, and will be seeking to beat them to help them advance to the medal rounds.

Israel also has a training advantage because the country is so small, its indoor soccer team can train together for months in advance of the games. Like every other Maccabi country, however, the Canadian team will spend a week together in Montreal for a "pre-camp."

Amar noted that indoor soccer, because of its exciting speed and unique rules, such as unlimited substitutions, is getting more and more attention in Israel. The sport features a field of five players (plus a goalie) and is all non-stop action.

But future plans for Canada include sending, for the first time, an outdoor soccer team in 2001.

"There is enough talent to do that," he said, "and the national athletic committee board [of Maccabi Canada] has taken it on as a commitment."

Meanwhile, for this year, members of the indoor soccer team, like other Canadian Jewish athletes headed to Israel, will be asked to help out in fundraising efforts to pay for their trips.

The cost of sending athletes to Israel is high: about $5,000 each.

J.C.C. MACCABI YOUTH GAMES
For Jewish male and female athletes, 12-16 years
August 17-22, 1997 Hartford Connecticut
Tryouts - Starting Dates

Boys' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 23	4:30 - 6:30 p.m. (13-14 yrs) 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (15-16
Girls' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 23	8:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Volleyball	Sun. Mar. 23	10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (Girls) 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. (Boys)
Soccer	Thurs.. Mar. 27	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Tennis	Mon. Mar. 24	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Track	Sun. Mar. 23	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Sun. Mar. 23	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Golf	Sun. Mar. 23	9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. Mar. 23	12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Table Tennis	Sun. Mar. 23	11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletics, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented at the Games. Notwithstanding a fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

All tryouts: Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.
(416) 636-1880 ext. 230

Lawn bowlers seek funds

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Imagine if you had to roll a good "wood" uphill when competing at lawn bowling. Things would get frustrating pretty quickly — exactly the kind of feeling being experienced by Sonny Isaacs as he attempts to solicit support for a proposed Maccabi lawn bowling team.

Isaacs, vice-president of the Maccabi lawn bowling section, has come up against several roadblocks, including corporate disinterest and public apathy, as he attempts to raise the $50,000 needed to fully finance 10 lawn bowlers for the upcoming Maccabiah Games in Israel. The Games will be held from July 5 to 15 at various locales in Israel.

Isaacs is appealing to the public to help support the lawn bowling team, noting that there are enough quality bowlers in Canada to win several medals.

Les Abro, for one, has already represented Canada and South Africa at the games and won a silver medal in pairs competition in 1989.

Joyce Kruss, originally from Capetown, South Africa, won the singles title at the Willowdale Lawn Bowling Club and has also won district (regional) events in greater Toronto. Before that, she represented the Western Province in internal South African competition.

Jack Siboni, a native of Morocco, won the Willowdale singles title two years ago as well as several pairs championships when teamed up with Abro.

And Joyce Rembach is "one of the team's better bowlers," having won seniors "trips" (triples) competitions on several occasions. Rembach also represented South Africa at the Maccabiah Games prior to moving to Canada, Isaacs said.

Despite that overall team quality, the players have been left on their own to finance the team. Maccabi Canada has declined to provide any funds. "They say it's all seniors and Maccabi Canada hopes to encourage the younger generation in all sports," Isaacs said.

Anyone interested in supporting the team can contact Isaacs at 905-764-5548.

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

"היו זמנים"

טבעי שכל שישראל מתברגת, כן גוברת הנטייה להפנות מבט נוסטלגי לאחור, לזמנים שהיו. שני ספרים שיצאו לאור לאחרונה מעידים שגם הזכרון הנוסטלגי מחלחץ צבעים.

הספר הראשון, בעצם אלבום נפלא, סיפורי מושבות, עורך זאב ענר, הוצאת משרד הבטחון, הינו פרק נוסף בתיעוד תקופת היישוב בארץ. זהו קובץ סיפורי 52 מהמושבות הראשונות בארץ ישראל. ממטולה בצפון ועד באר טוביה בדרום, מושבות שעוד קיימות ומושבות שהיו ונעלמו, מושבות שהתעצמו ואף גדלו לממדים כעורים, ומושבות שהחלו דרכן כמושבות והיום ידועות כשכונות; למשל, שכונת נוה יעקב בירושלים.

חשיבות רבה לספר סיפורי מושבות לחברה שתורגלה בדעה, שהחלוציות הציונית-סוציאליסטית הוגשמה בקיבוצים ובמושבים ולאו דווקא במושבות "הזעיר בורגניות". האיכרים הפרטיים במושבות לא תמיד זכו להוקרה כעובדים שממשו את האידאל הלאומי. את נכונותם של האיכרים להעסיק כל מי שביקש עבודה, והעדפתם, מסיבות כלכליות, להעסיק פועלים ערבים ראו כבוגדנית. סיפורי מושבות יהיה לעזר רב בגיבוש היבט היסטורי בשל ושקול יותר. ואולי ילמדו הצעירים שלא רק בני הקיבוצים הגדילו לעשות בתפארת בניית המולדת, אלא גם האיכרים שדבקו בערכי הקניין הפרטי, במושבות זכרון יעקב ופתח תקווה היו אף הם חלוצים לכל דבר.

נקבל בברכה גם את עבודתו המחקרית, הענפה, של צביקה דרור בספרו: מצביא ללא שררה: סיפור חייו של יצחק שדה, "יהזקן", הוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד 1996.

יצחק שדה, דמות מרהיבה, מורכבת ואף בעייתית בתולדות היישוב. טוב עשה צביקה דרור כאשר למד והתבונן בנושא הביוגרפי מתוך אספקלריה של ארועי הזמן והסביבה בה פעל יצחק שדה.

יצחק שדה (1890 - 1952) הגיע לארץ בשנת 1920 והוא כבר גבר בן שלושים, משמע, גבר שתפיסת עולמו הכללית מגובשת. יתרה מזו, את הלך החשיבה הצבאית רכש בשורות צבא הצאר הרוסי ולאחר מכן, תחת המשטר הבולשביקי, בצבא האדום. ידוע לנו, גם מכתיבתו האוטוביוגרפית ("הפנקס הפתוח") שהוא האמין בטיפוח כושר גופני מעולה. את היהדות המסורתית, מבית אביו, נטש ונראה שביקש להמירה באידיאליזציה כמעט "דתית" של חוזק הגוף. בין השאר, הפך למתאגרף. את אמונתו בכוחה הפורה של רוח מהפכנית ייבא מרוסיה ובבואו ארצה יישמה למהפכה העברית.

הוא היה שותף בייסוד "גדוד העבודה", הושפע מטרומפלדור, סלל דרכים, חצב אבנים, עסק בשמירה ולוחמה צבאית. וכידוע, הפך ל"אבא" של הפלמ"ח (פלוגות מחץ). את חיילי הפלמ"ח הכשיר להיות חיילים למופת. יגאל אלון, משה דיין ויצחק רבין היו חניכיו. הוא לא חתר לשלוט באנשיו אלא לשמש להם כמקור השראה מוחלט. הוא לא שאף להתמסד בתהליך המדיני-פוליטי אלא העדיף תהליכי קבלת החלטות בסגנון של שיח לוחמים סביב למדורה. ברבות הימים, אי-רצונו להכיר במרות פוליטית הביא לסכסוך בינו לבין בן גוריון. סוף הסיפור ידוע: הפלמ"ח פורק ויצחק שדה הודח מממלכתו. למרות שבמלחמת העצמאות שוב הוכיח עצמו כמפקד מעולה, הוא נושל ממדיו וכ"יסתם" אזרח, הרחק ממשכנו הצבאי, לא מצא לעצמו עיסוק של ממש ולא רווה נחת משארית חייו.

היו זמנים.

PERSIAN JEWELED RICE (for Purim)

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

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1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

2 1/2 cups basmati rice
1 tsp. salt
zest of 2 large oranges, julienned
1/2 cup white sugar
1/3 cup dried pitted sour cherries
1/3 cup dried cranberries
6 tblsp. sunflower oil
1/4 tsp. saffron
1 cup mixed almonds/pistachios
3 julienned dried apricots

Candied peel: boil peel in lots of water 30 min. Drain, return to pan with 1/3 c cup water and sugar. Simmer 20 min. Soak sour cherries and cranberries in water 20 min. in separate bowl. Drain.

Soak rice in cold water 1 hr. Drain. Bring 9 cups salted water to boil. Pour drained rice into boiling water. Cook for 8 min. (still firm). Drain rice well. Pour oil into bottom of the (washed) rice pan. Stir in saffron, rice, candied peel, dry fruit, nuts; stir very well. Cover pot tightly, steam on low heat 20 min. or bake in tightly covered casserole 30 min. at 350°F.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About families

Dear Susan,

I am a male in my mid-40s who recently lost my job as a result of corporate downsizing.

I am having problems accepting the fact my family will now be supported financially by my wife and I feel doubts about whether my teenage boys will continue to hold a high opinion of me. I find myself in a continual battle against depression and despair.

While I recognize that my feelings are not rational, they make it difficult to deal with the present and plan for the future.

Dear Reader,

Thank you for having the courage to share your feelings. Since many men draw a significant degree of their identity and self-worth from their careers, the loss of a job will often mean a dislocation from their fundamental sense of self.

One of the principal effects of your loss of self-esteem is its impact on your ability to plan for the future. Your depression will make it difficult for you to cope, which will increase your feelings of inedequacy and despair — a vicious circle. By taking action, no matter how difficult and uncertain the first steps may be, you break that vicious circle.

This is also the time to rely on your wife for more than financial support. Share your feelings with her and allow her to help you emotionally. She will undoubtedly be there for you.

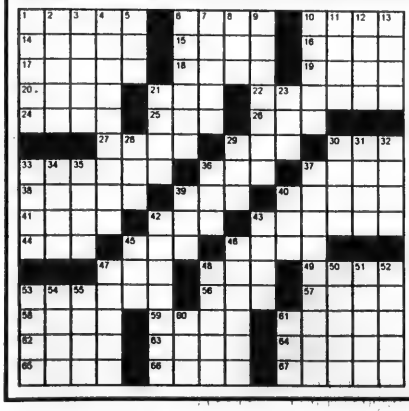
Reach out to your friends and family, no matter how difficult that may be. Remember reaching out for help is not weakness and others do not equate your job status with your worthiness as a human being.

Your feelings about your sons are understandable and typical. If you suffer from feelings of inadequacy, you believe that others consider you inadequate. You need to understand that this is not true, even if you have trouble believing it. If you give your sons a chance, you will feel their continued respect and love.

Give your loved ones a chance, and, most importantly, give yourself a chance. You and your family will come out of this experience intact.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. First Israeli ambassador to USA
6. Baal __ Tov
10. Mature
14. Son of Aaron
15. Sandal maker
16. Home to Nero
17. Never on shabbat
18. Sisera's murderess
19. Ribicoff and Geiger
20. Acts as Gellilah
21. Actor Steiger
22. Tijuana Brass leader
24. Afikoman action
25. Sighs
26. Baseball Berg
27. Funt or Sherman
29. Jew (Yid)
30. Act the gonif
33. Disney exec
36. Kosher chew
37. __ Beta Tau, fraternity
38. __ after meals
39. Tu B' Shevat planting?
40. Schmutz (Eng)
41. Maccabiah event
42. ____Nidre
43. Pianist Borge
44. Haifa to Hebron (dir)
45. Israeli dreidel letter
46. Lofty
47. Hebrew letter
48. Judah to Jacob
49. Father (Heb.)
53. Concentration camp
56. Purim drink?
57. Tuches (Eng)
58. Hebrew month
59. Netenyahu nickname
61. Section
62. Codifier
63. Israeli city
64. Composer Copland
65. Understood
66. Shema starter
67. Hebrew letters

Down

1. Eretz (Eng)
2. 58
3. Gave Tzedakah
4. Singer novel (2wds)
5. Aaron's co-leader
6. Actress Jill
7. Kippot holders
8. Ma'ariv time
9. "The Fixer", author
10. Need for Manischewitz
11. Biblical garb
12. Lag B' ___
13. Jerusalem to Tel-Aviv (dir)
21. Sound of MGM
23. Israeli city
28. Jamie __ Curtis
29. Red Buttons hope
30. Observe Shabbat
31. Preminger
32. Boxer Max
33. Roasted on Pesach
34. Gershwin and Levin
35. Identical
36. White Sox' Abrams
37. 14th King of Israel
39. Vav with a dot
40. Sheitel (Eng)
42. Marriage contract
43. Planting for 10 down
45. Not on Pesach?
46. More sacred
47. Koufax specialty
48. Cactus
50. Negev kibbutz
51. Treif strip
52. Defense minister, Moshe
53. Shawn or Savitt
54. Alephbet member
55. Cherish
60. Mt Hermon feature
61. Patriarchs

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 43.)

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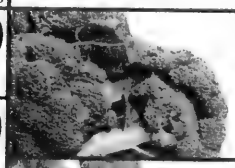

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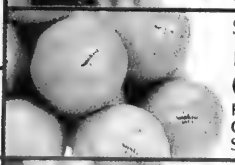

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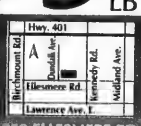

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Efforts underway to fill vacuum left by Branson Hospital's closing. ***Page 3***

Number of refugees from Israel to Canada falls. ***Page 5***

Petition asks Jean Chrétien not to appoint a candidate in Thornhill riding. ***Page 6***

Portrayal of Peter Helfgott in movie *Shine* false, daughter says. ***Page 23***

Eduardo Uruena's newspaper serves Canada's growing Hispanic population. ***Page 25***

Arts

Several films of Jewish interest at International Documentary film festival. ***Page 39***

Sports

Roger Neilson to conduct hockey camp at Canada Centre in Metulla. ***Page 46***

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Shabbat: Pekude
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2 Adar 5, 5757
Havdalah: 7:07

CJC meets Swiss envoy

Dormant accounts discussed

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Officials from Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Switzerland's ambassador to Canada have pledged to keep talking, following last week's groundbreaking meeting here on the subject of dormant bank accounts.

CJC president Goldie Hershon joined Congress' Bernie Farber and Eric Vernon for the 90-minute meeting with Swiss ambassador Daniel Dayer – the first time Canadian Jewish officials have met with a Swiss envoy to discuss speeding up claims Holocaust survivors or descendants of victims here may have against banks in Switzerland.

The meeting took place the day before the Swiss government announced plans for a $6.3-billion fund to aid victims of the Holocaust. The fund will be financed by selling off some gold reserves of the Swiss National Bank.

Farber told a press conference following the meeting with Dayer that there are approximately 100 Holocaust survivors in Canada who believe they have legitimate and credible claims for dormant or seized Swiss bank accounts.

"Time is of the essence," Farber said, noting that the average age of claimants is between 75 and 85. He said most survivors don't have the time or energy for an "overburdened bureaucracy."

Continued on page 29

SHOUTING 'NO' TO REDEPLOYMENT

A group of women demonstrates last week in Jerusalem against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the start of a special cabinet session that dealt with the first of three planned IDF pullbacks from the West Bank. ***Please see related story on page 33.*** ***[Reuter/RNS photo]***

Former *CJN* editor dies at 78

CJN Staff

TORONTO — Maurice Lucow, the Western correspondent of *The Canadian Jewish News* and its former editor, died in Victoria on March 4. He would have turned 79 on March 9.

"He played a unique role in the development of *The CJN*," said publisher Donald Carr.

"He was its editor during times of change and he brought to that position a loyalty, a quiet professionalism and a sophisticated, analytical approach which was so important.

"He held strong views and principles; yet he understood what was, for a community weekly newspaper, the necessary balance between the needs

Continued on page 4

Living under the shadow of hate

By ELDAD BECK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TOULON, France — This southern port city has become an important symbol of what may happen nationwide, as a result of the recent victories of Jean-Marie LePen's Front National (FN) in the region.

Its new role as the party in power at Toulon's city hall gives the ultra-nationalist FN an opportunity to win over doubters by showing them that it is in the mainstream, that it can govern responsibly.

For the Front's opponents, including Toulon's Jewish community of 4,000, the city of 450,000 is the line where they hope to stop the party's advance. Failure to do so could prompt many French Jews to emigrate.

Feature

"They want to present themselves as being more legal than those who represent the law in this country," Jewish community vice-chair Maurice Aziza says of the Front. "Once they get the vote on the national level, they will do whatever they wish."

Toulon is the FN's greatest political asset to date, along with three other towns: Orange, Marignane and Vitrolles, where the FN won control of the city council last month. Next year, the party will contest national legislative elections.

No outward changes have been seen in France's fourth largest city since the election in June 1995 of Mayor Jean-Marie Le Chevalier, once Le Pen's closest adviser.

The changes there, however, have nonetheless been insidious. A prominent example was Le Chevalier's decision to ban French-Jewish author Marek Halter from the city's

Continued on page 35

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Bar-On probe nears end — please see page 34

The News in Brief

CANADA

PARDeS President

TORONTO — Zita Gardner, director of the Leo Baeck Day School, has been named president of PARDeS, Progressive Association of Reform Day Schools.

The purpose of PARDeS is to advance the cause of full-time Reform education in North America.

Immigration Board

OTTAWA — Joel Moss, a social worker, counsellor and former executive director of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services in Montreal, has been appointed to his first mandate with the Immigration and Refugee Board.

Eggleton Centre

TORONTO – The Technion is planning to dedicate a research centre at its Rappaport facility of medicine to Art Eggleton, minister for international trade.

A formal acknowledgement will be made to Eggleton at a tribute dinner on June 1 in Toronto.

FEDERATION CJA Survey

MONTREAL — The Jewish Education Council of Montreal, a constituent agency of FEDERATION CJA, is looking for Jewish students who graduated from Montreal-area high schools in the years 1981, 1984 and 1987 to take part in a survey looking into the accomplishments of these individuals.

The survey will attempt to find out where these people live and in what professions they are working.

If you or someone you know graduated in these years, call Charles Shahar, at 514-735-3541, ext. 3250.

ISRAEL

Aliyah Statistics

JERUSALEM — In 1996, 76,600 new immigrants came to Israel from all over the world, according to the Jewish Agency. Of the total, 58,900 were from the former Soviet Union (FSU). By comparison, in 1989, just over 24,000 new immigrants came to Israel, of whom 12,000 were from the FSU.

Women of the Wall Case

JERUSALEM — In an apparent bid to resolve the Women of the Wall issue, Israel's Supreme Court has granted the government 90 days to show "just cause" why women who wish to pray at the Western Wall cannot do so as a group.

The court ruling denied a government request for a 60-day postponement. Representatives of the group were clearly pleased by the court's refusal to grant the government yet another extension.

Threats Ignored

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected threats from 17 coalition members who said they would withdraw their support of the government unless the premier refused to pull out of some areas in the West Bank that are now under sole Israeli authority.

WORLD

Arafat in D.C.

WASHINGTON – Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat ended a two-day visit to Washington by refusing to complete the process of amending the Palestinian Covenant until Israel adopts a constitution. Members of Congress called on Arafat to submit changes to the covenant.

JCC Damaged

LOUISVILLE — The Jewish Community Centre in Louisville, Ky., was one of the victims of the region's widespread flooding. More than 10 inches of rain fell in less than 24 hours. A damage estimate for the centre was not available, but losses are extensive.

Holocaust Fund Slammed

ZURICH — In a speech laced with anti-Semitic references, a right-wing member of the Swiss Parliament has lashed out against his country's decision to endorse a memorial fund for needy Holocaust survivors.

Addressing a rally here, Christoph Blocher also said that Switzerland had no reason to apologize for doing business with Nazi Germany and that the country would be admitting guilt if it contributed to the memorial fund.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday March 10, 1972

ISRAEL ACHIEVES OBJECTIVES IN RAIDS

Israel announced the completion of its military operations against Arab terrorists in southern Lebanon and said all of its objectives had been achieved in the four days of ground battles and air strikes.

According to Israeli sources, at least 50 terrorists were killed and about 100 wounded. Eleven Israelis were wounded, most of them subsequently released from hospital.

Kol Israel radio said the operation had been successful in its intended purpose of pushing the terrorists father back from Israel and destroying their bases and munitions dumps.

EXPECT KASHRUT RULES PROBE

Ontario's Consumer Protection Bureau promised to conduct a complete investigation into any allegations from members of the Jewish community that a business which claims to be kosher is not observing kashrut regulations.

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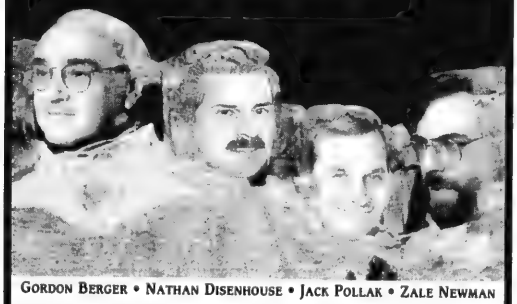

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Tel: 416-391-1836
Advertising Fax: 416-391-0949
Editorial Fax: 416-391-0829
E-MAIL: TorCJN1@aol.com

International Media Placement
POB 7195, Jerusalem, Israel
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Branson ordered to close doors

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The decision to close the doors of North York Branson Hospital will leave the area of Metro Toronto that has the largest Jewish population without any near access to primary medical care within a few years.

"We're shocked that we're being closed outright and not even being converted to an ambulatory care centre," said Branson president and CEO Jack Gallop.

Meanwhile an effort is under way to establish some kind of family health centre in the vacuum to be left by the future closing of all services at Branson.

North York General Hospital is ready to assist Branson and others in setting up such a service, its president and CEO Murray Mackenzie told *The CJN*.

"We have 30 days to make such a recommendation to the hospital commission and if they don't agree we'll do it somehow," said Mackenzie.

Branson is one of 10 hospitals in Metro to be closed within the next three years by decision of the Hospital Services Restructuring Commission. Others to shut their doors include Women's College, Wellesley, and the Grace and Orthopedic hospitals.

Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Hospital are to stay intact.

"Our hospital will continue as a centre of excellence in cooperation with other hospitals on University Avenue and greatly expand its obstetrics and gynecology departments," said Lloyd Fogler, Mount Sinai board chair.

Baycrest Hospital supports the general idea of restructuring hospital services, but is concerned that enough money and resources be made available for long-term and home care, said vice-president Moshe Greengarten.

Baycrest is sensitive to the needs of the elderly Jewish community and will coninue to discuss with UJA Federation, Senior Care and other groups plans for community home care.

Gallop expressed surprise that the commission's report said that of the patients who would ordinarily go to Branson for emergency and inpatient care, a total of 60 percent would go to York Finch Hospital, 30 percent to North York General and 10 percent to York Central in Richmond Hill.

For surgery, half of the Branson patients would go to North York General and half to York Finch, the commission said.

"The community in this area is opposed to going further west for hospital treatment and many have to rely on the TTC," said Gallop. "We stressed this in our presentaion to the commission," he said.

Gallop said Branson had told the commission that it was enthusiastic about becoming an ambulatory care centre, but to no avail.

Branson has 258 acute care beds, including special services, and a staff of 1,000 to 1,100 part time or full time plus 300 doctors.

News of the hospital's closing

[Cont'd. on page 32]

TRAINING IN ISRAEL

While their peers relaxed over winter break, 20 young Canadians who will be leading Israel Experience summer programs were working hard in Israel preparing for the summer. The programs were the idea of the newly created Canada Israel Experience Centre, a national umbrella organization dedicated to increasing the number of Jewish youth who participate in Israel Experience programs. For 10 days the Canadian staff were taught programming skills specific to sites in Israel, program logistics and leadership skills. Seen here are (back row, from left): Michael Soberman, Ian Wine, Leora Berkowitz, Corey Freed, Danny Weill, Jessica Feldman, Adam Minsky, Aviva Singer, Jennifer Turack, Roni Felson; middle row (from left): Rachel Feld, Lisa Strug, Karen Nusbaum, Sari Farber, Samantha Feiner, Michael Conforti; front row (from left): Shachar Leven, Candace Wiseman and Ruth Saragosti.

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Greater Toronto Area

Former *CJN* editor had wide newspaper background

[Cont'd. from page 1]
of that community and hard news or commentary. For this, his rich background in journalism and his former professional service to the community stood him in good stead.

"We were fortunate that, during his 'retirement' in Victoria, he continued to serve the readership of *The CJN*, reporting events in British Columbia in that crisp prose to which we had become accustomed. Frequently he would continue to offer constructive ideas for the development of *The CJN*. I only wish that our relationship, both on a personal level and through the paper, could have continued for many more years."

Patricia Rucker, who took over his chair as editor, said: "He was a real newspaperman. He loved all aspects of the business and he loved getting the paper out. One of my clearest memories of him is watching him pacing up and down the production room just after that week's edition had gone out the door, and you could see that he was already doing the next week's paper in his head.

"He could be gruff, he had strong opinions, but beneath that exterior, he loved his community and he genuinely loved his staff.

"It will be strange not to see the Maurice Lucow byline in the paper."

Lucow was born in Winnipeg in 1918. By the time he graduated from St. John's High School, the Great Depression was at its height and a job he was looking for in journalism — or any type of job — was impossible for a Jewish boy to get.

However, under a government plan, he was able to attend classes in graphic arts and study basic journalism.

Eventually he managed to become the one-man editorial staff of the old weekly *Western Jewish News*. One year, when travelling with his advertising manager through Western Canada in preparation for a Rosh Hashanah edition, he was able to visit the major Western cities — Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Calgary and Edmonton, and he developed a deep and abiding interest in the area — an interest which stood him in good stead in later years.

Maurice Lucow

His experience at the *Western Jewish News* resulted in an offer by the *Winnipeg Free Press*, one of Canada's most influential newspapers, to cover the large Jewish community in Manitoba, as well as general news. Even Jewish weddings were newsworthy in those days and Lucow became quite expert in describing the bridal gowns, mother-of-the-bride dresses and all the other trimmings.

During World War II, he enlisted in the RCAF and took his basic and wireless training in Dorval and Montreal. While in Dorval, he ran a daily noon-hour news broadcast on the parade square, usually with 5,000 airmen in attendance.

On completion of the wireless training course, he was posted to Patricia Bay near Victoria where he spent most of his RCAF time.

Lucow and his wife Marion stayed on in Victoria for about a year after the war. For family reasons, they moved back to Winnipeg and the *Free Press* where they remained until 1950.

After a devastating flood hit Winnipeg, they moved to Toronto.

Lucow answered an ad for an editor experienced in the ladies' fashion industry at Maclean Hunter and became one of three Jews on the Maclean Hunter staff.

The move was a good one and he stayed with the company for 15 years, becoming publisher of its newspaper, *Style*. As well, he started *Home Goods Retailing*, and for a time edited both *Style* and *Home Goods*. He twice won the annual Maclean Hunter award for best editor and was twice named best publisher.

In 1971, the United Jewish Welfare Fund offered him the position of director of public relations, which he accepted, "because the pay was good and [he] wanted to get back into a Jewish atmosphere."

At the time Lucow joined the Welfare Fund staff, Ray Wolfe and a small group of other businessmen purchased *The Canadian Jewish News* to serve as a community newspaper. Veteran newsman Ralph Hyman was named editor and Lucow worked closely with him to build the paper into a community organ.

When Hyman retired in 1980, Lucow became *The CJN*'s editor, a position he held until his retirement in 1989.

At that point, he and Marion decided to move back west, to Victoria and Wolfe agreed to let Lucow serve as west coast correspondent for the paper.

Lucow covered the west coast Jewish community during its recent period of expansion and development.

Lucow is survived by wife Marion, sisters Edit Sair and Clara Schik, of Winnipeg, brother Sol in Edmonton and many nieces and nephews throughout North America and Jerusalem.

The legacy that we cherish most, that enriches far more than mere material, that ties more firmly one generation to the next and that lasts as long as memory, is the gift of example.

Maurice Lucow's example to the subsequent editors of *The CJN* was one of uncompromising standards, devotion, responsibility, purpose and integrity.

It was a great gift to us and a legacy for all time.

May his memory be for blessing.

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Wednesday, March 19, 1997 8 p.m.

Natalie Davis is the Henry Charles Lee Professor of History at Princeton University and the Northrop Frye Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto. She has written extensively on European social history. Her works include; *Fiction in the Archives: Pardon Tales and Their Tellers in 16th Century France, The Return of Martin Guerre and Women in the Margins: Three 17th Century Lives.*

Judith Baskin
speaks about
Discovering Women in Jewish History
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Professor Baskin is the Chair of the Department of Jewish Studies at the State University of New York in Albany, the author of many books on Jewish women's studies, an acclaimed lecturer and recipient of many awards.

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Greater Toronto Area

Refugees from Israel on decline in '96

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The number of refugees Canada accepted from Israel in 1996 fell dramatically, for the second consecutive year.

The drop appears to indicate that Jerusalem's repeated pleas to Ottawa that there's no such thing as an Israeli refugee may finally be getting through.

But again last year, the bulk of Israeli refugees were accepted in Montreal, where historically, Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) panels have been far less favorable to Israel than those in other parts of Canada.

According to figures released recently, the IRB in 1996 accepted just 92 refugee claimants from Israel, most of whom are originally from the former Soviet Union. It's the lowest total since 1990.

Also last year, the IRB rejected 840 claims of refugee status from Israel, based on 1,270 cases referred. A total of 1,819 claims from Israel are pending.

In 1995, the IRB heard 569 refugee claims from Israel, and approved 121 of them, for a national acceptance rate of 21 percent.

Because far more claims were heard to completion last year, and fewer of them were approved, the acceptance rate fell to 7.5 percent. By contrast, the acceptance rate from Israel in 1994 was 50 percent.

Most claims in Montreal

The vast majority of cases last year were seen in Montreal, where panels heard 1,093 claims and approved 80 of them. Traditionally, more claims are made in Montreal because IRB panels there are more likely to grant asylum, based on allegations that Israel persecutes its immigrants.

In Toronto, the figures were the lowest in recent memory. Only 93 claims from Israel were finalized, and just two were approved. The rest of the approvals were in Ottawa, Vancouver, Calgary and Atlantic Canada.

The latest numbers may go some way toward patching up a long-standing dispute between Ottawa and Jerusalem.

Since 1989 when the first wave of Jews left the former Soviet Union, Israel has been trying to persuade Canada that ex-Soviets are taking advantage of the Law of Return to springboard to this country.

Typically, former Soviets, who come here as Israeli citizens, allege that while in the Jewish state, they were harassed, persecuted, denied jobs and housing and even beaten because of mixed marriages or questionable status as Jews. To qualify as refugees, they must prove they have a well-founded fear of persecution in their last place of residence.

Israel has said the claims are spurious and denies it produces refugees.

Chen Ivri, a counsellor at Israel's embassy, said he welcomes the new, lower acceptances, but finds it "unbelievable" Canada still accepts refugees from the Jewish state.

"In Israel, no one is persecuted. It's a democratic country. There's no logic [to Canada's policy]."

Arab paper to apologize for article

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The publisher of the Arab language newspaper, *Al-Orouba* (*The Arab*), is expected to offer a full apology in this week's issue for an article that employed anti-Semitic stereotypes of Jews.

Sobhi Kassas, editor in chief of *Al-Orouba,* met last week with a delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress, who was concerned over a June 27 article that described Jews as "wicked and spiteful" and that suggested the Holocaust was a lie.

"We outlined how the article was virulent anti-Semitism and had no place in a paper published in Canada," said Len Rudner, vice-chair of community relations for Congress. Rudner was joined at the meeting by Naim Dallal, an Arab-speaking officer of Congress, and Bernie Farber, Congress' director of community relations. Rashad Saleh, president of Palestine House, also attended the meeting.

"[Kassas] understood our message and he will be printing an apology and a retraction in the next issue," Rudner added.

"It didn't take much convincing. He's relatively new to the country and is not familiar with Canadian [anti-hate] laws," Farber said. "They did a complete mea culpa."

Much of the groundwork for Kassas' decision to run a retraction was laid by Saleh, who met with the editor on several occasions. Saleh said others in the Palestinian community made him aware of a front page story in *The CJN* (Jan. 16) in which the *Al-Orouba* item was described. After reading the original *Al-Orouba* article, "I found out that maybe it was offensive to the Jewish community and I called Mr. Kassas," he said.

Palestinians, Jews lobby publication

"I asked him if he knew the article was offensive and might get him in trouble. He said 'no.' He's only been in the country two years and he thought he could publish anything."

The board of directors of Palestine House also met with Kassas, who is from Iraq, and "reprimanded" him, Saleh added. "And rightly so. The article is offensive to the Jewish community."

The board, which agrees the story was anti-Semitic, was also concerned there could be "trouble" between the Palestinian and Jewish communities "because of one stupid article," Saleh said.

Kassas then agreed to apologize, he added.

The article was brought to the attention of *The CJN* by Sasson Mayer, a Jew of Iraqi origin who keeps abreast of Arab-language newspapers. He also translated a follow-up article in *Al-Orouba* that ran shortly before last week's meeting, in which Kassas defended the original item on the basis of freedom of speech.

Kassas was unavailable for comment.

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Greater Toronto Area

Thornhill Grits upset; Tories choose candidate

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Just as the federal Conservatives elected their hopeful in the riding of Thornhill, some Liberals are angry at growing speculation that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will appoint MPP Elinor Caplan as the riding's Liberal candidate.

Bill Fisch, a three-term ward and regional councillor in Markham, defeated architect Barry Cline on the first ballot to become the Tory candidate in Thornhill.

Fisch, a member of B'nai Brith and Darchei Noam Congregation, told *The CJN* he wants to "keep the momentum going" and open a campaign office soon.

Meantime, some Liberals in Thornhill are circulating a petition calling on Chrétien not to appoint a candidate.

Hundreds of signatures have already been collected.

In a speech to Liberal women over the weekend, Chrétien said he will use the power of appointment at his discretion to top up the party's quotient of female candidates in the next election.

He said he wants 25 percent of all Liberal hopefuls to be women.

Liberal sources have said Chrétien would appoint Caplan, the MPP for Oriole and a 12-year veteran of Queen's Park, as the candidate in Thornhill.

Caplan has neither confirmed nor denied that. She was on vacation and unavailable for comment as *The CJN* went to press Monday.

Speculation that the Liberals may bypass the nomination process has angered many in Thornhill. Some members of the Liberal riding association say democracy would be subverted should the prime minister appoint Caplan.

"All we're saying is, democracy should prevail," says Itia Golan, a member of the riding association's executive. "If [Caplan] is so terrific, why doesn't she run, like everyone else?"

Thornhill, which won't exist until the next election, has been estimated to be 25 to 35 percent Jewish, and other Liberal hopefuls — Bernie Green, Doron Aronson and Mario Racco — have been courting the Jewish vote.

No date has been set yet for the Liberal nomination, and Golan says she finds that "upsetting. We're in limbo."

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Greater Toronto Area

Anti-Semitic incidents declined in 1996

B'nai Brith reports findings in audit

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There was good news and bad news in B'nai Brith's (BB) annual audit of anti-Semitism in Canada, released last week.

On the positive side, BB's League for Human Rights reported a decrease of anti-Semitic incidents across the country, with Toronto experiencing a precipitous drop from 159 reported incidents in 1995 to 98 incidents in '96. Reported incidents of vandalism and harassment in Montreal also declined, from 52 incidents to 30 in the same time span.

However, the League pointed to increased extremist presence on the Internet, heightened racist recruitment in the West and in smaller communities and examples of anti-Semitic material being carried in the "ethnic press" as causes for concern and vigilance.

"Hate on the Internet is becoming more sophisticated, with use of 'real audio' and the links through Marc Lemire's *Freedom Site*," said Karen Mock, national director of the League. "The concept of leaderless resistance among extremists is also a continued cause for vigilance," she said, adding that "a one-year decrease doesn't indicate a trend."

The audit found there were 244 anti-Semitic incidents reported to the League in 1996, a decrease of

Karen Mock

26.3 percent from the totals the year before, which had been the highest number in 14 years.

The incidents were categorized as either "vandalism" (property damage) or "harassment" (distribution of hate propaganda) and the audit found that while the number of vandalism incidents remained the same, harassment incidents declined.

Package bomb

The most serious incident of vandalism recorded in the audit took place in April when a package bomb was sent to the Jewish National Fund office in the Calgary Jewish Community Centre. One woman was injured when the detonator, though not the main explosives, went off.

The audit also reported that "in the last few years, the organized neo-Nazi right in Canada has become somewhat fragmented" as membership in the Heritage Front decreased after the exposure in 1994 of Grant Bristow as a government intelligence mole.

Since then, no single leader has been able to galvanize the far-right and racist groups have adopted the strategy of leaderless resistance, "creating small cells of individuals to elude infiltration," the audit stated.

Mock suggested the decline in overt racist incidents may also be attributable to the shift in focus among extremists to use of the Internet as a tool for recruitment and disseminating material.

The audit also noted that while there has been a general decline in skinhead activity, "there has been a rise in activities among Polish skinheads or 'Polskas.'"

It is estimated there are as many as 100 Polskas, recruited heavily from among recent immigrants. They congregate in the west end of Toronto in the Bloor and Jane area, Roncesvalles and Lakeshore Boulevard.

"Although every region in Canada reported at least some serious incidents last year, the patterns of anti-Semitic activity have differed in different regions of the country," said Lyle Smordin, national president of B'nai Brith. "The climate was very tense for minority communities in post-referendum Quebec."

Among incidents in Quebec reported in the audit: l'Office de la langue française urged stores to remove imported kosher products that did not have labels in French; Radio Canada reporter Normand Lester claimed he could not be treated in French at the Jewish General Hospital; former FLQ terrorist Raymond Villeneuve denounced English speaking Jews for opposing Quebec separation and warned that Jews could face confrontation if that view continued; *Le Soleil* columnist Michael Vestel said in a radio interview that Jews should apologize to Christians for crucifying Jesus.

War crimes unit considering new cases

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Federal authorities will announce by April 1 whether they will ask Justice Minister Allan Rock to authorize new proceedings to deport more alleged war criminals than originally planned.

Responding to reports that the Justice Department's war crimes unit is planning to ask Rock for staff and resources to go beyond the 12 promised cases, Paul Vickery, head of the war crimes unit, said no such request has yet been made of Rock. So far, all discussions have taken place within the war crimes unit and the Justice Department, he said.

Vickery declined to give any details about further cases and he denied a report from England that suggested Canada is about to deport 64 war crimes suspects.

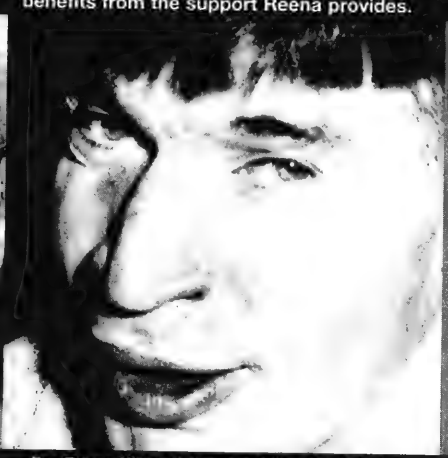
Timothy Kirkhope, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the Home Office, told the British House of Commons that a special Scotland Yard unit is monitoring the situation in Canada. "In Canada, 64 suspects have been identified and they may be deported," he said.

Meanwhile, Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber welcomed reports that Canada may begin further war crimes cases, saying Congress has urged such a step for some time.

Ralph Snow believes in supporting those who are unable to support themselves.

Ralph Snow has been involved in many community organizations over the years and has been active in Reena since its founding in 1972. He says that " *by supporting Reena, we're providing people with developmental handicaps with the opportunity to participate in activities and learn skills that we take for granted.*"

Because of physical disabilities, medical needs and limited verbal skills, Bruce Kiner benefits from the support Reena provides.



For Bruce Kiner, living in a fully-wheelchair accessible home in North York has given him a new lease on life. Although his health is declining, he still has a great sense of humour and is always eager to participate in the activities that Reena organizes for its clients. Despite his changing health needs, Reena is committed to continuing to ensure Bruce's quality of life.

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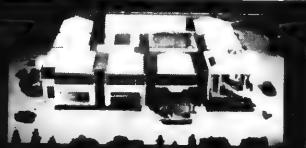

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Maurice Lucow 1918-1997

"Okay, let's go! We've got to get a paper out," Maurice would say, and say often during his nine memorable years as editor of *The Canadian Jewish News.*

Those of us who worked with Maurice remember him and his famous phrase fondly. The oft -repeated exhortation came to symbolize the man and his unparalleled dedication to producing the best paper possible each week.

One cold, grey day in February of 1980, as he sat behind the editor's desk for the first time, Maurice confided to a colleague that succeeding the universally well-liked and respected Ralph Hyman was not going to be easy.

Maurice, typically, accepted the challenge in his own way. With an impressive amalgam of experience at the *Winnipeg Free Press, Style* magazine and in public relations, Maurice was perfectly suited for the next stage of *The CJN.* During his tenure as editor, Maurice demonstrated a unique ability to preserve the progress achieved in the paper's first decade while steering *The CJN* in a number of new directions.

We will remember Maurice as a determined builder of this newspaper who took a promising young publication and moved it along with the times, continuously contributing his own improvements over the next decade — and even afterwards as he became our first West Coast representative.

We will also remember Maurice as a sometimes gruff, but always loyal, colleague and friend who each day presented a level of commitment and hard work that we found difficult to match. The consummate golf duffer, Maurice would announce once every summer that he was "taking the afternoon off" to play at his beloved Buttonville club. We soon learned that Maurice's idea of taking the afternoon off was leaving the office at 4:45.p.m. "The traffic's easier if I wait a bit," he'd explain.

Even now we can picture him standing in the composing room for hours, pens spilling out of his favorite blue cardigan, as he double-checked proofs and made up pages. We can hear him urging his staff on: "Mop up, people. We've go to get a paper out." And we can see once again the light-hearted mood that magically transformed him in the moments after the paper was finally put to bed each week.

As we go to press with this issue, our thoughts and prayers are with Maurice's beloved wife Marion and the nieces and nephews he leaves behind. Yes, Maurice, you got the paper out. You did it very well indeed, and we learned much from you in the process. For that we thank you, and for that we will always remember you.

–Gary Laforet

One voice: Jerusalem

The vast majority of the people of Israel believe with one voice and one heart that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the sovereign Jewish state. This has been Jewry's aspiration for millennia and the policy of every government of Israel since 1967. The outcry from the Palestinians over the decision to build "Jewish" housing on Har Choma is an attempt to delegitimize that policy and to stymie that aspiration. But no force on earth can delegitimize, stymie, discredit or impair the Jews' place in Jerusalem.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"A popular movement of such vast dimensions will necessarily be attacked from many sides. Therefore the Congress will concern itself with the spiritual means to be employed for reviving and fostering the national consciousness of the Jews."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones
PRESIDENT ASSAD, YOU DEMAND THAT BIBI OFFER YOU THE GOLAN THE WAY RABIN DID?
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BUT IF YOU TURNED DOWN RABIN'S OFFER WHY WOULD YOU TAKE THE SAME OFFER FROM BIBI?!
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I SAID I WANTED HIM TO MAKE IT!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 12, 1987, The Deschênes Commission of Inquiry on Suspected War Criminals released its findings to the public. (Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Thanks for the puzzle, but no thanks

I am delighted that there is a crossword puzzle in *The CJN.* As an avid enthusiast, I find this an excellent addition to the newspaper. However, I am appalled and mortified at some of the clues, such as "Nuremberg presentation," "Schindler tally," "Hitler."

Are these clues the kind that are really appropriate for a Jewish newspaper? Hitler? Nuremberg? Schindler? Do we need to be reminded?

Susan Stern
Toronto

Fund Congress on its own

In the controversy over the roles of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and the Combined Jewish Appeal, I support the position of the CJC. At their last plenary (in May 1995), I received only smiles when I asked why the CJC doesn't have a foundation to fund its role as the umbrella organization of Canadian Jews.

Yes, the CJC has an important and necessary role to play, but it should be independently funded and its board directly elected by those it represents. That way it can have credibility as the collective voice of all Canadian Jews and have the leverage to insist on the financial support of the Canadian Jewish community.

Max Sivak
Montreal

Orthodox view of brit milah

The Vaad Harabonim, Orthodox Rabbinical Council of Greater Toronto, wishes to make the Jewish community aware of an important aspect of the great mitzvah of brit milah (circumcision). The Halachah is clear that to be accepted as a mohel involves much more than the ability to perform a radical procedure. It requires a level of piety, observance and commitment to Torah life as outlined in the Shulchan Aruch (code of Jewish law).

Only those mohalim certified by the Vaad Harabonim meet these rigorous standards and are acceptable in accordance with Halachah. For a complete list of mohalim certified by the Vaad, please call 416-787-1631.

Rabbi Moshe Stern
President, Vaad Harabonim

Wanted: Jewish oldtimers in sports

For a book I am preparing on Jews and sport in Toronto during the 1920s and 1930s, I would like to interview former female and male Jewish athletes involved in serious competitive sport during this period.

If you participated in any type of organized sport, individual or team, summer or winter, amateur or professional, or in the YM-YWHA, a playground, club and/or school sport in Toronto in those two decades, I would be most interested in learning about your athletic experiences. Please contact me at 416-633-1723 or call collect at 905-525-0455.

Danny Rosenberg, PhD
Brock University
St. Catharines L2S 3A1
905-688-5550, ext. 4289

A list of worrisome Jewish issues

I do not view Jewish life today through rose-colored lenses. The following are some of the critical issues Jews confront: agnosticism and atheism that are higher proportionately among educated and intellectual Jews than among their Christian counterparts; intermarriage; the fanaticism, xenophobia and obscuratism of ultra-Orthodox and chassidic Jews; the hostility and hatred between ultra-Orthodox Jews and other Jews; the hatred of Zionism by many ultra-Orthodox Jews; the hatred of Zionism by Jews of the far left, who have published a significant number of books denouncing Israel; too much hypocrisy among so-called Jewish leaders; the fading of the enchantment of Israel among many mainstream Jews.

Jacob Mendlovic
Toronto

Ontario's Palestine House critical of Netanyahu

Since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's election, we have not noticed any positive step from his government to save or give hope to the extremely fragile peace process. Even the Hebron agreement was a humiliating blow to the Palestinians because they had to concede, among the many other things, control of 20 percent of the city and give Israel full control over the holy sites.

Netanyahu's latest move to build a new settlement between East Jerusalem and Bethlehem and the closure of offices inside Jerusalem are a clear indication to the world that the Israeli government is not interested in peaceful coexistence with its neighbors nor interested in the security of its citizens.

It is time the Canadian government and the lobbying Jewish organizations stop rewarding Israel for its improper actions.

Rashad Saleh, Chairman
Palestine House,
Mississauga, Ontario

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

'My metaphors are my wounds'

By MARGARET KLOMPAS

Who was the German Jewish poet Nelly Sachs who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1966, and why is she virtually unknown today? How did a poet whose early nature poetry takes as its model a Catholic saint come to write poetry that according to Dr. Anders Osterling, chair of the Nobel committee, had "become the most intense artistic expression of the Jewish spirit's reaction to suffering in our time"?

When the poet was informed that she and S.Y. Agnon were joint winners of the prestigious Nobel Prize, she commented, "Agnon represents the State of Israel. I represent the tragedy of the Jewish people." This remark summed up not only the stark reality of her life, which was torn apart by Nazi brutality, but also her poetry.

Nelly Sachs was born in Berlin on Dec. 10, 1891. Her father was a prosperous manufacturer and the family had a residence in the Tiergarten, the most aristocratic district of Berlin. Sachs was educated by private tutors in keeping with the practices of the *haute bourgeoisie* and her interest in music, dance and literature was encouraged. On her 15th birthday, she received a copy of Selma Lagerlof's novel *Gosta Berling*. So enthusiastic about the novel was Sachs that she started a correspondence with the Nobel prize winning author. This was to have very significant consequences.

An unhappy love at the age of 17 inspired Sachs to start writing verse and puppet plays. Even though she started writing at a time of great literary and artistic innovations, her work followed traditional lines. Some of her work was published in the 1920s, but in current editions of her work, these early efforts are specifically excluded at the author's request.

Sachs' life was rudely changed when the Nazis came into power. She lived in agonized isolation for seven years, increasingly threatened by deportation. As her relatives and friends (including the young man whom she had loved at 17) disappeared into concentration camps one after the other, she fled from the terror in the streets into the writings of German and Jewish mystics and greater awareness of her Jewish self. She was expected and expected herself to produce Jewish poems, but she had never studied Jewish philosophy and thus she had to make do with brief introductory essays and, ironically, a Lutheran Old Testament.

In 1940, at the last possible moment, Sachs succeeded in escaping to Sweden with her mother, aided by Lagerlof, who had enlisted the help of Prince Eugene of Sweden on her friend's behalf.

In Stockholm, the Sachses lived lonely and poverty-stricken for many years as Lagerlof, had died shortly before they reached safety. Tormented by her memories of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, Nelly Sachs identified more and more with the fate of her people. She declared herself part of suffering and persecuted European Jewry and promised her services as a poet in the service of the Jewish people.

In Stockholm she came across a copy of Martin Buber's chassidic tales, which became a major influence on her work. In his introduction to these stories, she found the sketch of a people that satisfied her religious, psychological and poetic needs. The play *Eli: Ein Mysterienspiel* written in 1943, includes images, figures, tales and liturgical elements from chassidic stories. A chassidic farm boy, who blew his shepherd's pipe out of pure religious exuberance during Yom Kippur, is the model for the 8-year-old shepherd boy Eli, who sounds his pipe to G-d when his parents are being chased down an alley by Nazi executioners. The chassidic boy of the tale broke the curse and drove anger from the face of the earth, says Ba'al Shem Tov; but the heavens remain closed to Eli, the Polish boy, who is murdered by a German soldier. In 17 loosely connected scenes, Eli's tragic story is presented through flashbacks and is interwoven with the legend of the 36 just men.

Nelly Sachs

Sachs wrote her "Jewish" poetry during and after the war. "Death gave me my language," she said. "Writing is my mute outcry — I only wrote because I had to free myself. My metaphors are my wounds." These poems, which differed radically from her earlier poems, were first published in 1946 in East Berlin in a collection called *In the Habitations of Death*.

The most famous poem in this collection is *Oh the Chimneys*:

O the chimneys
On the geniously conceived
habitations of death
When Israel's body drifted through the air
As smoke —
When it was welcomed by a chimney
sweep
That was a star, a star that turned black
Or was it a sunray?

O the chimneys!
Freedomways for Jeremiah's and Job's dust —
Who conceived you and laid stone
upon stone
The way for refugees of smoke?

O the habitations of death,
Invitingly appointed
For the host who used to be a guest —
O you fingers
Laying a threshold
Like a knife between life and death.

O you chimneys
O you fingers
And Israel's body as smoke through the air.

Perhaps the most poignant comment on Sachs' Holocaust poetry was made in an open letter to her by the German-Jewish poet Hilde Domain, who also suffered through the nightmare. Domain speaks of the post-war photographs of concentration camps showing grotesque piles of corpses, with the dead resembling horribly twisted puppets. Not until 15 years later when she began to read the poetry of Sachs were the dead buried for Domain and transformed into the memories of the departed that people normally have.

A second volume of Sachs' poetry *Eclipse of the Stars* was published in 1949 and a third *And No One Knows Where to Go* appeared in 1957. A copy of the play *Eli* found its way to West Germany, where it was presented on two West German radio stations in 1958 and produced on stage in Dortmund in 1962. This exposure created an interest in Sachs' work in Germany. Because of her message of reconciliation, very evident in her fourth volume of poetry *Flight and Metamorphosis*, her faith in Germany's younger generation and her contribution to the literature of her native language, Sachs received several prestigious literary awards in Germany in the '60s.

In 1965, when she received the Peace Prize of German Publishers, Sachs addressed her acceptance remarks to young Germans:

"In spite of all the horrors of the past, I believe in you," she said. "Together, full of grief, let us remember the victims, and then let us walk together into the future to seek again and again a new beginning."

Ironically, her fame as winner of many literary awards made her a target of anti-Semitic invective and threats — a target both real and imagined. Her persecution mania led her to spend nearly three years in a mental sanatorium. She saw herself again as a Jew who was once again persecuted and a representative of all persecuted Jews. As a result she interceded on Eichman's behalf as a gesture of reconciliation, but also out of fear of retaliatory measures.

The climax of Sachs' career came when she received the Nobel Prize on Dec. 10, 1966, which happened to coincide with her 75th birthday. Still feeling the persecuted Jew, she asked for permission from the Swedish office of personal records to erase the fear-instilling name Sara, which she had been forced to adopt before she left Germany. She received this permission, just before the prize ceremony took place!

The flurry of worldwide interest following her receipt of the Nobel Prize had abated by the time of Sachs' death four years later. Since then she has lapsed into relative obscurity again, especially in English speaking countries. Sachs continues to have a wider readership in Europe, however.

Perhaps her achievements can best be summed up in the words of Harry Zohn in *Congress Bi-Weekly*: "To the millions of nameless and voiceless who are generally recalled only in the form of merciless, six-digit figures, Nelly Sachs has given mouth and voice."

Margaret Klompas is a teacher at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Opinions

School expands Israel's horizons

It isn't easy to translate the changing political realities of the Middle East into opportunities for communication and education. But a new graduate school of management in Tel Aviv aims to do just that. The Tel Aviv International School of Management (TISOM) is an international school, rooted in the Middle East, that seeks to prepare young managers for the challenges of a multicultural business environment. Studies are conducted in English. In its first year, TISOM has attracted students from 12 diverse countries and territories.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

TISOM was the product of a vision shared by a group of Israeli and Canadian investors and has an international faculty of the first order. Its dean, Prof. Meinhoff Dierkes, was the first president of Germany's leading social research institute, the Wissenschaftszentrum. Dierkes, who had never visited Israel before he came to TISOM, was moved by the potential inherent in looking at the Middle East, for the first time, as an economic region. His belief in helping to create an international network of managers who would share an understanding of region, but also of their respective cultural perspectives, motivated Dierkes to take a leave of absence from his duties in Germany, and to move to Tel Aviv.

Prof. Moshe Many, president of TISOM, served as president of Tel Aviv University between 1983 and 1991. Today, he says, "Following my eight years as president of Israel's public university, I can fully appreciate the advantages private university education offers its students. TISOM has been able to build upon the experience and vision of the world's leading business schools."

But the most exciting aspect of TISOM is its student body. The foreign students hail from as far away as Canada, China, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, India and Kenya, and as near as Oman, Morocco and the Palestinian Authority. Most of these students have experience in business and management and were attracted by the idea of an international environment in the heart of Tel Aviv.

Friendships have already developed among young people who would otherwise have known little about one another. "I now feel like I have a friend in almost every country in the world," says Xiaoqing Chen.

The backgrounds of these young people are fascinating, precisely because they seem so far removed from the reality of Israel. Yogesh Shah is an engineer from Bombay, who is a partner in an engineering firm with an annual turnover of $1 million. Wahana Landung is a computers engineer from Indonesia. Jim Levy, from Toronto, is a lawyer with a PhD in environmental sudies, who is now studying for his MBA. Eid Al-Balushi is a banker from Oman, and is the first Omani student to study in an Israeli university. Rowan Faqih is a researcher for a management consulting firm in Ramallah, in the West Bank.

The Israeli students, in turn, chose TISOM because of the exposure it offered them to students from around the world, thereby broadening their own horizons. The Israelis, many of them mature students, all have experience in industry, real estate, the IDF or consulting. "As a career officer in the IDF, I was involved in the peace talks with the Palestinians, in which we tried to shape a new political future for the region," says Ivri Verbin. "TISOM is a natural place for me to pursue graduate studies."

The cross-cultural "laboratory" is completed by an academic faculty from Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia. Prof. Charles Mayer, also of Toronto, says, "TISOM's student body is unique in its maturity, intellectual curiosity, entrepreneurship and cross-cultural experience. It's the most international group I have ever worked with."

Shimon Peres' vision of "a new Middle East" has been debated and sometimes criticized as being unrealistic. It is clear, however, that a new reality is emerging in the region. The students, faculty and investors in TISOM would not be there if they did not see and feel the new reality in which they study and teach. The people behind TISOM had a long-term vision — the development of a new generation of business managers with an expertise in the Middle East, who themselves would represent a challenge in bridgebuilding. They knew that a commitment to a new way of doing business could itself contribute to greater economic stability, and that these new networks of people had to be created where they did not exist. In its own way, the TISOM experiment may contribute as much to the development of a new Middle East as ongoing talks between governments.

Nahal pioneers a new direction

The name Nahal may not mean anything to friends and observers overseas, but every Israeli is familiar with it. In 1949, as the Israel army began to absorb large numbers of new immigrants, it was realized that in addition to their functions in the defence of the country, the armed forces also had to serve as an educational element in introducing the newcomers into the life and spirit of the land. Those were still days of pioneering idealism, and so Nahal was born.

By Carl Alpert in Israel

The name is a Hebrew acronym for Pioneering Fighting Youth. Those accepted in its ranks served for 40 months rather than the usual 36-month conscription period. Two-thirds of the time was spent in the usual military training, and much of the remainder in kibbutzim or development towns. The intention was to expose these young people to agricultural pioneering in the hope that many of them would elect kibbutz life after demobilization. As a matter of fact, fewer than 20 percent did, but the map of Israel is dotted with over 100 settlements set up by Nahal graduates.

Through the years, recruiting for Nahal met with diminishing success. Though its ranks were open to youth from all elements of the community, fewer and fewer were attracted by the "vision" of life or even service on a kibbutz. Army authorities pondered. Should Nahal be discontinued?

Then came a new idea. Pioneering these days is taking on different forms. The economic base of the country is no longer agricultural. Nor is the collective life of the kibbutz considered the ideal. Israel is entering the 21st century as an industrial state. The pioneers are those with ideas and initiative who can create export-oriented industries. They are the ones who chart new paths to national prosperity and personal success. Why not utilize the Nahal framework to direct young men and women, after they complete their army service, into these channels of the new economy?

Three experimental groups were set up, drawn largely from young people in border villages or development towns, where their civil opportunities were limited. Their external service, while they were still in uniform, was spent, not in milking cows or plowing the fields, but in listening to 300 hours of lectures on financial administration, pricing and marketing. They got practical experience, not on farms, but as "cadets" with existing industrial enterprises. All this was presented in the spirit of facing up to the realism of the modern economy and with a sense of ideological motivation in advancing the welfare of the country as a whole.

The program was not confined to lectures. At the proper stage, the young soldiers engaged in what has aptly been compared to a Monopoly game. They produced ideas for products. On paper they set up production firms. They did market surveys. They faced problems of obtaining credit. They grappled with personnel problems and studied merchandising methods. In short, they were "in business."

The laws of economics are inexorable, especially under the eagle eye of the skilled officers in charge. Some of the brain children quickly spun into dizzying bankruptcy. With the experience gained, they made new efforts.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry is providing the extra financing required for the course.

No one expects that this program can possibly replace the conventional college or university, but it is an experiment in uncovering talents of young people who might never have entered academic channels, all against the background of regular army duty, basic training, use of weapons, field service. One program has now been completed and the 27 members discharged. Hopefully, many will return to their home towns to set up a business and provide local employment. Two other groups are still doing military service and "playing Monopoly." The army authorities refrain from painting any optimistic pictures. They are reconciled to the fact that at first many will follow the backpacking treks to the Far East or the jungles of South America, in the now standard tradition of army dischargees. But when they return and face the need to become part of society, will they fulfil the high expectation of the new program which is aptly termed Entrepreneurial Nahal?

Word has gotten around and urban youth have begun to apply for enrolment in the Nahal framework. It will be at least a year or more before the results can be analyzed and the success of the program judged. If it continues, the goal of Nahal graduates will no longer be "Let's set up a kibbutz," but "Let's set up a business!"

Morton's Weinfeld's column will return next month in this space.

Rediscovering Heinrich Heine

This year will see not only the 100th anniversary of the Basel Conference at which political Zionism was founded by Theodor Herzl, but also the 200th anniversary of the birth of one of the most controversial Jews of the modern era. He was Heinrich Heine, born in Dusseldorf as Hayyim son of Samson Heine. By the time he died, at the age of only 59, he had become Germany's most famous lyrical poet, and some decades later a statistician noted that German and Austrian composers had produced no fewer than 4,000 musical settings for his poems.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Born and raised as a Jew, interested in his early years in promoting Jewish culture, he left his faith in order to advance himself — but succeeded neither in the hoped-for appointment nor in his apostasy. He once said that he greatly regretted having been baptized, but that he did not bother to return to his ancestral faith because in effect he had never left it. Many of his stories have become classics, especially *The Rabbi of Bacharach*. The German governments of his time were suspicious of his highly critical essays, in one of which he predicted that the time would come when the Germans would do away with the Jews. Yet the German people embraced him and especially one of his poems called *Lorelei*, a song about a rock on the Rhine whose muse endangers the passer-by with her seductive song.

To this day, the poem is reckoned to be the most popular in German history. Even Hitler could not suppress it, although all publishers were instructed not to credit Heine with the authorship but to note instead that it was composed by "an anonymous author."

Heine felt in fact rejected by a world that was not attuned to his genius and he eventually became an exile, living in Paris where he died and was buried in a non-denominational cemetery.

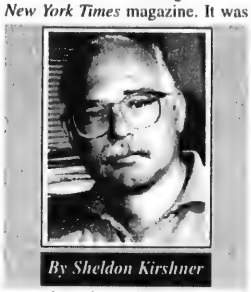
The new Germany has rediscovered this enigmatic figure and, after 33 years of scholarly effort, a new edition of his 7,000 surviving manuscripts has been published in 16 volumes. The city of his birth had denied his due for a long time and as late as 1953, hid his monument in a far-off corner of a seldom visited park. But since then he has been fully rehabilitated and Dusseldorf's university is now named after him.

The German government will issue a special memorial coin, and the Goethe-Institute is sponsoring a worldwide travelling exhibit about him. Even the City of New York boasts a statue of him, acquired by German Americans some years ago when Heine had become unpopular in his native country.

My father fancied the enigmatic poet and encouraged me to read as many of his works as possible. From my youth on, I was impressed with the tragedy of a Jew who chose not to be a Jew, yet who in his innermost being had never changed his identity. It was a lesson I never forgot, especially so in the days of the Nazis who both wanted to ensure that we Jews remained who we were and yet wanted to rob us of the very life we called our own.

The Kirshner File

Madeleine Albright's missing component



By Sheldon Kirshner

Less than a year ago, I read a rather lengthy article about Madeleine Albright in the *New York Times* magazine. It was an exhaustive piece, yet one important component was missing: her Jewishness.

There were references to her Czech nationality, but nary a word regarding her Jewish background. It seemed an exceedingly strange omission. Why, in an era when Jews had achieved widespread acceptance and prominence in the United States, was Albright concealing her origins?

Since her appointment as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations some years ago, I had been following the arc of her life quite closely. I was aware that her father, Josef Korbel, had been a Czech diplomat before and after World War II, a position few Jews attained. I knew that her family had fled Czechoslovakia in the wake of the German invasion and had returned in 1945, only to leave permanently with the accession of communism.

The fact that the Korbels had left Prague in the first place alerted me to the possibility that they were probably Jewish. Who but Jews would have emigrated from Europe as the Nazi plague spread?

With the announcement that she would succeed Warren Christopher as secretary of state, the spate of rumors about Albright's religious affiliation escalated. Finally, in February, the *Washington Post* cleared the air once and for all. Albright, born Marie Jana Korbel, was indeed ethnically Jewish, but Catholic by upbringing and Protestant by conversion through a marriage.

Josef Korbel and his wife, Mandula Spiegel, converted to Christianity early in the war while living in exile in Britain. By all accounts, they never revealed the family secret to their children, and Albright became a practicing Christian.

The Korbels, in common with a significant number of highly assimilated Jews, converted to Christianity as the tide of Nazism rose. Their apostasy was not unusual. In a reaction to anti-Semitism, and in attempt to improve their social and economic standing, Jews throughout the ages had taken the same route: Pablo Christiani in Spain, Rachel Varnhagen in Germany, Jacob Brafman in Russia and Hugh Montefiore in Britain. Conversion, as Heinrich Heine succinctly put it, was the price of admission to European society.

Albright claims that her parents never informed her that they were ethnically Jewish, and this may well be true. But I find it incredulous that a woman of her intellectual calibre and integrity accepted her parents' tall tale at face value. Was she not curious about their actual past as the evidence of their original Jewishness piled up? Was she ashamed of their Jewishness?

And once the undisputable facts of the case emerged, Albright muddied the waters. "I was not surprised about my Jewish origin," she told a *Washington Post* reporter. "What surprised me was that my grandparents died in concentration camps." But shortly afterward, in a CBS television interview, she averred that her family's Jewishness and her grandparents' fate had been "totally" unknown to her.

Clearly, Albright couldn't get her story straight.

She should have known better. Between 1994 and 1996, the mayor of Letohrad — Josef Korbel's Bohemian birthplace — sent Albright three letters outlining her lineage. She did not reply to any of them. Furthermore, she rejected overtures from Dagmar Sima, her Jewish cousin in the Czech Republic. One might conclude that Albright was simply embarrassed by her Jewish roots.

Last month, Albright finally came clean after receiving "fairly compelling" information about her family's antecedants. And two weeks ago, in another admission, she told *New York Times* columnist Frank Rich that she "had not been sensitive enough to signs that my background was different than I thought it was." She added, "I'm deeply hurt that people think I'm lying."

I will not accuse Albright of being a liar, but I am skeptical about her sincerity. Prior to the latest disclosures, she had every opportunity to get to the bottom of the matter. But, for reasons best known to herself, she skirted the issue, an element of her very identity. Could it have been a deliberate decision?

Religion is a personal matter and should play absolutely no role in a person's qualification for public office. Nevertheless, the Albright affair remains unsettling. It is a forceful reminder of the terrible psychological toll the Holocaust exacted on some assimilated Jews. It is a commentary on the residual effects of anti-Semitism, on Jewish self-hatred (a not uncommon phenomenon) and on Albright herself.

Will the real Madeleine Albright please stand up?

Jewish mobsters

My son the gangster? Seventy years ago, when organized crime reigned supreme in the United States, Jewish mothers might not have looked askance at such an appellation. High-profile criminals, including Jewish ones, were glamorized by a fawning press and by a succession of Hollywood films. No wonder they were regarded with a measure of fascination by the masses.

This thought occurred to me as I watched *Empire of Crime: A Century of the New York Mob* on the A&E television channel last week. The two-hour documentary did not break new ground with respect to the proliferation of Jewish mobsters in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. Nevertheless, it was illuminating.

Being historically accurate, the film concentrated on the Sicilian mafia, which dominated the underworld during the Prohibition era. But Jews such as Arnold ("Brains") Rothstein, Meyer Lansky, Benjamin Siegel and Louis ("Lepke") Buchalter were hardly insignificant figures in the annals of criminaldom.

More often than not the children of East European immigrants, they emerged at a time when the Jewish community in New York City was plagued by poverty and inhibited by anti-Semitism. The prototypical Jewish gangster gradually vanished from the scene as blatant discrimination lessened and as Jews prospered and were increasingly accepted by their fellow Americans. But of late, with the arrival of a multitude of Russian immigrants to America, a few of whom have turned to crime, the pendulum seems to have swung the other way.

Goodbye, Maurice

Maurice Lucow, the former editor of *The Canadian Jewish News*, died last week in Victoria, B.C. I knew him and I mourn his passing. He was dedicated, innovative and valued good work. He turned *The CJN* into a tabloid, computerized its operations and broadened its coverage of national and international news. An old-fashioned newspaperman, Maurice was even-tempered, but could be irascible and ornery. I will miss him. Goodbye, Maurice.

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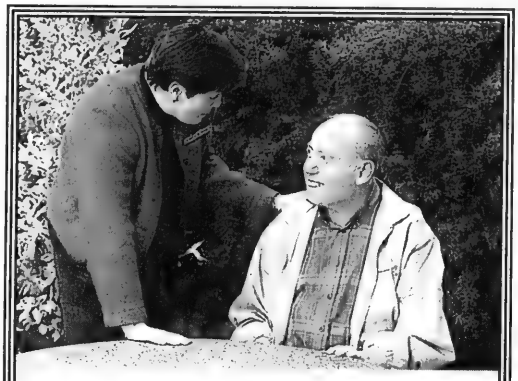

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JEWISH EDUCATION
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Changing your life

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

"I feel so strongly about being Jewish and yet my kids don't have much use for Judaism." This is part of a heartfelt letter I received from someone not long ago. And though my sympathies run deep for this parent, her emphasis on *feeling Jewish* is, ironically, part of the whole problem.

As if intuiting our letter writer's dilemma, the Torah conveys a profound message to the Jewish people in Deuteronomy, Chapter Four: "Keep [the commandments] and do them, for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the eyes of the other nations, who shall hear all these statutes and say, surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people."

Now honestly, have you ever heard something so peculiar? Are you telling me that by observing Shabbat and eating matzah on Passover, that the gentiles will be impressed by this? Don't we secretly suspect that non-Jews will view all of this ritual as quaint at best and irrelevant at worst, but certainly not wise and understanding? And in our day and age, of course, it is not the skepticism of our gentile neighbors we fear, but that of our children.

Yet for Maimonides, this verse was the essence of Judaism, because it stated that, by definition, Judaism must make sense. He believed that the survival of Jewish ideas and practices was precisely because of their universal and rational character, their relevance in any time period. For Maimonides if you don't have religious system which lends itself to rational interpretation and can be communicated to other people — to anyone — then you don't have anything more than ethnicity. And for him, Judaism transcended ethnicity.

So Maimonides understood these Biblical verses as an injunction to communicate Judaism, not just as a feeling, but as a deep way of explaining reality in all of its facets. Because although our feelings of Jewish pride are absolutely genuine and praiseworthy, feeling is often a difficult thing to transfer. I've heard many Jewish people recall the allegiance of their grandfathers to a Torah way of life, and feel no compulsion to follow in those footsteps. Other people's emotional attachments don't necessarily become ours. We live in a "post-everything" world — post-Enlightenment, post-Freudian, post-feminist, post-Holocaust. There is no turning back from these developments, no way to simply close our eyes to them. It thus becomes even more incumbent upon us to show our children how Judaism can stand strong in the winds of intellectual and moral change.

So that when we sit down at our seder tables not long from now, let's engage our children in a discussion about what matzah, for example, really means. Because it cannot be simply that "the Jews didn't have time to wait for the bread to rise." You are slaves for hundreds of years but you cannot stop an extra few minutes to make bread? Here, in this seeming absurdity, we see a fundamental Jewish idea. If you have a chance to be free, to grow spiritually, to develop emotionally, *don't put it off*, not even for an instant. Imagine a slave coming out of Egypt saying, "yes I'd like to escape barbarism and tyranny but I can't leave until I have my nine-grain bread." Judaism teaches us not to be scared to take a chance on inner growth, and that the only thing more frightening than changing your life and questing for spiritual meaning is not changing it, an idea that is true for every person, every generation, everywhere.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

From Aaron to Zusya

***The Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion*, edited by R.J. Zwi Werblowsky and Geoffrey Wigdor (Oxford University Press, $185).**

This attractive, well-produced tome of over 750 pages is the most complete one-volume resource available for information on the concepts, beliefs and practices of Judaism, in the past and today. It contains 2,400 alphabetically arranged entries from "Aaron" to "Zusya of Hanipoli."

The two well-known Israeli editors who compiled a similar work about 30 years ago have now been aided, in this largely revised edition, by over 150 Israeli, American and European scholars whose names are attached to the individual articles.

Features of the dictionary include profiles of important figures in Jewish history from Moses to the present; balanced accounts of all religious movements from various forms of Orthodoxy to Jewish humanism; a consideration of religious issues posed by the State of Israel and useful up-to-date bibliographies after each entry.

Casual browsing provided unusual information on a variety of subjects:

• Golem. "The word golem occurs once in the Bible (Ps. 139:16) and there refers to an embryo; in medieval Hebrew the word used to mean formless matter but later came to refer to a robot magically created. A man made of clay was brought to life by the insertion of a slip of paper with one of the mystic names of God under his tongue," A rabbi of Amsterdam seriously discussed whether a golem might be counted for the religious quorum of 10. He indicated that his grandfather had once fashioned such a creature.

• Had Gadya. "This Aramaic poem with 10 stanzas is recited at the close of the Pesach seder service. Resembling a German folk song and composed on the cumulative pattern known to English readers from *The House that Jack Built*, it was written by an unknown author, probably in the 15th century, and may have been included in the Haggadah in order to amuse the children who were kept up late." Many interpretations have been advanced for Had Gadya. According to the mystics, it describes the experiences of the soul in the human body from birth to Judgement Day.

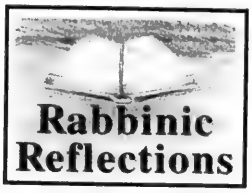
• Organ. "The Talmud and other ancient sources provide descriptions of an organ-like instrument called the *magrefah* that was said to have been used in the Jerusalem Temple. It is considered by most to have been a sort of water-powered organ ...In the aftermath of the Temple's destruction, however, the rabbis instituted a state of mourning and proscribed the use of the *magrefah* and all other instruments in synagogues." As a result, instrumental music was absent from the synagogue service as it developed in the Middle Ages.

• Holy City. "The traditional term for Jerusalem...beginning in the 17th century, three other cities in Erets Yisra'el came to be regarded as holy — Hebron, because of its association with the patriarchs and matriarchs; Tiberias, because it had become the religious focus of the country after the Bar Kokhba Revolt; and Safed, because it was the centre of the kabbalists in the 16th century."

• Celibacy. "The idea that a person ought not to marry is entirely foreign to Judaism." Traditionally an unmarried person was debarred from high religious and judicial office. No Jewish moralist has ever encouraged celibacy. Here there is a marked difference between Jewish values and those of Christianity.

Unfortunately, the book's price will discourage individual purchasers, but, authoritative and invaluable, it belongs in every congregational and institutional library.

Jewish Life



Everything we do has a divine purpose

By RABBI IRVIN S. BEIGEL

One of the sources of unhappiness in life is the feeling that our labors have no meaning. We work hard, but like the cog in the wheel, we do not see significance in what we do. The man who spends 25 years working on an assembly line, inserting one screw over and over again, does not see the connection between his action and the brand new car that leaves the factory.

Our ancestors may have experienced similar feelings about their contributions to the Mishkan, the portable Tabernacle whose completion is described in this week's Torah reading. The people at large donated materials; the artisans made the structure, the furnishings and even the priestly vestments. Until Moses erected the structure, they could not see the finished product. They could not understand that they were building a sanctuary that would be a constant reminder of G-d's presence amidst the people.

It is for this reason that Parshat Pekudei repeats the phrase "as the Lord commanded Moses" 18 times. The people are reminded that the plan they were so faithfully executing was G-d's plan.

The rabbis compare this to a king who commanded his servant to build him a palace. On every part that he built, he wrote the name of the king. The Torah is stressing that even if things are done by human hands, they are the result of G-d's effort and they can fulfil His purpose in the world.

The people might have seen their labors in building the Mishkan as routine and mundane. The truth was that these rather usual acts had a divine purpose — they provided the visible symbol of G-d's presence in their camp.

Our ordinary labors in life can also seem to lack significance and purpose. We, too, like our ancestors, have the power to take our routine work and raise it to a higher level. We do so by recognizing that everything we do has a divine purpose. Every human activity can play some part in fulfilling G-d's plans for us and for the world. Every action can potentially bring the Divine presence into our lives.

A similar thought is contained in the verse from Deuteronomy which is recited following Sh'ma Yisrael, "You shall love the Lord, your G-d, with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." This verse suggests that every aspect of our being, every human activity ought to be directed to G-d.

Directed to the right goals, everything we do can bring glory to G-d and bring about tikkun olam b'malchut Shaddai — the perfection of the world under the rule of the Almighty. Seen in this light every human action is important.

Rabbi Beigel is the coordinator for Partners in Jewish Living in Toronto.

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Purim's a time to laugh

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Question: What is the proper blessing to recite before logging on to the Internet?

Answer: "Modem anachnu lach..."

Oy!

It's well known that once the month of Adar is upon us, we are supposed to increase our happiness. Well, Adar is here (actually the second month of Adar) and in anticipation of Purim, it's time for my first ever survey of Jewish humor on the Internet.

First, a disclaimer. The late, beloved Jewish humorist Leo Rosten said "Humor is the affectionate communication of insight." Unfortunately, humor on the Internet can be much *less* than affectionate. I have tried to recommend sites which will entertain, but due to the changing nature of the World Wide Web, you never really know what you're going to come across. Which is a long way of saying the humor lane on the Jewish Highway can get quite bumpy. You've been warned.

The best place to start your quest is at Marty Weiss' Jewish Humor List Home Page **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/jewish-humor/index.htm]**.

There, you can find the link to his large archives of jokes. And you'll find out how you can get a big batch of Jewish jokes delivered to your e-mailbox on the first of every month. The Jewish Communication Network offers its own Forum on Jokes and Humor at **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/forum/forum.idc?ForumID=14&TopicID=4]**.

Both of these sites also welcome your submissions if you have a joke that you're dying to share. Another resource for humor on the Internet is the **[news:rec.humor.funny]** newsgroup. To find Jewish jokes that have appeared there in the past, go to the newsgroup archives at **[http://www.clari.net/rhf/search.html]** and search for words such as "Jew" or "Israel."

What would Israeli humor be without Dry Bones? Through thick and thin, Yaakov Kirschen, the cartoonist behind the syndicated political comic strip has always helped Israelis find a humorous lining in their various clouds. The Dry Bones Cartoon Gallery offers a very generous selection of Kirschen's cartoons **[http://drybones.org.il/GALLERY.HTML]**.

Not quite as famous, Ohr Somayach Yeshivah tries its hand at cartooning with ChoppedLiver **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/judaism/cartoons/cartoons.htm]**.

The Yeshivah even offers its own Top Ten Lists **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/judaism/humor/top10/topten.htm]**.

For example, Reason Number 10 for Not Attending Synagogue on Shabbat: "I heard this Torah reading last year." The Jewish Communications Network goes two better with its Top 12 lists at **[http://www.jcn18.com/top12.htm]**

Over at the University of Pennsylvania, some industrious students have assembled several humorous articles at **[http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~ocp/TXT/MYST_ARC]**. In the Minyan Penal Code, they address the decorum problem that plagues many Orthodox congregations by recommending a violation and fine schedule. Sample violations and fines: "taking seat of person called to Torah: Fine-$72; taking seat of Rabbi during speech: Fine-$360 (fine waived if speech is longer than 30 minutes)."

Also worth a look is David Bader's unique demystification of the Jewish Year, its feasts and fasts at The Yo-Yo Diet Guide to the Jewish Holidays **[http://www.extremely.com/yoyodiet.html]**.

If you like your humor right-to-left and particularly if you're a teacher, then try the Hebrew language site Chinuch b'Chiyuch (Education with a Smile) **[http://www.jercol.macam98.ac.il/daat/chiyuch/chiyuch.htm]**. There you'll find links to cartoons, riddles and jokes about education. A sample: Child handing in test paper to teacher: "I left in a few mistakes to see if *you* could find them." You will need to have Hebrew fonts installed in your browser in order to read this site.

Well, that's about it for this year but before I go, I'll leave you with this late-breaking Jewish Internet news story that you may have missed.

Did you know that World Wide Web giants Yahoo and Netscape have announced a surprise merger and relocation. The new firm will move to Israel and call itself Net'n'Yahoo.

Yahoo, indeed. Have a Very Happy Purim!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Arab state needed as result of demographic changes: rabbi

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Idealistic slogans must not be allowed to detract Jews from realities surrounding the need for peace in the Middle East, asserts Rabbi Shlomo Jakobovits, general studies principal of Eitz Chaim Schools.

These realities, he said at a recent lecture at the Mizrachi Bayit, are that in not too many years, the Arab population will almost certainly overtake the Jewish, and that new military technology obviates the necessity of using land as security.

The Arab population in Israel, he said, has increased steadily, and at a much greater rate than that of the Jewish population.

"In the 1967 census, it was found that the Arab population in Israel, Gaza and the territories was 50 percent of the Jewish population. Today, 30 years later, it is 58 percent.

"Without immigration from Russia and South Africa, which won't be much of a factor in the future, they would comprise 70 percent."

In less than 70 years, he predicted flatly, should Israel keep Gaza and the territories, it won't be a Jewish state but an Arab one.

He slammed those who claim that the Arabs will be controlled by withholding the vote from them. "You can't do that. Israel is the only democracy that deprives a portion of its population of the vote. The only other one was South Africa, a country four times as big, with lots of natural resources.

"When the United Nations applied sanctions, South Africa was on its knees in three years. Israel couldn't withstand sanctions for three months."

The Arab population under Israeli control must not be allowed to increase, he said, noting that "if they have 30 percent of the vote, they can control the government and its military secrets."

Israel, he said, must not take over places with an Arab majority. "We must make a border, and keep them out. There must be an Arab state outside of Israel to absorb the Arabs, and we must make it a requirement that any Israel Arab who wishes can live there."

As well, he said, "Israel must induce as many to leave as possible."

Acknowledging that although it sounds racist, "We want a Jewish state. Arab emigration is essential for Israel's survival."

If the peace process fails, he warned, "everything that has been accomplished in the last three years will be reversed — it will lead to another Israel-Arab war."

He slammed those who say that because Israel has always won its wars, it will continue to do so. Scud missiles can be launched far enough from the Israeli border, that they can "wreak so much damage on the civilian population, that all Israel's technological strength will have no effect [against them]."

Rabbi Shlomo Jakobovits

The winner of such a war, he said, "is the one with the biggest and most spread out population. The Arabs have three hundred times more area, even if you don't include Iran, and a much bigger population."

Quoting portions of the Bible where the children of Israel were told several times not to do battle because the odds were against them, Rabbi Jakobovits said that even the Bible, "is concerned not just with land but with reality."

Israel already has 60 percent more land than they had in the Bible. "Biblical borders were from Dan to Beersheva — we already control from Dan to Eilat."

Opponents of the peace process say that the Arabs want all of Palestine. "Sure they do," the rabbi said. "Don't we?"

Yasser Arafat desperately needs peace, whatever he says to his own followers, since he realizes that "the Arab world doesn't care about him, the Palestinians have never been on good terms with other Arabs, and he doesn't have the means to win a war," Rabbi Jakobovits said.

But it must be a "worthwhile peace, with both sides reasonably satisfied."

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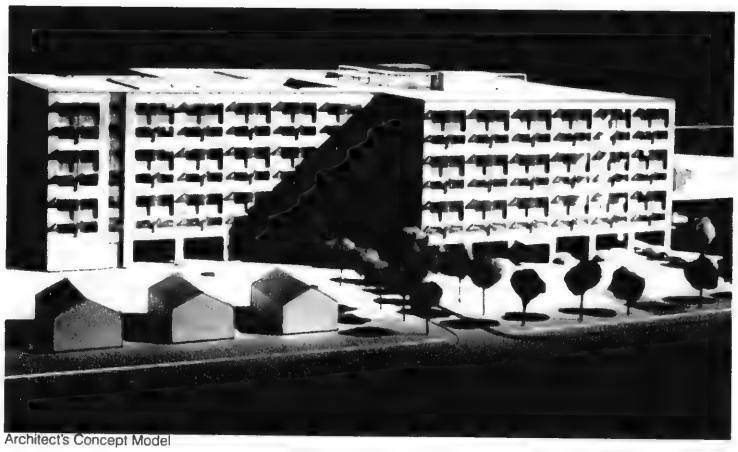

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Purim was Bubbie's favorite holiday

By ARNOLD R. GLICK
Special to The CJN

When one thinks of Jewish holidays that foster family togetherness, several come readily to mind.

Passover, of course, is a time when family members gather together, often arriving from great distances, to perform the seder rituals and enjoy a sumptuous meal.

Rosh Hashanah unites the generations of a family in the sharing of hopes and wishes for the coming year.

Guest Voices

And Chanukah is often the occasion of a family party, when the children run around with dreidels in one hand and chocolate coins in the other while the adults get down to the task of latke eating.

But for my Bubbie Lena — my father's mother — the holiday that was her favorite was Purim.

Of course, in contrast to Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Chanukah — which continue on for two days or longer and which are well-known even to those outside of the Jewish community — Purim might seem a bit pale as a favorite holiday. It is a date on the calendar that is unfamiliar to many.

But Purim is a happy holiday — commemorating a historical event when wrong was righted — and joy and celebration comprise its flavor. And, no doubt, the happy tone of the holiday is part of what my Bubbie Lena enjoyed.

But the real reason that Purim was her favorite is that for Bubbie Lena this was the one holiday when all of her children and grandchildren could come to her home to be together. My father was one of nine brothers and sisters, and as they married and raised families of their own they settled in various communities around Boston and elsewhere in New England. Being a traditionally observant family, traveling on Shabbat and the major holidays was prohibited.

But on Purim — a holiday on which there are no restrictions prohibiting travel or other activities — all of Lena's children could take a drive to her house for a special festive Purim meal.

So each year Lena would look forward to the Purim gathering. She would prepare dozens and dozens of hamentaschen, the traditional-for-Purim triangular-shaped cookies filled with poppy seeds or fruit filling. The large dining table would be set, and additional places for the grandchildren would be arranged in the adjacent living room.

There is a tradition that throughout the month of Adar — the month on the Jewish calendar during which Purim falls — a person is supposed to be happy. As my Bubbie Lena's house would become filled with her children, their spouses, and the aineklach — the grandchildren, many still wearing their Purim costumes — Lena was happy that the family was together.

A time for family to get together

In 1958, my Bubbie Lena died. She died on Purim. And for many years to follow, her children would come together to mark her yarzheit.

And so, although there was now an element of sadness that became part of the family's Purim observance, it came to be that as a result of the date on which she died, Bubbie Lena ensured that the family gatherings which were so important to her during her life would continue after her death.

Arnold R. Glick is the creator of the cartoon Shmoozin, and lives in Brookline, MA.

CARE FOR KIDS LAUNCHED

The Hospital for Sick Children recently honored chartered financial consultant and chartered life underwriter Sonny Goldstein for founding Care for Kids, a charity to raise funds to help parents provide palliative care in their homes for their terminally ill children. The charity, which so far has been largely funded by Goldstein himself, provides money for nurses and equipment so that these children can be cared for with dignity. A major fundraiser for Care for Kids is being planned. Pictured receiving a plaque in his honor is Sonny Goldstein (far left), his wife Edie, daughter Michelle, and Hospital for Sick Children representatives Maria Martin of the department of palliative care and Robin Gerlin, foundation development coordinator. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Girls' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 23 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Volleyball	Sun. Mar. 23 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (Girls) 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. (Boys)
Soccer	Thurs.. Mar. 27 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Tennis	Mon. Mar. 24 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Track	Sun. Mar. 23 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Sun. Mar. 23 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Golf	Sun. Mar. 23 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. Mar. 23 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Table Tennis	Sun. Mar. 23 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletics, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented at the Games. Notwithstanding a fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

All tryouts: Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.
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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli teens share experiences with counterparts

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When members of B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) met recently with two Israeli teens, they rapidly discovered that they lead similar yet quite different lives.

Erez Hybloom and Michal Neva, both 17, were in Toronto as part of a delegation of 62 Israeli youth who have set out to meet peers in Canada, Europe, the United States, South America, Africa, the Far East, Russia, Australia and New Zealand.

The annual program, initiated by Israel in 1973, aims to establish a dialogue and foster better understanding between youth worldwide. Teens selected represent a cross-section of Israeli youth, whether secular, religious, Israeli-born or immigrant.

In a meeting room at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, the Israeli pair began by treading on familiar territory, like school, sports, driver's licences, part-time jobs, music and friends. The local teens nodded as they identified with the daily lives of their counterparts.

It was when Hybloom mentioned the main difference — the fact that all Israelis go to the army after high school — that the questions began flying.

The first draft notice comes when youth are in Grade 11, he told the group, and that is when they make arrangements for the testing and personal interviews.

"The results of these logic tests, similar to SATs, indicate what we will do in the army. Pilots, for example, are considered the elite and they need the highest profile," he said.

Males typically enlist for three years, he said, but because of the long training period needed to become a pilot, they are often in the army for as long as seven years. "They are happy to have the opportunity to be a pilot."

Asked what girls do in the army, Neva replied that while they do not fight, they are trained to be "the women behind the men." Army intelligence is considered the top post for girls, she said.

The pair agreed that in Israel, "we grow up with the knowledge that the army is part of our lives. Girls may do such service as working in a hospital but everyone does something."

Hybloom said Israeli youth appreciate how much the army gives them. "We will make our best friends there, we will be taught skills and most of all, we will grow up. We will leave the army as a different person. These are things that people in other countries do not get."

Israeli youth, he said, spend free time playing sports, listening to music or just visiting with friends. They are also a major part of the part-time workforce, and starting at age 15, they may work at such places as fast food restaurants or stores.

"They are very involved in politics whether it is on the student council or youth councils in their own area or countrywide. Kids talk a lot about politics and they help out in the elections – they care," he said.

Just like everywhere else, added Neva, drugs are a problem, "and many teens are involved in 'say no to drugs' campaign."

Safety, they stressed, is not an issue. "When there is a series of bombs, we may get nervous, but it does not take over our lives. We become more alert and aware but it does not prevent us from doing anything," said Hybloom.

TEENS TEACH ENGLISH IN ISRAEL

Canadian Young Judaea recently initiated a pilot volunteer program called Kesher (the Hebrew word for link). Toronto students, from left, Evan Pilz, Jessica Labi, Sheri Chaim and Michelle Nagi, along with Kerri Joffe (not shown), are in Beersheva helping Israeli teachers with students who have difficulty in English. The Toronto students all finished high school in mid-year.

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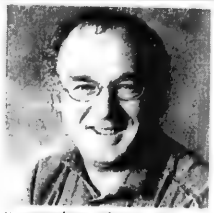


כפי שהבטחתי, הינה המשך מבחר תגובותיכם בעניין זכות ההצבעה לישראל בחו"ל, כפי שהוצעה בכנסת. אם בא לכם להגיב- אל תחססו. אני מבטיח לפרסם הכל.

"כל אחד שיושב מחוץ לישראל חגיע לכאן מרצונו. (אף אחד לא גירש אותו מהארץ). אבל עם החלטתנו לגור כאן, השארנו בארץ את זכותנו להחליט מה יהיו גורלה, החלטותיה או בקיצור את זכות ההצבעה. דרכון ישראלי מקנה לנו את הזכות לחזור חביתה מתי שרק נרצה, בלי שאלות ובלי שום נקודות עונשין על כך שפעם חשבנו אחרת. אני רואה בהחזקת הדרכון הישראלי זכות גדולה. ומוקירת תודה על כך שגם ילדי שנולדו פה מחזיקים בדרכון ישראלי. אף אחד לא רוצה שמישהו אחר ינהל לו את החיים בשלט רחוק. ולכן לנו היושבים כאן נשאר להחזיק אצבעות לארצנו ולכבד את החלטות האנשים שיושבים ושומרים לנו על המקלט הביתי. בברכה רחל שלטון"

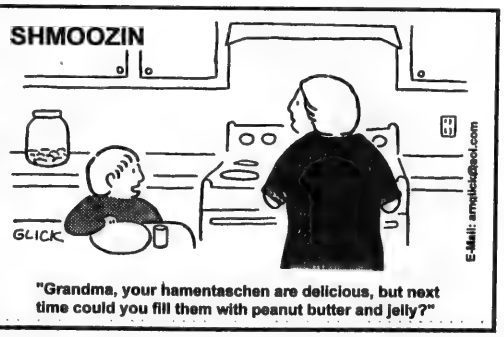
"כל יהודי ישראלי אוהב את עמו וארצו, בין אם הוא חי בישראל או בחו"ל. מכך שהתשובה היא כן. מלבד זאת, רוב תושבי ישראל אינם משרתים בצה"ל, אינם משרתים במילואים ואינם שולחים את ילדיהם להילחם בגבול (ראו סטטיסטיקות בנושא). ב"גלובל-וולג'" שאנו חיים בו כיום אנשים זזים ממקום למקום בקנה מידה שלא נודע כמותו בהסטוריה. בשישראל תכיר בעבדות חיים אלו תוכלו לאמר שישראל התבררה ואין יותר מקום להכרזות ילדותיות כמו "נפולת של נמושות" (על פי יצחק רבין ז"ל).שלך יעקב הרשקוביץ."

"חשוב לזכור שישראלי הוא ישראלי באשר ילך. התחלקי של ויתור על אזרחות ישראלית הוא ארוך מסובך ומביש. אני הייתי מגביל את זכות ההצבעה לאזרחים שנושאים דרכון ישראלי בר תוקף לתקופה הרלוונטית מחשיבה הפשוטה שכדי להדש ראו להאריך את הדרכון יידרש אותו ישראלי להידרש בקונסוליה או בשגרירות במקום מגוריו, דבר שיעזור בין השאר בקיום קשר איתו. הרבה ישראלים אינם רשומים בנציגויות הישראליות ובכך הם מנותקי קשר עם ישראל מבחינת חוק. זאת אומרת כדי לקבל זכות זו צריך לעמוד בקריטריונים מסוימים. בעילום שם קורא ותיק."

"הטענה הנפוצה נגד מתן זכות הצבעה לישראלים בחו"ל הינה שהישראלים בחו"ל אינם שולחים את בניהם לצה"ל להגן על גבולות הארץ. כדאי להזכיר שישראלים צעירים רבים השוהים בחו"ל נוסעים לארץ לשרת בצה"ל, ביניהם כאלה שנולדו בחו"ל לחזורים בעלי אזרחות ישראלית. כמו כן כדאי להזכיר שציבור נכבד של בחורי ישיבות הגרים בארץ אינם משרתים בצה"ל ואינם הולכים לשרות מילואים, ובכל זאת הם זכאים לבחור ולהיבחר. ערביי ישראל בעלי אזרחות ישראלית אינם משרתים בצה"ל, ובכל זאת להם זכות הצבעה, ונבחריהם משמשים כחברי כנסת. חלק ממצביעי הימין מצביעים עפ"י תכתיב המגיע מחצרות הממוקמים למשל בברוקלין שכידוע זה חו"ל . לרבים מאנשי החצר אין אזרחות ישראלית והם אינם גרים בארץ, ובכל זאת דעתם נשמעת בקלפי. מי הם אלה התומכים והממנים הפיננסיים שמריצים מועמדים לבחירות לכנסת ולממשלה בארץ? לא קשה לנחש שחלק מהמימון נעשה על ידי מיליארדרים מחו"ל שלחלקם בוודאי אין אזרחות ישראלית. וכך בעל המאה הוא בעל הדעה. ומסתבר שלא חייבים להיות אזרחי ישראל ולגור בארץ כדי להשפיע על המדיניות שלה. מיכאל קאופמן"

חשמה הארנק:

השבוע אבד לי הארנק... מכירים את ההרגשה הזו? לבטל את כל כרטיסי הפלסטיק, לעמוד בתור לרשיון נהיגה ושאר נירות. בקיצור שבוע מבאס לאללה. עברתי את זה כבר לפני שנתיים ולכן הפעם זה טיפה יותר קל. אז למה אני בכל זאת משתף אתכם בסיפור? כשסיפרתי על כך לאחת מהעובדות שלי בבית החולים היא השתתפה בצערי ואח"כ הוסיפה: "But think! it is all replacable", הכל ניתן להחלפה: פלסטיק חדש, רשיון חדש. מקבלים חדש שהוא זחה לישן. וכמה פעמים קמנו (ועוד נקום) למצוא שדברים שבאמת יקרים כמו, אנשים חבריות, הלכו לבלי שוב ואינם ניתנים להחלפה! והאם אנחנו מעריכים עכשיו את מה שיש לנו ואינו ניתן להחלפה? תחשבו על זה.



"Grandma, your hamentaschen are delicious, but next time could you fill them with peanut butter and jelly?"

Greater Toronto Area

Sara Glickman celebrates 99 years in style

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Sara Glickman was guest of honor at the "why-wait for-100?-birthday bash," marking her 99th birthday.

Glickman flew in from Montreal for the party, held recently at the home of her son and daughter-in law, Mort and Barbara Glickman.

Some 70 guests spanning four generations attended the party, including 20 Montreal residents. Among those Montrealers who made the trip west was Glickman's kid sister, Annie Goldberg, 95.

The highlight of the evening, was the screening of Mort's film, *This is Your Century, Sara Glickman*, a montage of still photographs and silent captions.

Fashionably dressed and looking years younger than her age, Glickman told *The CJN* she is "very proud" to be 99. "I don't mind getting older. I just don't want to get old."

Pointing to her head she said, "I don't feel any different [up here] than I did at 40, 50, 60 or 70." She stressed that she is grateful to be as mentally astute as ever.

Although her physical health has deteriorated, she said, she has learned to live with the changes and "take everything in stride."

"So you get a pain. At 99 I deserve it. You make the least you can of the aches and the pains...My eyes are getting dimmer. I don't begrudge them. They served their purpose perfectly."

In fact her eyes are still serving her well: she enjoys perusing the newspaper, which she reads without glasses.

Her sense of humor has helped her throughout her life, she noted. "Thank goodness I never lost my sense of humor...I didn't have an easy life, but I always made the best of the situation, even to this day. I laugh at things people cry about."

At the age of eight, Glickman, the oldest of six children, emigrated with her family from England. Her parents, originally from Russia, settled in Montreal, where her father manufactured and sold quilts out of his shop on the Main. Glickman left school early to work in the family business and she expressed great pride that she was able to educate herself.

She married Lazer Glickman, her parents' landsman, in 1920. He manufactured men's clothing while she stayed home to raise their four children: Elinor Solomon, Devina Hart, Morton and the late Sunny. There are nine grandchildren (one is deceased) and five great-grandchildren.

Glickman said she was always prepared to make sacrifices for her children, but expressing her love for them verbally was not a common practice in her day. "My children always came first. But I didn't use the word 'love' until my oldest son was 75. I told him I loved him. My generation wasn't accustomed to saying the word love."

She said she is "blessed" in having children who are devoted to her: her daughters, both Montreal residents, visit her at least once a day while Mort, her youngest son, calls daily from Toronto.

Widowed in 1978, Glickman enjoyed travelling — she visited Europe and Israel and until she was 95, wintered in Florida. Five years ago she moved from the family home on Pratt Avenue to the Montefiore, a retirement home in Cote St. Luc.

While she said there are no secrets to a long life she did say that she believed in exercise. She took daily walks and even used the stairs until she fell five months ago. Now she walks with a walker, which she calls her "cadillac."

Glickman's birthday parties have been an annual family tradition since she turned 90. The recent celebration was such a success, guests wondered if it could be topped, but Mort has already started planning for the next one, he said. His mother's dignity and humor are an inspiration to him and other family members, he said. "She has demonstrated to all of us that we can stay young while still growing old."

Sara Glickman

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Greater Toronto Area

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Beth Tzedec's 'Little Minyan' lets participants run the show

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Where might one expect to find Toronto's "Little Minyan?" Probably not at North America's largest Conservative congregation.

Then again, Beth Tzedec Congregation, with 2,800 member families, could be the logical place precisely because of its size.

The synagogue's Little Minyan, established about 18 months ago as a pilot project, will hold a final pilot service this Saturday morning before synagogue board members evaluate its viability.

"I think that a large synagogue can provide multiple entry paths into Jewish life," said Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, senior rabbi of the congregation. "We're hoping [the Little Minyan] will become a regular part of the congregation's life."

The Little Minyan was initiated by members Eileen Silver and Ellen Kachuk Rosenbluth, following a discussion they had with Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, who was most supportive of the idea.

"It's difficult to spend time in the sanctuary with little kids and 'shush' them all the time," said Kachuk Rosenbluth, Little Minyan committee member and mother of a 7-year-old and a 4-year-old. "We also wanted something less formal and more participatory for ourselves."

'Have a more haimish experience'

The first half-dozen Little Minyan services were held sporadically. To keep the momentum going, however, a spate of four was scheduled between mid-February and mid-March. They skipped only the Saturday of the congregation's monthly family service, held in the same main-floor chapel.

Unlike the family service, the Little Minyan is not child-centred, although children are included, said Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum, who was hired by the synagogue last year. The service has drawn about 80 people, a mix of families and singles.

Although the Little Minyan, like the family service, falls under Rabbi Tanenbaum's aegis, the service is run by participants, three of whom share the role of chazzan at each service.

"We try to get involvement of the people. There's a lot of singing. The point is to have a more *haimish* experience and as deep an experience as possible," said Rabbi Tanenbaum. Instead of a formal sermon, he often leads a discussion or offers brief explanations of each aliyah.

Rabbi Tanenbaum sees the synagogue as sort of a "department store" of Judaism, offering a variety of boutique-like choices.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl

"Some walk into the main sanctuary with a sense of awe and grandeur and it's very inspiring. Others find it cavernous and feel alone," he said.

"No question there's a trend that people want different options," said Rabbi Frydman-Kohl. The change dates back at least 25 years to the days of nascent chavurot or fellowship groups, he explained.

"A large synagogue is blessed with the ability to respond to various spiritual yearnings. Now it's very hard to find a large synagogue in the United States that doesn't have alternate services."

Probably Toronto's best-known alternate service is at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, which is Orthodox, although the proliferation of smaller independent congregations, such as the Cedarvale Minyan and the egalitarian Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, provides more apparent evidence of the trend.

Silver and her husband Shoel, a lifetime member, have no desire to leave Beth Tzedec for a smaller congregation. "I think the shul has a lot to offer," she said. "There are so many resources we can draw upon. I think the bar mitzvah program is phenomenal. We enjoy the Friday night service very much, and if I can participate in a small service at the shul, I think I have the best of both worlds."

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AshkeNEWS

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Some highlights

The musical centrepiece of the festival will be *The ASHKENAZ Orchestra Project*, a 22-piece ensemble of some of the finest players on the international scene brought together for the first time to perform a program of new works especially commissioned for debut at ASHKENAZ.

We will have a greatly expanded exhibition of visual arts. *Dancing with the Leviathan* will present the work of 45 visual artists from across Canada and the U.S. in exhibitions at Harbourfront's York Quay Gallery and at the Lonsdale Gallery in Forest Hill.

The ASHKENAZ Parade will pick up where it left off two years ago with thousands of happy paraders, in and out of costume (hopefully including you!), wielding banners and huge puppets dancing their way along the parade route accompanied by live klezmer bands. Once again Parade preparations will be a community event with all welcome to participate.

Join us for ASHKENAZ this August and experience for yourself the future of Yiddish culture.

Photos: Nir Bareket

BloorJCC

Volunteers make ASHKENAZ happen

I first became involved with ASHKENAZ before the 1995 Festival at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre when I painted my vision of a shtetl on a Shabbat night with candles in every window!

In being part of ASHKENAZ I found a place to do something meaningful and Jewish in the company of others. It gave me a place to say how I loved and honoured where my grandparents 'come from' – geographically, spiritually, emotionally and culturally. I took in their language, their prayer and their music; what and who they yearned for back in Poland; their understanding of poverty, the loss of family and the building of a new life. Somehow, being involved in ASHKENAZ from the t-shirt selling to the sewing-machine-shaped-hat-making, helped me express some of this – not only participate as a member of the audience (which in itself is very powerful).

For this year there are many opportunities to volunteer at every skill level and age group, both before and during ASHKENAZ. You can help with administrative tasks, fundraising, site decoration, parade props, marching in the parade, ushering, errand-running and lots more! You can help at our offices, at workshops at your organization or at the Jewish Community Centres. Please fax or mail us the form attached to let us know how you can help make Ashkenaz happen. Marla R. Keyes, *Festival Administrator*

Events, events

While our thoughts at this time of year look ahead to the warmth of summer and the promise of excitement at the ASHKENAZ '97 Festival, our fundraising committees are keeping warm by being very active.

"Everything You Wanted To Know About Art But Were Afraid to Ask." April 10, 1997 at 7 p.m. at the Lonsdale Gallery, Forest Hill. Come view the work of artist Katja Jacobs and sculpturer George Boileau. Learn about collecting, valuing and "Starting an Art Collection". We will have refreshments and musical entertainment. Bring your (smaller) collectibles and have them identified and appraised by Brian Musselwhite and Conrad Biernacki. Space is limited so book early. Tickets are $36: call Marla at 416-703-6892.

The Ashkenaz Gala – Monday June 23, 1997 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts – a taste of what is to come at the Festival in August. This magical evening will be full of surprises, a high energy show of world-class klezmer music, dance, theatre and much more. The excitement continues with a post-show reception full of Yiddish food and spirit. Gala tickets are $100 – call Judy at 416-782-9033. Tax receipts will be issued.

SPONSORS – WE NEED SPONSORS for our Lonsdale Gallery event, the ASHKENAZ Gala and all of the Festival events. There are many different sponsorship packages available, offering a charitable tax receipt in addition to wonderful recognition opportunities. With an audience of 50,000+ people, this is a great way to promote your business!

The ASHKENAZ '97 Ad Sales Committee is selling ads for the Festival's Program Book (circ. 50,000). A terrific return on your investment and you help a great cause. Quarter page ads start at $250 and full page ads are $750.

For more information on any of these items or to make a donation please call our **Fundraising Director Judy Litwack-Goldman at 416-782-9033. Committee Chairs:** Corporate Campaign: Rosalie Sharp & Hinda Silber; Gala: Linda Frum, Heather Hoffman & Joel Weinberg; Ad Sales: Merle Levine & Chad Wolfond; Gallery Event: Hindy Friedman.

ASHKENAZ Event Calendar

Sunday March 23rd
Purim Celebration
Bloor Jewish Community Centre
750 Spadina Ave. 416-924-6211

Thursday, April 10
Lonsdale Gallery event
Call Marla 416-703-6892

Saturday April 26th
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Bloor Jewish Community Centre
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Monday June 23rd
ASHKENAZ GALA
The Ford Centre for the Performing Arts
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___ March in the parade

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___ Program Book Ad Rates
___ Lonsdale Gallery Event, April 10
___ Ashkenaz Gala, June 23
___ ASHKENAZ '97 Festival events

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Financial assistance provided by the Ontario Arts Council and The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto.

Greater Toronto Area

Har Zion celebrates sponsorship success

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A get-together at Temple Har Zion last week marked the end of the synagogue's sponsorship of a young Bosnian couple, Dayan and Amineta Lukac.

But "it was not a good-bye party," synagogue social action committee chair Arieh Cohen told *The CJN*. "We plan to stay in touch with them. They have become like relatives — like third cousins. We invite them to birthday parties, Pesach, and things like that."

The story began when Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) spoke to The Toronto Board of Rabbis about the need to help families from the former Yugoslavia.

"Rabbi Michael Stroh (spiritual leader of Temple Har Zion) brought that message to our social action committee," said Cohen.

Meanwhile, the Lukacs, who had asked for help to come to Canada in vain, finally approached the Jewish community in Sarajevo, and the match was made.

(Amineta, now 21, is Muslim, and Dayan, now 26, is the son of a Jewish father and a Catholic mother.)

Cohen explained that the federal government paid for their air fare to Canada, with the understanding that they would pay it back when they got jobs, as well as one quarter of the cost of sponsorship for a year. The synagogue was responsible for the other three-quarters, which came to between $14,000 and $15,000.

Five sponsors came forward with the money, Cohen said. As well, synagogue members found them an apartment, and helped them furnish it, and, after the Lukacs attended school to learn English, helped them find jobs.

Amineta is now working as an assistant physiotherapist in a home for senior citizens, and Dayan, an animation computer expert, is being trained (and paid) by a company which has promised to hire him.

Cohen said the Lukacs have passed the English test necessary to attend university and plan to continue their studies to get Canadian university degrees.

"They are a hard-working couple," Cohen said, "and we have encouraged them to persevere."

Toasting the success of Temple Har Zion's year of sponsorship are (from left) Gil Rosen, a member of the synagogue's executive; Arieh Cohen, a social action committee chair; Dayan and Amineta Lukac; Rabbi Michael Stroh and Jacqueline Kott-Wolle, formerly of JIAS. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

David and Margaret Helfgott at a family reunion in Perth, Australia in 1996.

Shine said inaccurate

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The portrayal in the movie *Shine* of her late father as a brutal man who drove his prodigy pianist son to madness is totally false, Margaret Helfgott, 51, said in a telephone interview from her home in Beersheva, Israel. She has lived in Israel for 20 years.

The film is about Helfgott's brother, David, 49, an Australian concert pianist now on a tour that will bring him to Canada. It deals with his recovery from severe mental illness.

"My father was a very caring man and the film is false in saying that he beat my brother, David, and that he abandoned him when David became mentally ill," she said. "He looked after him at great cost to himself when David came back ill from England."

In fact, her father, Peter, was not a Holocaust survivor as the film implied, and she resents very much the inference that brutality and violence go along with surviving the Holocaust.

"This issue is very important for the Jewish people," she said. "I have met many Holocaust survivors and not one of them has ever driven a family member to illness."

Though her father left the small village of Kamyk, Poland, long before the Holocaust, he did try to bring a younger brother to Australia when he learned what was happening to Jews under the Nazis, Helfgott said.

"Unfortunately, instead of a brother, the family sent a sister who was mentally ill, and my father's plan to make enough money with his brother to rescue the rest of the family went for naught. He lost his father and his brothers and sisters in the Holocaust."

An adventurous type, Peter Helfgott left Poland at an early age and spent a year or two in Palestine in 1925-26, part of it as an acrobat with a travelling circus, before settling in Australia in 1933, where he met his wife in Melbourne. David's wife, now 76, is living a quiet life in Australia.

Helfgott said she is considering suing the film's producers for painting a false picture of her father, "but I am told you cannot defame a dead man, that you can't do anything. But I am trying to find a way."

She saw *Shine* in London in June of last year, in company with the director, Scott Hicks.

"I told him immediately about my feelings and he said the part about my father beating David was just symbolic and not to worry about it," she said.

Hicks has not replied to her complaints and she has no idea whether the producers plan to remove the stain on her father's reputation.

She said she was not shown the script in advance and although it was shown to her brother and two sisters, they were given only a short time to review the 111 pages in the same room as the director, and were not told about the portrayal of their father.

Her brother, Leslie, 45, is also trying to correct her father's image, while her two sisters, Susie, 43, and Louise, 37, also feel bitter about the movie, she said. They all live in Australia.

Helfgott is also concerned that the movie leaves the incorrect impression that it is other members of the family who are responsible for mental illness, and in this she is supported by leading medical authorities.

In its Jan. 11, 1997 issue, the *British Medical Journal* states that one of the errors in *Shine* — common to films about mental illness — is that "mental illness must have both a meaning and a cause."

It goes on: "In *Shine*, the roots of David's breakdown are laid firmly at the door of his father...One of the pivotal scenes of the film is the father's apparently callous refusal to allow his son to study in America. Yet, when David defies his father to go to England the result is indeed disaster and breakdown. Perhaps Helfgott senior's advice was based on a realistic assessment of the risk to his son's mental health from prolonged separation."

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Greater Toronto Area

NOTICE

The late Rabbi Ignac Oelbaum, spiritual leader of Congregation Ahavath Achim-Nachlath Israel in Toronto was the trustee of cemetery lands *(section #50)* situated at Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park.

The management of Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park would like to advise all next of kin and those currently holding reservations for section #50 of the current policies and practices regarding the care of these grave sites and the opening of future graves for this section.

Would all next of kin and holders of reservations on Ahavath Achim *(section #50)* kindly contact Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park at (416) 223-1373 Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

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Wednesday, March 19 at 8:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: **Professor Marty Lockshin**
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Nazi cases reassigned

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Justice Department lawyer Christopher Amerasinghe has been replaced as lead counsel on two of the four war crimes cases he was assigned.

Amerasinghe will relinquish the cases involving Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobiass but will continue as lead counsel in the Helmut Oberlander and Wasily Bogutin cases, said Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit.

The move came as the Justice Department added more counsel to handle the 10 denaturalization/deportation cases currently under way, Vickery said. A further two war crimes suspects are expected to be named by the end of the month.

Vickery and John Sims, assistant deputy attorney general, said the moves in no way reflect on Amerasinghe. "As we see the pace of litigation speeding up, we've added more and more counsel," Sims said. "We've been responding flexibly as the pace of litigation increases."

There are currently seven teams handling war crimes cases — eight if the one involved in the Antanas Kenstavicius case is included, Sims said. That deportation proceeding came to an end when Kenstavicius, who lived in Hope, B.C., died on the first day of hearings.

Sims said he expects between four and seven of the cases will go before the courts this year. The first of the alleged Nazi war criminals to face trial will be Bogutin, whose hearing is set to begin in Toronto on May 12. The hearing will then be adjourned as a commission travels to Europe to interview witnesses.

Next up will be the case involving Ladislav Csizsik-Csatary, which will begin on July 28 with the gathering of commission evidence in Europe. The trial is scheduled to begin in Montreal on Sept. 29, Vickery said.

Donald MacIntosh and Bonnie Boucher, Justice Department counsel involved in the Konrads Kalejs case (summation arguments ended last week, a decision is pending), have been assigned further cases. MacIntosh will take over the Dueck case from Amerasinghe, while Boucher will handle the case involving Serge Kisluk. Peter Vita, general counsel at the Justice Department's Toronto regional office, will work on the Tobiass case and Roslyn Levine, also of the Toronto regional office, will head the prosecution in the Peteris Vitols case.

Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber said the organization was pleased about the reassignments. "We certainly urged the Justice Department to seriously consider having the cases spread out over more lawyers," he said. "It's a step in the right direction."

Renee Bernbaum

Dodi Weill

Weill installed in Bonds post

TORONTO — At a recent board meeting of State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division, Dodi Weill was installed as North American vice-chair-Canada by Vicki Erlbaum, State of Israel Bonds North American Women's Division chair.

Weill will serve as the link between the Women's Divisions across Canada and will represent Canadian interests on the North American Women's Division board.

She has just completed a two-year term as Toronto Women's Division chair and will continue to serve on this executive and board.

She says her goal is to encourage women to use State of Israel Bonds for their investment portfolio and to educate women to take more responsibility for their own personal finances. In addition, Weill encourages people to perform a double mitzvah by using State of Israel Bonds to pay off their pledges to other organizations.

After Weill was installed, she passed her gavel to Renee Bernbaum, who will chair the Toronto Women's Division for 1997-1999.

Bernbaum is a graduate of the University of Toronto and received her bachelor of science degree in physiotherapy in 1977. Her accomplishments include eight years treating and rehabilitating amputee patients at West Park Hospital in Toronto. Other activities included research, university, conference and seminar lecturing.

Court criticizes consultant

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto judge has slammed former Metro Toronto Police Services Board member Arnold Minors for teaching a group of Ontario Crown attorneys that the Holocaust was not a racist act.

"In the evidence before me, Minors denied teaching the Holocaust was not a racist act, but his denial was prolix [longwinded], circular and vague. I simply do not accept his evidence in this regard," stated the decision of Ontario Court Judge N.D. McRae.

McRae delivered the judgment while dismissing Minors' defamation suit against the *Toronto Sun*. Minors sued the *Sun*, which carried a series of articles and commentaries about his controversial October 1994 seminars on racism and about his description of Toronto police as an occupying army.

Minors had been retained by the provincial government to deliver specialized anti-racism training programs, but when he said the Holocaust, though horrible, was not an example of racism, he was confronted immediately by irate Crown attorneys. Five government lawyers testified as to Minors' statements to them.

"Teaching that the Holocaust, while a form of discrimination, along with homophobia or sexism, was not racist, was revising the Holocaust," McRae stated. "It diminishes the horror of the Holocaust in which six million people were murdered by the Nazis solely because of race."

The judgment was applauded by Ellen Cole, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' community relations committee. "What we found to be encouraging was a judge having a full and sensitive understanding about the issues surrounding the Holocaust and how it should be presented," she said.

Greater Toronto Area

Hispanic publisher a success

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eduardo Uruena's biography doesn't quite read as one of those rags to riches stories, but it comes awfully close.

When he arrived in Canada 27 years ago from Bogota, Colombia, Uruena had $300 in his pocket and a burning desire to make a new life for himself in the land of opportunity.

Today, he's owner, publisher and director of *El Popular*, a Spanish language daily newspaper that serves the country's growing Hispanic population.

The tabloid-size paper offers local community news, reports on developments in the Spanish-speaking world, presents lots of sports and runs feature stories geared at helping readers acclimatize to Canadian society, Uruena says.

"We try to be honest on a daily basis, act with a sense of balance and try to present to the readers the best we can without being biased," he said.

Speaking in the paper's modest offices in the Junction neighborhood of Toronto, Uruena said *El Popular* plays an important role in the lives of recent and even more established immigrants. The paper exposes instances of discrimination and it focuses on issues of social adjustment to Canadian society.

As publisher of a high profile paper, Uruena, 45, is constantly in demand at community events. Despite those seemingly never-ending commitments, he tries not to let them interfere with his family life. He cherishes Shabbat at home with his family, worshipping at the Minyan Sepharad and developing his Jewish roots.

In Toronto, Uruena is free to pray and believe according to his own conscience. He revels in that freedom and contrasts it to his youth in Colombia.

It wasn't always so easy for him to openly identify with Judaism. "We faced a lot of bigotry" in Bogota growing up, he says.

The descendant of a family of conversos (Jews forced by the church to adopt Roman Catholicism), Uruena says his family secretly maintained Jewish practices, like lighting Shabbat candles, "a certain way of cooking, little things that we kept secret."

As a youth, Uruena had to attend Catholic school (there were no others) and "live by their rules. That had a lot of impact on [Jewish] people and their faith was lost," he says.

"The Jews were seen as evil by everybody so in order for people to [exist], we had to be one of them."

Despite that recipe for coping with an unsympathetic majority culture, Uruena was a rebel in his teen years. He constantly challenged the Catholic dogma he was taught and was even expelled from one school.

Eduardo Uruena

After curbing his tongue, he managed to graduate from another school and afterwards, got a job with a local newspaper reporting results from the racetrack. He made a name for himself when he broke a story about fraud at the track and was made a full-time reporter.

Meanwhile, he and his brother Carlos began considering new opportunities outside of Colombia. They originally contemplated moving to Hamburg, but Carlos moved instead to Toronto and reported back on the opportunities here.

Eduardo obtained a temporary visa and joined him in the late '70s. His $300 lasted three months. After that he subsisted on a diet of apples and cheese that Carlos brought home every night from his job as a busboy at the King Edward Hotel.

When Eduardo went to Immigration authorities to seek a working visa, he was told he would be issued one if he could converse in English with the Immigration officer at the next interview.

For two months, Uruena studied English night and day and when he returned he had mastered the language enough to receive the coveted visa.

From the Immigration office, Uruena went directly to the King Eddie where he was put to work in the hotel's laundry.

From the laundry room, Uruena worked his way up to valet and eventually, despite some opposition from a closed-minded manager, to a front-desk position.

After three years at the King Eddie and another two at the Holiday Inn, Uruena switched to the insurance business and began writing a column on savings plans and RRSPs for *El Popular*.

"When the opportunity arose to buy the paper, I jumped at it," he said.

In those day in the late '70s, the paper was published twice a week. Today, it's published every day but Sunday and its circulation averages 8,000 a day, with 11,500 papers sold on Friday. The tabloid has 18 people on the payroll, including four reporters (full-time and freelance), editors, production staff and office staff. There's also a Montreal office with four staff people.

During the slower, winter season, the daily papers average 20 pages and 36 on Friday. The rest of the year, the daily numbers move up to 28 pages and, in a good week, 44 on Friday.

El Popular is distributed in supermarkets, variety stores and other establishments frequented by Toronto's Hispanic community. It's also available in most major Canadian centres, including Vancouver, Ottawa, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Calgary and Halifax.

With 250,000 Latin Americans in the greater Toronto area alone, plus a few thousand more Spaniards and natives of Spanish Morocco, there is ample room for the paper's circulation to grow, Uruena believes.

The readers share an almost insatiable desire to read about their old homelands so each issue features reports from most of Latin America through news agencies such as Agence France Press, Reuters, United Media and United Features Syndicate. The paper also offers general international news, Uruena says.

Sports, particularly "futbol," is another popular item. In fact, "if we don't have sports news, the phone doesn't stop ringing," Uruena says.

Though El Popular is a going concern with a real presence in the community, Uruena admits to some tough times in the past. During the recession in the early 1980s, "I was worried whether I'd have enough money to pay the printer." Similarly, times were tough during the recent recession, he says.

Despite those trying times, Uruena is thriving in Canada. He's engaged to be married to Chantal Nantel, whose mother, who is Jewish, is from Peru. And unlike the situation in Colombia, where for four generations his family lived as secret Jews, in Canada Uruena identifies with his Jewish heritage openly. His office is adorned with mezuzahs and "in Canada, my Jewish identity increased very much," he says. "I find myself close to my roots, close to our traditions."

Although he doesn't attempt to force-feed his readers a diet of Israeli or Jewish news, the paper attempts to report objectively about Israel. And when the Jewish festivals roll around, there's a good chance *El Popular* will run a story about the holiday and its significance.

Unlike his experience in Colombia, Uruena's Jewish heritage hasn't effected his relationship with the Hispanic community.

"I am who I am. If people don't accept that, that's their problem," he says.

We wish to extend our deepest appreciation to our family and friends for your kind expressions of sympathy during the bereavement of our dear wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE CHANGE

Please note that the deadline for What's New and About People is now Monday, 10 days prior to publication date — i.e. Monday, March 17, is deadline for March 27 issue, and Monday, March 24, is deadline for April 3. I am at my desk on deadline days only to receive calls and sort my mail. Phne 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, March 15

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Morris Winchevsky School and the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS) celebrate Jewish women's talent in honor of International Women's Day. Featured are co-hosts **Gloria Valentine** and **Susan Jackson** as well as **Lenka Lichtenberg, Honey Novick, Marcia Beck & Friends Lisa, Shula Saltsman, Libby Scheier, Hindy Mosek-Abelson, Dorothy Lichtblau,** 8:30 p.m., 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 789-5502 or 638-2222.

TRIVIA CONTEST

Multi-media trivia contest fundraiser for ages 19 and up run by Zareinu Educational Centre, 8:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Door prizes. $20 students, $25 non-students. **Dana** 781-7437.

Sunday, March 16

SECULAR JUDAISM

Toronto Heschel School lecture and discussion on The Experience of Secular Judaism, the Past and Prospects for the Future with **David Weinberg**, director of Judaic Studies Centre, Wayne University, Detroit., 2 p.m., 55 Yeomans Rd. (school wing of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue).

EUROPEAN JUDAICA

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation historical and exhibitions committee visit to the European Judaica exhibit at Royal Ontario Museum. 2 p.m. **Carol** 789-3213.

OPEN HOUSE

Edinburgh Shul, Lubavitch South Mikvah, open house, guest speaker **Sara Karmelli** of New York, entertainment. **Chavi** 785-9227 or **Lison** 905-709-1157.

Monday, March 17

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood presents **Dr. Suzanne Rohn**, naturopathic doctor, 8 p.m. $2 members, $3 non-members. Hostess **Mildred Persofsky.**

NORTHERN ONTARIO JEWS

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the UJPO hosts **Stephen Speisman,** director of the Ontario Jewish Archives, in a slide show and lecture/discussion about Jewish Life in Northern Ontario, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Slide show preceded by light lunch. $3. 789-5502.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** , 763-9111.

Tuesday, March 18

SURVIVING SEPARATION

Na'amat seminar, Surviving Separation, addressing emotional, financial, legal and social considerations of marriage break-up with family lawyer **Lauren Stringer**, 7:45 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. **Lorraine Levene**, 636-5425.

ABOUT KABBALAH

Beth Sholom program, Introduction to Kabbalah with **Rabbi Yehezkial Nejar**, 8 p.m.

YAD BEYAD

Yad BeYad is a program designed for anyone willing to teach conversational English to new immigrants in Israel this July. Orientation evening, 8 p.m., 3 Pearwood Cres. **Katy** 221-7384 or **Sheila** 445-4554.

Wednesday, March 19

VIGIL FOR AGUNOT

Fourth annual Community Vigil for Agunot, **Rabbi Mark Dratch** and **Marsha Razin** discuss various aspects of Jewish marriage and divorce, 8 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4th floor, 4600 Bathurst St. 635-2883, ext. 174.

[Cont'd. on page 27]

ISRAEL TREK
July 7-17, 1997

This is the Israel you've never experienced!

Along the way, you'll be meeting many of our UJA Federation friends in their homes, moshavim and kibbutzim in our Partnership 2000 region, Eilat-Eilot, and you'll learn about building living bridges between Toronto and Israel.

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Participants must be between the ages of 25-35.
Subject to minimum gift to UJA Federation campaign.

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T'02
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March 22 9:30PM
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Come in costume! · $5 admission
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Featuring Live Music by Nafshenu
Purim Comedy with the Star Bellied Sneetches, and our friend named Mike (Lebovic)
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By **Dr. Shtuss**
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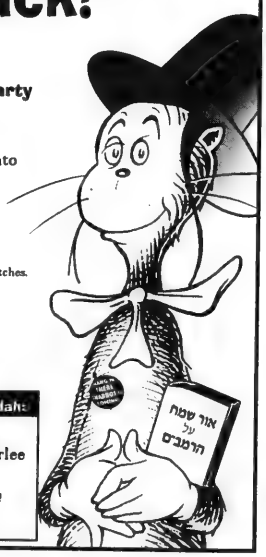


What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

OPPORTUNITIES ON AGING
Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement presents Opportunities on Aging — Fact or Fiction, speaker **Greta Ridell-Dixon**, noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1. **Leslie Lewis** 789-3291, ext. 233.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS
Prof. Marty Lockshin discusses Judaism Beyond Demonstrations — The Things We Have in Common, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

JWI CHAPTER MEETING
Jewish Women International Markham-Unionville chapter meets 8 p.m. Great speakers, comradery, community service. **Eva** 905-472-6139 or **Jill** 905-764-9791.

CAREGIVERS WORKSHOP
Senior Care educational workshop for caregivers, Accessing Community Services and Resources, facilitator, social worker **Jackie Fabian**, 635-2860, ext. 460.

SIBLING RIVALRY
Associated Hebrew Schools Parents' Association course, Sibling Rivalry, Part A, with **Sarah Hoover**, 9:30-11 a.m., Kamin Centre. Part B continues March 26. **Doris** 905-771-7988.

Thursday, March 20

THE MOVIE, KADISH
Generation to Generation sponsors the movie, *Kadish* by **Steve Brand**, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. $4.

FILM AT OSC.
Young Leadership Network, League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada presents the award-winning film, *Just a Little Red Dot* 7:30 p.m., Ontario Science Centre (OSC). Screening commemorates International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Also explore OSC's A Question of Truth. 633-6224, ext. 300.

CAFE L'EUROPA
Cafe L'Europa hosts a Purim Spiel, 2-3:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4th floor. $2.

And What Else Is New

PURIM AT BETH EMETH
Purim events at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Sunday, March 23. 633-3838

Traditional Purim Seudah for the whole family with a meal, entertainment by **Mickey Lewin,** costume parade, prizes, 6 p.m. Tickets at synagogue office (no tickets sold at door).

Young Families Group Purim Carnival, game booths, Torah fun, fish pond, prizes, music, food; come in costume, noon to 2 p.m. $2 (food extra).

KOFFLER GALLERY
Koffler Gallery exhibition, Tim Whiten: Messages from the Light, featuring sculptural works and drawings runs March 20-April 27 in both the Koffler and Loggia Galleries. Public opening March 20, 8 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 268.

PURIM CARNIVAL
Purim Carnival for kids of all ages sponsored by Beth Sholom Brotherhood and Sisterhood, Sunday, March 23, noon to 3 p.m., with entertainment, games, refreshments, costume parade, prizes.

REINCARNATION COURSE
An eight-week reincarnation course begins Monday, March 17, 8:30 p.m. at Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. Register. 631-9395.

NEWS FROM SOLEL
Solel Congregation, Mississauga events: Shabbaton March 14 and 15, topic Discover the Chassidic Experience with **Rabbi Lawrence Englander**; adult education course on The Zohar: Reading in Kabbalah with Rabbi Englander begins Tuesday, March 18, 6:45 p.m., register; membership/outreach Shabbat dinner Friday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.; Purim party Saturday, March 22, following 7:30 p.m. services; Pesach seder Tuesday, April 22,, 6:30 p.m., reserve by March 30; regular and family Shabbat services; Tuesday morning minyan 7:30 a.m. followed by breakfast. 905-820-5915.

PURIM BALL
Purim Ball presented by Hashomer Hatzair in conjunction with Tzavta, dinner, live entertainment, door prizes, silent auction, 8 p.m. Friday, March 21, at Hava Nagila Night Club, 1118 Centre St. Thornhill. $40 ($45 at door). **Yehuda** or **Miriam** 736-1339.78

ORAYNU INTERTALK
Intertalk, a support group for intercultural couples offered by Oraynu, Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism, moderated by **Eva Goldfinger**, meets Friday, 7 p.m., at 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill. Pot luck supper. Non-members $8. RSVP 905-889-7450.

PURIM SEUDAH
Come in costume and enjoy the fun of a traditional Purim Seudah sponsored by Shaarei Tefillah Brotherhood and Sisterhood, Sunday, March 23, 4:30 p.m., Chinese buffet, entertainment, prizes. Members $15 adult, $7:50 children under 10; non-members $25 adult, $12:50 children. Tickets at shul office, **Sharon,** 787-1631.

READING THE HAGGADAH
If you can read alpha bet but want practice in reading the Haggadah, try the free four-part Haggadah refresher Sundays 11:30 a.m. beginning March 16, at Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Register. 229-2600.

PURIM COSTUME BALL
Club Aliza, Na'amat Canada annual Purim Costume Ball fundraiser, dinner/dance and auction, live music, surprises, Saturday, March 22, 8 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. $55. Reserve. **Delia** 905-881-3597 or **Shoshe** 905-889-9419.

YEDIDAY SHABBAT
At Friday evening Shabbat service the Torah portion is discussed and traditional plus contemporary material is used from a humanistic perspective. 488-0688.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups, 638-7800.

Dealing With Anger: An Intervention Program for Men, begins March 19. **Gail Gould**, ext. 241.

Single Again: Building a New Life begins March 20; Parenting Alone: Learn to Balance Parenthood and Personhood begins March 17; The Challenge of Anger: For Women, daytime and evening groups begin the week of March 17 **Pat**, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 20 program is bingo and other games. Purim Shpiel, Saturday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., music, dancing, Teddy Band, singer **Dalia Dahary,** members $8, non-members $10. Trip to casino in Niagara Falls Tuesday, March 25. $23. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: musical *Dames at Sea* in Buffalo, Sunday, June 1; *Camelot* , Stratford, Sept. 17. In the planning-the musical *Barnum* at ArtPark; presentations of trips to Ottawa and Rochester. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: group discussion, Home Security, 10 a.m., dancersize with Honey Ross, 11 a.m. to noon, bingo 1-3 p.m., all on March 18; Purim party, March 22, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday dance with live band March 23; Atlantic City and Cape May March 31-April 4; Buffalo April 3; Avon cosmetics demonstration, May 1, 10 a.m., free samples; Spring Fair, May 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Israel trip May 7-20; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-18; Casino Rama May 21, $15 includes buffet lunch; upcoming trips to Catskills, Washington. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre offers a hearing assistance clinic starting March 13, conducted by **Brenda Vernon** of the Canadian Hearing Society. Call Wellness Desk for appointment.

Your Healthy Smile, **Dr. Shlomo Sharer**, Thursday, March 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m, Wednesdays. March 19 is the Purim party, music with **Rachel** and **Maurice Kastoryano** and **Michael Khinkis,** members $8, non-members $10. **Anna.**

Made With Love, seniors craft show and sale, Wednesday, March 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., North American Centre, 5650 Yonge St.

Movie *The Great Caruso,* Sunday, March 16, 2:15 p.m.

Helen Knight entertains Wednesday, March 19, 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services presents Chicken Soup —Mind, Body and Soul with **Susan Stern**, host of *Healthy Alternatives*, Rogers TV, Tuesday, March 18, 1 p.m. No charge. **Teme** ext. 364.

Four-week comprehensive investment course given by financial advisor **Alon Zohar**. Topics: The Stock Market; Mutual Funds, Financial Planning; Financial/Estate Planning; Tuesdays 7:30-9 p.m., March 25-April 15. Register. **Lisa** ext. 240.

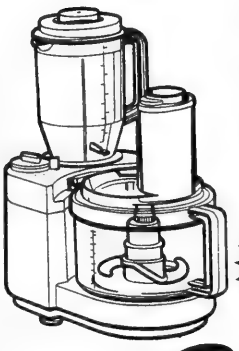
BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Senior's Club — Thursday, March 20, 2 p.m., All About Shalech Monot, the custom of sending gift baskets to family and friends on Purim, by **Shoshana Lebovic**. Thursday, March 27, 2 p.m., Purim party, **Michael Khinkis,** entertainer. **Judy**.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO U OF T

Bill Stern (centre) receives a 1997 Arbor Award for outstanding volunteer service to University of Toronto at a recent reception held at home of U of T president Robert Prichard (right). Pictured at left is Rose Wolfe, chancellor, University of Toronto.



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From coast to coast

Memorial in Moncton shul honors Jewish war veterans

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — It took Maurice Jakes 50 years but his dream of honoring Jewish war veterans from Atlantic Canada has finally come true.

After years of research, letter writing, and single-handed fundraising, he has succeeded in erecting a memorial to Jewish war veterans in Moncton's Tiferes Israel Synagogue.

The memorial of 384 name plaques identifies individually, and by their home community, the veterans who fought for Canada in World Wars I and II.

"I've been trying to do this since the end of World War II," Jakes said from his Moncton home. "We kicked the idea around for a long time. Each time I'd meet war veterans in Maritime communities, I'd talk about a memorial and people were interested but no one was doing anything. Finally, I told people in Moncton, who had previously expressed no interest, that people in the region wanted it, and they said, go ahead."

Based in Moncton, Jakes, 83, was a garment and souvenir salesman until he retired about a decade ago. He served as an RCAF tail gunner with bomber command, enlisting in 1940, surviving many missions over Germany and returning home in 1944. He was one of 12 Moncton Jews who served in the war, drawn from the 24 families who had settled in the city after emigrating from Russia in the early 20th century.

"Even before I got permission from the synagogue to put up the plaque in the lobby, I was getting donations from veterans or their families in Alaska, Florida, Chicago and across Canada after an article appeared in *Shalom Magazine* (the Atlantic Jewish Council's quarterly publication)."

The total project cost close to $5,000, Jakes said, "with Moncton's vets probably paying 90 percent of it. I know there was a lot of expense from my pocket."

The top of the memorial contains a special section honoring eight Maritimers who served with extra distinction. Named are: Wing Commander Maurice Lipton, Sydney, Air Force Cross; Aaron Gluestein, New Waterford, N.S., Distinguished Flying Cross; Lt. Col. Joseph Tanzman, Saint John, N.B., Officer of the Order of the British Empire; Major Max Morris, Sydney, N.S., Member of the Order of the British Empire; Lt. Samuel Brody, Plaster Rock, N.B., Bronze Cross, Netherlands; Sgt. Leo Lighter, Glace Bay, N.S. and Pvt. Maurice Bernstein, Halifax, mentioned in dispatches; and Issie Gold, Glace Bay, a major in the U.S. Army.

London JNF dinner set

LONDON, Ont. — This city's Jewish community will gather at Or Shalom Synagogue for the eighth annual Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner on June 15. Guests of honor are Cantor Josef Freiman and his wife Eva.

Freiman has been with Or Shalom Synagogue for more than 28 years and has trained hundreds of bar/bat mitzvah students. Most bnei/bnot mitzvah took place at Or Shalom or Beth Tefilah, in London, yet there was even one in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dinner chair is William Klein, president of Or Shalom, who chaired the 1996 Negev Dinner's "Tribute to Survival," honoring Holocaust survivors who live in London.

Proceeds from this year's dinner will go towards Action Plan Negev, a new project of JNF.

Yossi, as Cantor Freiman is called, has touched the lives of countless families, many who still live in London. However, there are many now living in other parts of Canada, the United States and Israel, who have also had a connection with him, whether through a bar/bat mitzvah or marriage. A search team would like to hear from them.

Further information is available through the London JNF Office: at 519-432-2139; fax: 519-439-2994.

E-mail addresses are: [ZevKlein@aol.com]; [jkjm.dubitsky@sympatico.ca]; [btepper@physiology.uwo.ca].

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Metro Toronto Singles Presents... a *Spring Singles Gala* at the Richmond Hill Country Club, 8905 Bathurst St. North, Thursday, March 27th at 8pm. $12.00. For more info., Call 416-222-7111.

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From coast to coast

THE B'NOT MITZVAH OF BEIT RAYIM

Eleven women at Beit Rayim Synagogue in Richmond Hill, Ontario, recently celebrated their religious "coming of age" at a bat mitzvah ceremony, the first of its kind in the synagogue. [Photo by Mike Barrett]

Publicity over Swiss banks has generated wave of anti-Semitism

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The recent stories about the gold reserves deposited by the Nazis in Swiss banks during World War II have generated a new wave of anti-Semitism, said the president of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Switzerland.

"This controversy revived an anti-Semitism that has been latent until now. The new surge of anti-Semitism has taken the form of abusive statements and offensive attacks on our community," Rolf Bloch said in an interview when he was in Montreal recently.

The renewal of anti-Semitism, he stressed however, is not a great threat to Swiss Judaism. "The government, churches, community associations, as well as many of our fellow citizens have vigorously condemned the anti-Semitic statements... The Jewish community of Switzerland deplores the bitter form that this affair has taken in the last few months," he said.

The Swiss federation includes some 20 Jewish communities and there are about 18,000 Jews currently living in Switzerland. Since the issue began, Bloch said, the federation has been one of the principal spokespersons with the Swiss banks.

Disclosure

"From the beginning, we have been at one with the Jews who called for full disclosure of the accounts of Holocaust victims being held by the Swiss. Our federation took the first steps with the banks involved," Bloch said.

Asked why, since the early '50s, Swiss bankers have rejected the claims of descendants of the Nazis' victims, Bloch said, "The banks showed a disturbing lack of sensitivity to the dramatic situation faced by the heirs of Holocaust survivors. By acting with such apathy and indifference, the banks gave the impression that they had something to hide."

According to Bloch, who runs the chocolaterie founded by his family, two huge errors were made by the Swiss banking authorities. The complainants were received by the banks' legal departments, who are always very precise, rather than by the customer service departments who might perhaps have better understood, he said. And they required proof, rather than accepting corroborating evidence, as is being done now.

This article appeared in French in full in the March 6 Montreal edition. Translation by Carolan Halpern.

CJC meets Swiss envoy

[Cont'd. from page 1]

CJC said one objective of the meeting was to ensure that claims from Canada do not face undue delays. Dayer said he would relay the request to Switzerland that claims from Canada be handled quickly and efficiently.

CJC added that it is aligning itself with the World Jewish Congress to accelerate the pace of claims' settlements.

Farber said Congress has offered its expertise to the Swiss in combatting anti-Semitism and toughening laws on hate crimes.

Dayer said he does not think there is overt anti-Semitism in Switzerland, but that the whole banking debacle has caused his country "to open our eyes and face our past and history."

The ambassador also assured CJC that from now on, no claimants will be asked to produce death certificates for relatives who were murdered in Nazi death camps.

The Swiss have shown "a new sensitivity" on the matter of death certificates, Farber said.

Dayer said his government has shown "determination to thoroughly and quickly" deal with the banking scandal.

The next two weeks will be a period of intense activity, CJC said. Its next meeting with Dayer is scheduled for the end of March.

"This was the beginning of an important dialogue on an issue that needs urgent resolution," Hershon remarked. "We look forward to ongoing discussions with Ambassador Dayer to help expedite justice in the long-overdue settling of these accounts."

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AJC provides teens' programs

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Yakov Feig spends an hour talking about programming for Jewish youngsters, teens, university students and young adults in the Atlantic Region of Canada.

This is the only hour on this day in which he'll sit still. He's a whirling dervish of activity during the day, and probably wakes up calling out ideas in the middle of most nights.

Feig has been programmer for the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) since June 1995. A one-year contract was renewed and will be renewed again and again, as long as he wants to stay in the region to bring Jewish education and culture to people actively seeking it.

"My goal is to create a spark," he says, sitting in his small Halifax office, crowded with books and brochures, calendars and files — the tools of a man busy travelling to outer reaches of a region while also bringing the message of Judaism to metropolitan areas. "But I can't replace a good education system or good parenting. The community and family must keep the fire going."

Feig works with several groups — youngsters to age 12, teens in junior high and high school, university students, young adults from 23 to 39 years of age, people planning Israel programs, and non-Jews seeking information.

Feig spends a weekend a month in the small communities of the region, most times meeting with youth, teens and adults in separate programs.

He says he's starting to work with Canadian Young Judaea, which will bring a shaliach to the small community once every eight weeks. That will almost double the attention in the region.

The university programs have brought most satisfaction to Feig. He estimates there are 375 Jewish students in the region, with 200 in Halifax. "Our list of identified Jewish students is 211 from across the region with 135 in Halifax. The 211 is 71 more than two years ago when I arrived, so we're having more active participation. For social events in the city, we'll draw more than 50 percent and for cultural events close to 25 percent."

He says there are active student groups at Acadia, University of New Brunswick and Memorial University of Newfoundland as well as at Dalhousie and Saint Mary's in Halifax.

The young adult group is new this year, with organized activities every four to six weeks. There are 67 registered, mostly from the Halifax area. "These are our future community leaders. That's important for the Atlantic Jewish Council because the leaders have been there for a long time and are seeking people to move up to replace them. We're trying to get the young adults involved in committees, campaigns and whatever their interest."

He emphasizes it's important for these young people, and university students, to remain in the region. "The only way is if they realize Atlantic Canada is viable for them socially and economically. In many cases they're not synagogue-connected, so they are getting a Jewish connection through our programming."

CJC, Rambam to meet with MPs

OTTAWA — Ten years ago this month, the federal government released the Report of the Deschenes Commission of Inquiry into War Criminals in Canada, the fulfilment of then prime minister Brian Mulroney's stated commitment to deal at last with this issue.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), led by its war crimes committee chair Prof. Irving Abella, will mark this occasion on March 19, with a day of activities in Ottawa.

American private investigator Steven Rambam, who in recent months has gained an international reputation in tracking down suspected Nazi war criminals, will join other CJC officials in meetings with media.

Tenth anniversary of Deschenes Commission

At noon, he will meet members of Parliament during a luncheon in the Railway Room. The event is being sponsored by Liberal MP Dan McTeague.

At 7:30 p.m., together with the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council and Beth Shalom Synagogue, CJC has arranged for a community-wide program featuring Rambam and Abella.

Viewers of the CBS program *60 Minutes* will have seen Rambam and Abella on a recent segment with Mike Wallace, examining the issue of Canada as a haven for Nazi war criminals. Rambam came to Canada armed with a list of suspects, phony academic credentials and a sense of urgency to "out" these individuals, some of whom allegedly participated in a variety of heinous actions during World War II.

He found several names on his list merely by consulting phone books, since it is now clear that many of these people came to Canada under their real names and have remained untouched for 50 years.

Rambam captured some of their confessions using a hidden microphone.

The RCMP is now examining the first batch of Rambam's tapes and had planned to use the confession to complement its case against one suspect living in Hope, British Columbia. This person died, however, as pre-trial hearings were getting underway.

But this, of course, points to the very real problem facing Canadian authorities in dealing with Nazi war criminals so long after the war: alleged perpetrators and witnesses are dying, memories are dimming and time is running short.

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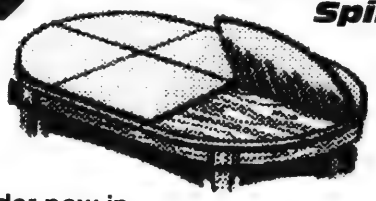

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Campus news & views

Tilly Shames at Tu b'Shvat seder.

Campus program links Judaism to environment

By TILLY SHAMES

Last year, I attended my first York University Jewish Student Federation (JSF) program, the Tu b'Shvat seder.

I had just come back from a trip to Israel I had found inspiring; a friend of mine was planning the evening; I was looking for some Jewish identification; and it was an environmental program. I couldn't think of any excuse not to take part, even though the fact that JSF was involved had been excuse enough for me for three years.

Now I am glad I took part. It was my first introduction to some of the most dynamic people I have ever met and the most interesting and relevant aspects of Judaism for me.

A Tu b'Shvat seder, a couple of leadership days, a trip to the middle of the Arizona desert for an Eco-Zionism conference, and the next thing I know, I'm a Jewish leader on campus. Who'd have thought it?

* * *

As I try to think how to put on paper all the wonderful thoughts to describe my feelings about Judaism, nature and Israel together, I can hear Noa singing about *universe*, beginning with u-n-i (you 'n I). Throughout my years in environmental studies, we were always taught to "Think globally, act locally." But how much of a difference can you make if you just focus on your community, you and I, and forget about the rest? Lots!

The environmental committee of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, JNF on Campus, has spent the year providing programs to raise environmental awareness and get people outdoors to appreciate the beauty of nature. For most of us, it is the first time we are making connections between Judaism and nature. All of us are learning from each other as we share our own insights and ideas. But more importantly, we are sharing our excitement and energy about Judaism and the environment with others who will hopefully gain from this experience.

The season came full circle this year at Tu b'Shvat. In my friend's cozy basement, listening to the beautiful words of Rabbi Michael Skobac and the others at the table feasting on fruits and nuts and celebrating the new year of the trees, I could not help but feel satisfied by what we had accomplished during the year. At the end of the evening, we felt empowered and energized, the other seder organizers and I, and we stayed there together, too tired to go home and too connected to the program to leave it just yet.

I think that closure of the evening and the four seasons that had passed since my first JSF program came when we had packed up the chairs and tables, recycled the glass and paper, composted the shells and peels, given away all the mugs and stickers, and were left with just a tiny plastic bag of garbage from 35 people.

If we could feel good about anything, it was that the evening produced energy, warmth and awareness, and not garbage. A little group can make a difference and what we do with this universe does depend on the actions of you 'n I.

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Shortage of chronic care beds a concern to community

[Cont'd. from page 3]

brought swift reaction. "We have had patients in tears here within a few hours. We anticipate a tremendous number of Branson patients will be looking to us for acute hospital care," said Mackenzie of North York General.

The shortage of chronic care beds is also of vital concern to the Jewish community.

Runnymede Hospital is one of the 10 to be closed.

A waiting list of 4,500 for Metro nursing homes is growing at the rate of 150 seniors a month, and more and more require heavy care, such as lifting, bathing, dressing and intravenous feeding.

Said one volunteer at a chronic care hospital: "Have we got to the point where we're acknowledging it costs too much to take care of our severely handicapped and sick people? When you talk about chronic care, somebody's in that bed. And they live there. It's their home."

About 30 per cent of Branson's patient population and the majority of its medical staff are Jewish, said the Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region and UJA Federation, expressing "extreme concern" over Branson's closing.

"Many of the community's most vulnerable members will have to travel further for emergency medical attention," warned Alan Sandler, vice-president of Community Planning and Allocations for UJA Federation.

"Branson is the only hospital in the area that operates a Sabbath elevator and has a separate Jewish chapel on its premises," said Harold Brief, Ontario region vice-chair.

UJA Federation and Congress were part of a coalition of ethnocultural and faith communities that wrote a position paper last year urging the Ontario government to respect institutions serving specific ethnocultural institutions.

"We have been stonewalled by the government at this point and if this continues, we may have to redefine how we proceed," Brief told an Ontario region executive meeting March 6.

"This is a very dangerous step," Rabbi Joseph Kelman of Beth Emeth Synagogue told the executive.

"If a heart patient needs another 20 minutes to get to a hospital it could be too late."

He asked Congress officers to make another appeal for at least a heart unit at Branson. Brief replied that Congress would support whatever action Branson wants to take.

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Palestinians reject planned pullback

'No reason to paint everything in rosy colors': Levy

By JON IMMANUEL and DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian representatives rejected the scope of the planned Israeli redeployment in the West Bank in a recent meeting held in Jerusalem between Foreign Minister David Levy and Palestinian Authority (PA) secretary-general Mahmoud Abbas that ended in an atmosphere of crisis.

Apart from rejecting the extent of the redeployment, the Palestinians claimed they should have been consulted before the decision was made.

The meeting was dominated by Palestinian concern over recent Israeli actions and growing calls to suspend talks until the actions are reversed.

Levy replied to Abbas' protest by saying the Palestinians should "lower [their] expectations." The disagreements during the meeting were about Har Choma, the extent of last week's nine percent pullback decision and the closing of four Palestinian offices in Jerusalem.

"There is no reason to paint everything in rosy colors," Levy told reporters after the session at a Jerusalem hotel. He said the sides have different positions "based upon different interpretations" put forward by their respective legal advisers. Foreign ministry spokesperson Aviv Shiran characterized the meeting as "not easy."

Immediately after the meeting, the Palestinian representatives left for Gaza to report to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, who had returned from a visit to Jordan and called the latest Israeli moves "conspiracies and tricks."

Meeting leaves tension in air

Meanwhile, the prime minister's spokesperson, Shai Bazak, denied remarks by Likud MKs who said that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had promised work would start at Har Choma next week.

"He said he deliberately did not want to name a date, except to say that it will start soon," said Bazak.

When Abbas asked for Israel to reconsider the construction on Har Choma, Levy rejected this. He noted Israel's position remains that there is nothing in the Oslo Accords which forbids Israeli construction anywhere during the interim period, let alone in Jerusalem.

Regarding the scope of the nine percent pullback, Abbas complained the figure is way too low. Here again, Levy pointed out that the scope of the different pullbacks is to be decided by Israel alone and is not a subject of negotiation with the Palestinians. The foreign minister cited a January letter from then secretary of state Warren Christopher to back up the point.

A third difference between the two sides related to Israel's closing of four Palestinian offices in eastern Jerusalem. While the Palestinians acknowledge that they are not permitted by Oslo to have PA offices in the city, they deny that these four offices are PA offices. U.S. officials have questioned whether the fact the PA funds the four offices makes them official, or whether this is the kind of grant money that Israeli non-profit bodies receive as well.

The two sides did agree that talks on the final disposition of the territories would resume, as scheduled, on March 17.

In Gaza recently, a meeting of all political groups established a joint PLO-Islamic committee to resist settlement and land expropriation, amid veiled warnings of violence. The meeting was arranged by the PA and the Islamic Committee Against Settlements, one of the four offices ordered closed in Jerusalem.

The delegates at the three-hour meeting decided that a Higher National-Islamic Committee would set up joint subcommittees in all the districts of Gaza and the West Bank. Each subcommittee would include one delegate from each faction. This would establish ongoing anti-Israel cooperation for the first time between Hamas and the PA.

"All means should be considered," PA cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdel-Rahman told the meeting. "All Palestinians should be invited to confront settlements. Israel is not dealing with us as normal people. Israel is humiliating our people and we must reassess a peace process in which Israel thinks it is above the law."

He demanded that the United States treat Israel the way it used to treat South Africa and Yugoslavia. "If Israel is wrong, sanctions should be imposed. We want America to stand with us to push forward the peace process."

Pope John Paul II also criticized Israeli actions in Jerusalem, calling them "grave" and implying that Israel would share responsibility for the consequences.

A Saudi-owned newspaper, *Al-Hayat,* urged Arab countries to boycott American products.

Iranian leader Ali Khamenei said in a speech televised nationwide that the veto showed America's "global arrogance."

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Netanyahu heads to Russia

By STEVE RODAN and JERUSALEM POST STAFF
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to leave this week for a 48-hour visit to Russia, marking his first trip to the country since taking office.

The visit will also mark the first meeting between Netanyahu and Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Netanyahu will also hold meetings with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov and Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzyzov.

Both Chernomyrdin and Luzykov are considered potential successors to Yeltsin.

High on Netanyahu's agenda is expected to be the role of Russian technology in Iran's efforts to adapt an SS-4 missile, which has a range to hit Israel.

In a briefing for Russian-speaking journalists, Netanyahu said he expects to raise the problem of Islamic militancy. Representatives from eight Russian immigrant publications are accompanying Netanyahu.

In Moscow, Netanyahu will also pay a visit to the main synagogue, where he will meet members of the Jewish community. Netanyahu plans to visit St. Petersburg and the famed Hermitage Museum before returning home.

Netanyahu expects a warm welcome in Moscow. Domestic troubles notwithstanding, Russian officials say they are excited over the visit and hope the prime minister will agree to a more active Russian role in the Middle East peace process.

"With this government, we have a leadership that recognizes the benefits of Israeli-Russian cooperation in many fields, including the peace process," a senior Russian diplomat said.

Diplomatic sources in Moscow say Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky's visit to Russia in January was a resounding success that clearly paved the way for Netanyahu's trip.

"Sharansky's visit opened a new era," the senior diplomat said. "His visit to his prison was necessary to show that the old Soviet Union and its policies are dead and a new relationship is possible."

Israeli-Russian trade has grown sharply in the last four years, from $44 million (US) in 1992 to $350 million in 1996. Israeli exports last year accounted for $250 million. Currently, Elbit is trying to conclude a $60 million deal to provide medical equipment to Russia.

A more sensitive area for Netanyahu, however, will be deciding whether Israel will pursue a strategic relationship with Moscow. In 1995, the two countries signed a defence memorandum that both Israeli and Russian officials acknowledge has virtually been ignored.

Israel's goal is to promote joint ventures in defence contracts.

Several projects are stuck because Moscow has blocked deals or Israeli participation in contracts for third countries, such as the upgrading of about 3,500 MiG-21 fighters sold by the former Soviet Union around the world.

One source said Yeltsin himself banned defence cooperation with Israel following his meeting with Yitzhak Rabin in September 1995. Yeltsin agreed with Rabin's proposals for defence industry cooperation, but stressed that Moscow sees this as strategic.

As a result, Yeltsin asked that Israel sign a comprehensive agreement on strategic cooperation similar to that signed with the United States. Rabin refused.

But Russian diplomats see Israel's asset as a strategic partner that can influence the United States.

Regarding the expansion of NATO, a U.S. proposal sharply opposed by Moscow, Russian diplomats are urging Israelis to lobby the Clinton administration and Congress against the idea, saying it will increase tensions in the Middle East.

A defence relationship would also include another deal pending: one between Israel and China for the upgrade of the Ilyushin-76 early-warning aircraft. Russia and Israel are partners in the upgrade, but Russian officials are said to be upset that Israel signed a deal with China without Moscow's input.

Russian diplomats say they expect Moscow to agree to release the plane for modernization by Israel. Under the contract, IAI subsidiary Elta Electronics Industries would provide the Phalcon radar and advanced electronic subsystems.

Briev, Moscow, would enlarge the plane to accommodate the Israeli upgrade.

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Bar-On probe nears end

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — A number of the central figures in the Bar-On Affair are to be questioned again this week, some of them under caution, as the probe enters what police hope will be its seventh and final week.

Those expected to be questioned include Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Prime Minister's Office director-general Avigdor Lieberman, Shas MK Aryeh Deri, Roni Bar-On and Likud activist David Appel.

Police are investigating allegations revealed by Channel 1 television, according to which Shas made a deal to support the Hebron agreement in exchange for Bar-On being appointed attorney general and arranging a plea bargain for Deri, who is on trial for fraud.

A decision is yet to be made whether to requestion Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who has not yet been questioned, may be called to give evidence this week. Hammer abstained in the cabinet vote on the Bar-On appointment.

Police and the State Attorney's Office were reported to be in disagreement over the legal implications of the findings thus far.

The police are reportedly inclined to recommend serving indictments against several personalities in the probe on charges of conspiracy, fraud and breach of trust. However, the State Attorney's Office is taking a more conservative stance and is not yet prepared to recommend indictments.

Israel & the Jewish World

Living under the shadow of hate

[Cont'd. from page 1]

annual book fair because he was born abroad. The ban drew outraged responses nationwide, and Halter was accompanied by four former culture ministers in a demonstration in Toulon.

"Ever since the FN victory, a terrible atmosphere of mistrust has reigned here," says Martine Namias, a Tunisian-born Jew. She adds that this is a mark of daily life under a totalitarian regime, not that of a Western democracy.

"The day after the election, people started talking to one another in a different way," says Lyonel, 17, who declined to give his last name. "Nobody knew who'd voted for the FN. If somebody you know spoke to you in a strange way, you started wondering whether he had. Very few people would publicly admit that they had voted for the extreme right."

But after the FN won in another municipality — all four towns are in the unemployment-racked southeastern districts of Bouches-du-Rhône and Var — people who had secretly agreed with the FN's anti-foreigner stance came out publicly. Some freely air their bigotry in the presence of Jews and Arabs, the main targets of their hatred. Ethnic slurs and insults are becoming more common in public, Aziza says.

The city council has been more cautious than its counterpart in Marignane, which stopped subsidies on public-school lunches that did not include pork, an obvious attack on Muslims and Jews. The libraries there have also cleared the works of left-wing writers and thinkers from the shelves, replacing them with books by extreme rightists.

However, a few weeks after Le Chevalier's victory in Toulon, a small bookshop hawking wares from the ultra-nationalist publishing house, Les Editions Nationales, opened next door to the opera in the heart of the city's cultural quarter. It bills itself as a "nonconformist" bookstore and sells propaganda tracts, FN publications and even stamps issued during World War II by the collaborationist Vichy government.

On the eve of the June 1995 election, with an FN victory in the offing, the community's leaders broke with standard practice by calling on all Jewish voters to go to the polls; failure to cast ballots, they argued, would only strengthen the Front.

Soon afterwards, the local Jewish leadership announced a boycott of the city council, a tactic adopted by Jewish communities, political movements, artists' groups and intellectuals in other FN-run localities. The community reasoned that rightists in City Hall would use any contacts with Jews to generate propaganda, "in order to show that they treat the Jews well, while we know exactly what their ideas are," explains Aziza.

All contacts were immediately stopped, except for urgent cases, such as when the community needed a licence to enlarge the cemetery.

City Hall is now applying financial and psychological pressure to force the community into ending its boycott.

It is targeting the community's most important material asset, the new Or Nahmani synagogue and cultural centre.

Fifteen years ago, Jewish leaders reached an agreement with the city under which it would evacuate its ancient synagogue in exchange for municipal aid to construct a new one.

The FN-dominated council is ignoring the verbal agreement and has demanded that the community repay the city 550,000 francs ($100,000 US) a year, which is well beyond the community's means. The council, in an official letter, even threatened to sell the synagogue if the community does not pay its debt.

The synagogue has become the council's favorite battlefield against local Jews. One of Le Chevalier's deputy mayors made a surprise safety inspection, for example, and threatened to close the synagogue for minor infractions. The police officer who accompanied him later told Jewish leaders that none of the city's churches would have passed such an inspection.

And for the first time in years, when worshippers arrived for services last Yom Kippur, they found there was no police protection for the synagogue.

The community — which, like those in many French localities, was revived by an influx of North African Jews — is now at a crossroad. Many are thinking of leaving, not only because of the FN, which is expected to strengthen its position in the future, but also because of the deep economic crisis gripping the country.

One of the main destinations is Israel. The trend is nationwide, with aliyah rising over the past five years from 800 annually to 2,200, more than from any other Western country.

However, leaders of the Jewish community's official umbrella organization say there is still time to stop the FN's advance.

The Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF) recently called upon all democratic forces to mobilize against Le Pen and his party. It is not too late for France, they argue.

COMMEMORATION IN BULGARIA

A rabbi and two Orthodox priests in Kyustendil, Bulgaria took part in a remembrance ceremony last week for Bulgarians who helped save Jews from deportation during World War II. *[RNS photo]*

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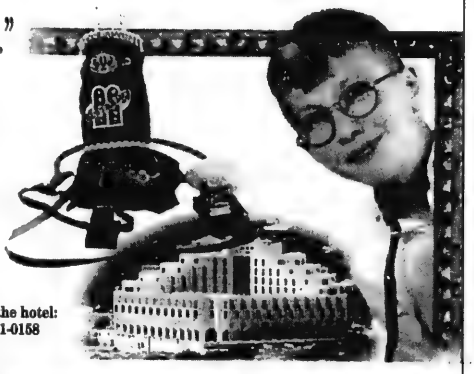

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Har Choma's message: Israel will tighten its grip on Jerusalem

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to build Har Choma, a neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem, puts the Palestinians on notice that Israel intends to proceed with plans to tighten its physical grip on the city.

Mideast Analysis

Over the protests of the Palestine Authority and the Arab world, Israel intends to erect 6,500 apartments in eastern Jerusalem, 2,500 of which are scheduled to be built in the first phase starting soon. Har Choma is expected to accommodate about 30,000 Jews.

According to the Israeli government, 3,000 units will be set aside for Palestinians in 10 Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel in 1967.

Har Choma, the largest Jewish residential housing project in Israel's capital for more than a decade, is part of a larger scheme to build 28,500 units in Jerusalem: 20,000 for Jews and 8,500 for Arabs, in rough proportion to Jerusalem's current population of 405,000 Jews and 160,000 Arabs (less than 10 percent of whom are citizens of Israel).

Israel portrays Har Choma in benevolent terms, saying it is designed to alleviate a severe housing shortage and to foster "peaceful coexistence" between Jews and Arabs.

But the overriding goal of the plan, as well as Netanyahu's announcement last week that he will close four Palestinian offices in Jerusalem linked with the Palestine Authority, is to consolidate Israel's sovereign hold over East Jerusalem, which is claimed by the Palestinians.

(There is also a fourth factor at work here, domestic politics. After Israel's partial withdrawal from Hebron, Netanyahu felt he had to placate religious and secular nationalists in his camp. Indeed, the National Religious Party and the Third Way threatened to leave the coalition if Netanyahu failed to build in Har Choma).

Since capturing East Jerusalem during the Six Day War, Israel has made no secret of its desire to amalgamate it with West Jerusalem, the seat of its government. The Labor party, now in opposition, laid the groundwork for Israel's expansion in East Jerusalem, and, like the Likud bloc, regards Jerusalem in its entirety as Israel's "eternal and undivided" capital.

In the past 30 years, Israel has expropriated one-third of the land in East Jerusalem, mainly from Palestinians, and filled the void with 38,500 Jewish housing units in strategically-located neighborhoods. By contrast, Israel expropriated the partially wooded 463-acre site in Har Choma primarily from Jews.

Har Choma, the development of which was supported by the late Yitzhak Rabin, is an integral link in a chain of Jewish neighborhoods which ring eastern Jerusalem: Gilo, French Hill, Ramot, Ramat Eshkol and so on. With these new neighborhoods, the demographic balance of power has tilted in Israel's favor. Har Choma is intended not only to maintain that delicate balance, but to seal off southern Jerusalem's Arab population centres from the West Bank.

In an effort to keep the demographic balance intact, a succession of Israeli governments from prime minister Levi Eshkol onward imposed onerous building restrictions on Arabs in East Jerusalem. By one estimate, Israel issued 170 building permits each year to Palestinians, compared to 3,000 for Jews.

Given these figures, and Rabin's broken promise over a decade ago to build housing for East Jerusalem Arabs in Beit Hanina as compensation for the construction of the Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood, the Palestinians are deeply skeptical of Netanyahu's pledge to provide them with 3,500 building permits.

The Palestinians claim that the unilateral nature of the Har Choma plan violates the spirit, if not the letter, of the Oslo accords because it prejudices final status negotiations set to begin on March 15.

Israel, however, claims that the Oslo agreements only prohibit changes in the political status of disputed jurisdictions like Jerusalem. It is certainly a contentious gray area, one that will cause more tension and, perhaps, further violence in the not-too-distant future.

The Week in Israel

March 3

• Menachem Magidor was recommended to succeed Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund as the next president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Magidor, 51, is a professor of mathematics and the former dean of the Faculty of Science.

March 4

• Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said he was worried that the police were being made scapegoats in the probe of corruption allegations surrounding the government's appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

March 5

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered the closure of four offices in eastern Jerusalem linked to the Palestinian Authority (PA). Palestinian officials were considering petitioning the High Court to set aside the order.

• Eitan Ben-Tsur, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, met with PA official Sufian Abu Zaide to discuss ways to bring Israelis and Palestinians closer together. During the meeting they discussed possible joint activities in the areas of education, media and sports.

March 6

• Police were investigating two stabbing attacks on Israelis: in Jerusalem, a 50-year-old man was stabbed near the King David Hotel; near Hebron, a taxi driver was lightly wounded after an argument with his fares.

March 7

• After long, tense discussions that lasted into the early morning hours, the cabinet voted 10-7 to relinquish nine percent of the West Bank, including two percent of Area C, the territory under exclusive Israeli control, to the PA.

(With files from JTA)

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Dentist turns disability into an asset

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A dentist's worst nightmare is the possibility of a sudden disability, says Dr. Ian Wexler, 37, who four years ago was faced with the onset of a debilitating auto-immune disease that prevents him from practising dentistry.

He had a successful practice in Richmond Hill, a wife, Risa Goldenberg-Wexler, two young children (now there is a third) and a new custom-built home.

He soon found that because of poor financial advice, he had not been adequately insured. This meant a loss of $250,000 in income protection he should have had.

This realization and the hardships that he and his family had to endure led him to a new career, helping professionals avoid the nightmare that he and others face when not adequately insured.

He says he realized that he had a problem one morning when he felt some numbness and tingling in his fingertips. Within two weeks, he began to feel it in his feet. For months, he was told that it was stress. It took a year before he received a correct diagnosis: he had an extremely rare neuromuscular disorder, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculonneuropathy (CIDP).

It is not terminal or contagious, but despite medication, he developed a tremor and within a year he had to stop working.

Neuromuscular specialist, Dr. Vera Bril of The Toronto Hospital, General Division, made the diagnosis and put him on regular periodic treatments with IVIG, an intravenous immunoglobulin and within three weeks, he was able to run. "I was born again and given a second lease on life."

Dr. Ian Wexler

He hoped to return to dentistry, but discovered within two months, that although his condition was greatly improved, many of his symptoms reoccurred. With treatments every 10 to 12 weeks, he is able to control the weakness.

"But now what was I going to do with my life? I had a great long-term disability policy that was adequate when I took it out when I went into practice, but not adequate for a family with three children. Over the years, no one ever checked back with me as my family needs changed."

He had "a huge line of credit at the bank which could have been insured," he said, "and I had to pay deferred taxes. I never considered that the bank and Revenue Canada would come after me, but they did."

Angry at himself and his insurance broker, he realized that many other professionals could find themselves in the same position.

"We have life insurance, insurance on our homes and cars, but I discovered that the odds of becoming disabled are far greater than the other risks."

Dentists, doctors, lawyers and other professionals were calling him for advice and he became "an amateur disability consultant," he said. He was asked to speak to professional groups and discovered that disability protection was a very specialized area.

His accountant introduced him to Gary Opolsky, a disability expert who founded the GSO Insurance Group in North York, which helps professionals with their income protection portfolios. He worked as a consultant and broker at GSO for six months, and then entered into partnership with Opolsky.

"With government cutbacks, increased regulations for physicians, a reduction in income and changes in the insurance world, it is important to do an extensive analysis and periodic reviews of family needs, professional needs, loans and other considerations on an individual basis."

Wexler said he now sees himself as a missionary. "I consider disability insurance one of the most important purchases in your life. My situation has given me an understanding and the ability to put myself in the other person's position."

Toronto doctor gets award

TORONTO — An award rarely given to non-American scientists was recently presented to Dr. Gideon Koren of the University of Toronto.

Koren received the Rawls-Palmer Progress in Medicine Lecture Award of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASCPT) for his achievements in developmental pharmacology and toxicology, recognizing his efforts to optimize patient care through clinical pharmacology and toxicology research.

Koren, a world leading expert, has contributed greatly to the development of maternal-fetal research. In 1985, in collaboration with the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, he created the Motherisk Program, an antenatal clinic for drug/chemical risk counselling.

Koren writes a bi-weekly Hebrew column for The CJN.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Quirky juxtapositions mark prints

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One of Naomi Harris' most compelling prints doesn't appear in her current five-day show at York University's Student Centre Gallery.

The work in question, a memorial to the 23-year-old artist's late grandmother, is spare in composition, but laden with texture and feeling. Somehow, though, Harris didn't think it was quite "appropriate" for the blue-toned etching to share display space with her more unorthodox gangster-themed work.

Unexpected juxtapositions, however, have become a hallmark of Harris' printmaking.

Her penchant for criminal themes is itself at odds with the kitchen table interview over herbal tea and cookies that preceded this article. She also likes plays on words — was that Serial Killers or Cereal Killers?

Now in her fourth year of Fine Arts at York University, Harris frowned over some of her earlier work. "It's nice, but it's not me."

Nice enough, incidentally, that she was approached at a previous show about buying her very first print, an etching of a beautifully rendered sweater she made in first year university.

As a child, Harris took summer lessons at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Her innate talent is probably the legacy of her maternal great-grandmother, Louella Wilson, who had artistic training but did not paint professionally.

"I like to think of myself as a funny person with an offbeat sense of humor," said Harris. "I want people to chuckle when they see my prints."

Her fondness for popular culture and quirky juxtapositions is evident in one of her favorite pieces that appears in the show.

Inspired by the Saint Valentine's Day Massacre, each print in the series of grisly vintage shots hangs from a fresh pink ribbon. Harris likes the contrast between one of

[Cont'd. on page 41]

Printmaker Naomi Harris honored her late grandmother in her large-scale work, left. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Travel, Arts & Business

'Hot Docs' have Jewish themes

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Among the entries at next week's fourth annual Canadian International Documentary Film Festival & Awards ("Hot Docs") at the Metropolitan Hotel are several films of Jewish interest.

Mischa, a riveting National Film Board of Canada documentary, pays homage to the virtuoso violinist Mischa Weisbord, who awed critics and who was universally known as "the new Paganini." Yet, when he died in 1991 in a fly-infested Brooklyn rooming house, he had sunk into abject obscurity.

The trajectory of his life is traced meticulously and with loving care by his nephew, David Vaisbord, who grew up with stories about Weisbord's amazing career.

A "marvellously original" musician, in the words of Yehudi Menuhin, Weisbord was emotionally immature, and never really recovered from the death of his beloved father — his manager — in 1938. Sadly, Weisbord drifted from country to country, failing to realize his full potential. Eventually, he became a recluse. Weisbord spent his last 30 years in New York City, a haggard eccentric who never quite adjusted to the 20th century. In *Mischa*, his story is beautifully told

Kosky in Paradise explores the career of Barry Kosky, the youthful founder of Gilgul, a small Jewish theatre in Sydney that has staged classics like *The Golem* and *The Dybbuk*.

The bespectacled Kosky, who also directs lavish operatic productions such as *Nabucco*, is portrayed as pushy, opinionated, acerbic, creative and funny. No wonder he is considered the enfant terrible of Australian theatre.

Like the person himself, *Kosky in Paradise* sets off sparks.

Me and My Matchmaker is ostensibly about a Jewish shadchan from Chicago named Irene Nathan who has arranged 200 marriages. But in fact, Mark Wexler's quirky and likable movie transcends the borders of its inquiry.

Nathan, an utterly charming and feisty widow in her early or mid-60s, charges $400 for her services. Working out of her house, she is devoted to her traditional calling. As the film unfolds, we meet her mixed bag of clients, and are engaged by their observations and their preferences.

The subtext of *Me and My Matchmaker* is the evolving platonic relationship between Nathan and Wexler and her hidden feelings for him. Being conscientious, Nathan wants to marry off Wexler, 39, to a nice Jewish girl of his age range. "If you're lonely, you're ready [for marriage]," she advises him. But being romantically drawn to him, she does her level best to wean him off the three comely ladies she has introduced him to. This confusing and amusing conflict animates *Me and My Matchmaker*.

Children of Jerusalem: Ibrahim is one in a series of 30-minute documentaries that focus on the daily lives of Muslim and Jewish children in Israel and the territories.

The subject, Ibrahim Saadi, is 11 years old and is fluent in Arabic, Hebrew and English. The precocious Ibrahim, who attends an Anglican school and lives in East Jerusalem with his tight-knit family, describes himself as a "Palestinian Arab Israeli."

This modest but revealing documentary by the National Film Board of Canada is essentially a disarming profile of Ibrahim. He is seen playing soccer with a Spanish friend, doing homework, visiting his grandfather, hunting birds with his relatives, attending class, riding a bus through diverse neighborhoods in Jerusalem, walking in the Arab quarter and spending time with his two older sisters and parents.

Also on tap at the festival are two films I was unable to view in advance: *Anaphase* is a cinematic adaptation of a Batsheva Dance Company number, while *Bronwen and Yaffa* is an exploration of racism.

Alberstein concert a triumph

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Chava Alberstein, Israel's first lady of song, has some advice for young lovers: "Don't talk to each other non-stop. Save some of it for older, colder days."

This message from a woman of a certain age herself struck a receptive chord with an audience of 700 at a gala concert at Beth Tikvah Synagogue celebrating anniversaries of the synagogue and the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University.

It was a triumph for Alberstein, whose eclectic repertoire touched the well-springs of our love for Israel and had the audience identify with that small country's history and its need for peace.

In her inimitable way, she flecked her performance with the humor of songs sung by Jews at summer camps and one of her own that promised a history of the Jews in five minutes.

"This is a genuine Israeli song from South America," she joked at one point.

The magnetic, petite singer responded to the audience's deep yearnings and her lush voice exemplified the beauty, depth and emotional range of the Hebrew language, a fact noted in advance by Paul Jacobs, Ben-Gurion Toronto chapter president.

Alberstein is a singer-actor with an exquisite sense of timing and ad-lib humor. "There is no backstage here," she said, "so I have to fake it that I went offstage and returned for an encore."

She sang songs from the yellowed pages of her parents' old song books.

One number, written in Russia at the end of the last century, and translated by her, has become, in her words, "a lullaby for the new chalutzim."

One was a tribute to the late Yitzhak Rabin, which she always dedicated to him when he was alive and continues to do. "Unfortunately the truth of the song did not conform to the reality and like others, he gave up his life for peace."

Funds from the concert will be split evenly between the two organizations.

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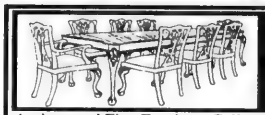
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Music

• The Jeanette Goldhar Memorial concert, featuring harpist **Erica Goodman**, offers an exciting mix of solo harp, and harp with each of viola, flute and french horn. The program includes works by Toronto composers **Milton Barnes**, **Srul Irving Glick** and **Lothar Klein**, written especially for the performers. Adults $20. Jewish Music Toronto, Leah Posluns Theatre, March 31, 8 p.m. 416-636-1880, ext. 231.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• Yiddish Theatre Workshop, with instructor **Alon Nashman**, allows actors to develop stage skills by working on Yiddish material. Offered by Ashkenaz Yiddish Festival. Six weekly sessions starting March 31 to May 5, 7 to 10 p.m. Bloor JCC. Members $150, non- members $180. Registration, 416-924-6211.

• Dos Yiddish Lied: A Recital of Yiddish Folk and Art Songs is an "afternoon of nostalgic Yiddish songs" in which Cantor **Louis Danto** brings to life songs of tears and laughter, some from the St. Petersburg School of Yiddish. A spring Passover celebration. Adults $15. Holy Blossom Temple, April 6, 3 p.m. 416-789-3291, ext. 224.

• Centre Spotlight: JASS and Winchevsky present Centre Spotlight, a showcase for Yiddish & Jewish Performance. This month it's a celebration of Jewish Women's Talent in honor of International Women's Day, March 15 at 8:30 p.m., the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. North York, Ont.

Co-hosted by **Gloria Valentine** and **Susan Jackson**, the show features many stars including musician **Lenka Licthenberg**, soprano **Honey Novick**, actress/writer **Dorothy Lichtblau** and more. As usual, this all takes place in a coffee house atmosphere. For more information, call 416-638-2222.

Museum Judaica

• Behind-the-scenes visits to Judaica museums, a series offered by Shaarei Shomayim's historical and exhibitions committee, continues March 16, 2 p.m. at Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). **Corey Keeble**, curator of western art & culture, shows off the ROM's European Judaica and other museum highlights.

Registration limited. Single program, $8. Carol, 416-789-3213.

In The Spotlight

Born in Moncton, N.B., 51 years ago, **Moshe Yess** lived in Toronto and Montreal as a child before moving with his parents to Hollywood, Calif., in 1962. For 16 years he worked as a folksinger, studio musician and nightclub performer. Somewhere along the line he met **Naftali Estulin**, a Lubavitch rabbi who "introduced me to a Judaism that I never knew as a child."

After living in Jerusalem for six years and playing in a band called the Megama Duo, Yess returned to Canada and eventually settled in Montreal. He lives with his wife and six children within walking distance of the Lubavitch yeshivah in Snowdon.

He still plays guitar and sings as a profession. He has recorded 16 albums of original folk songs, most in English. *My Zaidy*, his most famous song, "was used quite effectively by Orthodox rabbis around the world to promote a return to traditional Orthodox observance," he says.

Having made five musical tours playing to Orthodox Jewish audiences around the world, Yess still gets invited occasionally to perform. He gave a concert recently at the Bernard Betel Centre in Toronto as a guest of Tzivos Hashem, an arm of the Lubavitch movement. He has several upcoming concert dates in the New York area.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Three faiths explored

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Holy Land, Holy People is one of those relatively rare documentaries which fuse history, theology, geography and contemporary politics into a meaningful melange.

The six-part Vision TV film unfolds in weekly half-hour episodes starting on March 18 at 7:30 p.m. It explores the three "Abrahamic faith communities" (Judaism, Christianity and Islam), the misunderstandings and misconceptions which divide them and the central ideas they share.

The Children of Abraham, which kicks off the film, reminds us that these monotheistic religions trace their origins to Abraham.

All three are animated by a belief in love and social justice, a theme elaborated upon by an interfaith panel consisting of Rabbi Dow Marmur, Bishop Terrence Prendergast, Lila Fahlman and Imam Liatak Takim. The panelists exude reason, empathy and tolerance, qualities which haven't always manifested themselves among Jews, Christians and Muslims.

The Holy City, on March 25, explains the pivotal place of Jerusalem in Judaism, Christianity and Islam. A microcosm of the global village, the city exists simultaneously in the past, the present and the future, a creator and a destroyer of dreams.

The Desert, on April 1, focuses on the "theology of geography."

Moses and the Jewish people formed an eternal covenant in Sinai. John the Baptist established a ministry in the Judean wilderness. Mohammed retreated to a mountain cave in the Saudi emptiness, setting in motion the revelations of the Koran.

The Word, on April 8, examines the importance of sacred texts: the primacy of the Torah, the centrality of the Gospels and the immutability of the Koran.

Covenant and Reality, on April 15, juxtaposes the ideals with the practices of each religion. As we learn, racism, discrimination and sexism are perennial problems.

Last but not least, *The Living Spirit* highlights inter-faith dialogue. Christianity, though perhaps not Islam, has learned to accept the return of Jews to their homeland in Israel. Christianity, too, no longer blames Jews for the death of Jesus.

These concessions have made dialogue possible, but given the scourge of anti-Semitism, inter-faith dialogue is still underdeveloped in Israel.

With the end of the millennium drawing near, Jews, Christians and Muslims are exhorted to reflect so as to improve their often antagonistic relationship. Interestingly enough, Toronto is held up as a model of multiculturalism and coexistence.

Directed by Steven Deme and written by Dawn Deme, *Holy Land, Holy People* will doubtless be appreciated by both young people and adults. In an era of mindlessness and gratuitous violence on television, it is a sober example of television at its best.

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

See America and Canada: Trafalgar Tours of Canada is offering 13 new escorted land tours throughout North America, ranging from eight to 15 days.

The Best of Canada's West, the Californian, the Scenic Parks Explorer are some of the tours, which include first-class accommodation, motorcoach transportation, full American-style breakfasts, most dinners, extensive sightseeing and all hotel taxes and tips. For brochure, contact your travel agent.

* * *

Passover in Las Vegas: The five-star luxury Sheraton Desert Inn & Spa, situated on grounds of lush greenery and lakes, is close to many appealing family attractions. The Desert Inn's new European Health Spa complements other top-notch facilities such as a PGA championship golf course, tennis and basketball courts and an outdoor fitness trail.

All Passover activities take place in the resort's clubhouse. Guests may get to the synagogue, dining room and day camp from their rooms without passing through the lobby or the casino. 213-933-4044. Fax 213-933-8505. E-mail to [passover@earthlink.net].

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Travel & Leisure Show: The 11th annual show features international exhibitors on all aspects of the travel industry, from coaches to cruises, luxury hotels to luggage. A series of travel-related seminars and slide presentations runs throughout. A new addition this year is the Adventure Travel & EcoTourism Pavilion. International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd., Mississauga. April 25 to 27. Adults $9, students & seniors $6. Call 416-535-4024.

* * *

Passover In Palm Beach, Fla.: Every room has a balcony and ocean view at the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach, rated among the top five oceanfront resorts last year. The premises offer tennis, spa, massages, beauty salon, fitness centre, children's playground and many other facilities. The Passover package includes two seders, three gourmet meals daily plus tearoom, classes in such subjects as Israel dance and aerobics, and organized activities for children and teens. Synagogue on premises.

Convenient to many regional attractions, the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach is 15 minutes from Palm Beach Airport and 45 minutes from Fort Lauderdale Airport. Resort Classics, 213-933- 4044. Fax 213-933-8505. E-mail to: [passover @earthlink.net].

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Netherlands & The Net: Hoping to reach more travellers, the Netherlands Board of Tourism (NBT) has established a new toll-free information number, 1-888-GO-HOLLAND. (French-speaking callers, dial 1-888-PAYS-BAS.) NBT's Web site is located at [http://www.NBT.NL/Holland]. NBT's e- mail address is: [GO2Holland@aol.com].

The NBT's new, free full-color Holland brochure for 1997 is hot off the presses.

* * *

Hotel Happenings: The Westin Resort Miami Beach is undergoing a multi-million dollar "Retro Renaisance" rejuvenation to recapture the original grandeur of the landmark formerly known as Doral Beach. A special "Stay Three, Get One Free" package starting from $195 per night is in effect through March 31. The resort is centrally located only minutes from the South Beach Art Deco district, ritzy shopping, exciting nightlife and Miami Intl. Airport. 305-532-3600 or 800- WESTIN-1.

Quirky juxtapositions

[Cont'd. from page 38]

the prints and its heart-shaped frame formed of little paper flowers. Dangling from the picture is a "toe tag" bearing a pointed message.

As a double major in Fine Arts and Psychology, Harris first merged the two disciplines when the idea of "Freudian slips" popped into her head during a psychology class. The result was a triptych of vintage lingerie silk-screened with the image of Sigmund Freud.

Freudian Slips appears in Circumstantial Evidence, Harris' show running from March 10 to 14. Her first solo show, Circumstantial Evidence has at least two gangster-related works. Harris attributes her interest in the theme to her father, Jerry, who has "a real intense interest in the '30s and '40s."

While it's incidental to Harris' work that both Freud and some of the gangsters are Jewish, her work "is starting to take a turn toward more Jewish themes."

A graduate of Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Harris attended the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto for one year before switching to Forest Hill Collegiate Institute.

The etching she dedicated to her late grandmother, Sarah Harris, features two elements: a print of Sarah Harris' housedress and the words to *Oifn Pripechik*, the Yiddish song Naomi remembers Sarah singing to her when she was a child.

Recently Naomi went to Sunnybrook Food Market to photograph meat for a printmaking project. An invitation to look behind the counter led to a return visit during which she spent several hours photographing the butchers kashering and preparing meat.

She started studying photography only last year and likes to photograph people going about their everyday activities. Her ideal is to "live with" her subjects and get to know them. "I think it's important to capture what's inside."

Look for more Travel, Arts & Business on page 45.

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Bathurst Upholstery. Reupholstering sofas, chairs. Lowest prices. 781-1995, 886-3148

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Moshade. Blinds, Verticals, Venetians, Drapery tracks. Call 905-886-2352.

Shop at home. Verticals, venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, cushion rubber change, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, **Free est.** Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

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METAL SCULPTURE WEEKEND WORKSHOPS. Plan to attend an intensive 2-day weekend workshop. Learn direct metal artwork in copper & bronze. Techniques for forging, riveting, welding, patination & more will be demonstrated. Artists, Craftspeople, Architects, Hobbyists & Newcomers - All Are Welcome. For Info. & registration, Call (416) 532-1173 or contact Janis Udrovskis - Coppersmith & Co. Ltd., 271-A Christie St., Toronto.

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*$269,000. - 5 units, over 11% return
*$265,000. - 5 units, over 11% return

Bathurst-Glencairn - 4 bdrm + fin. bsmt-renovated - shows like a model 50'x135' lot. $549,000
Glencairn W. sub., condo 1, 2, 3 bdrm-Shabat elev-immac-from $110,000, pool, sauna, parking.
Call DENISE ABRAHAM
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AVENUE ROAD / WILSON
New construction, custom-built 3 bdrm. backsplit on 45' x 130' lot, 4 baths, self-cont. bsmt. apt., move-in condition.
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Prestigious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, 66' frontage.
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BATHURST SOUTH OF STEELES — JUST LISTED!
Spacious 4 bedroom side-split with family room, double garage, hardwood floors, near schools, shuls, TTC. Only $279,900. Call **Liz Gordon**, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200.

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New price – Stormont Ave., excellent location, 5 bdrm., central air cond., hardwood, fam. size new kit., fin. bsmt. w/sep. entr.
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Spectacular, richly upgraded. 3/4 bdrms. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

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160'x127', 3 bdrm. & fam. rm. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

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2 storey, 3 bed., 3 bath SOLD Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

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Approx. 5000 s.f., 5 br-loaded. Hedda Zaionz** 226-1987

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Over 2800 s.f. H & R built $upgrades$. B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

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NORTH

1ST AD! GRANITE CLUB AREA
$1,488,000. 5 years new, 5 bdrms., 5 ensuites, 3-car gar., 9' ceilings thruout, w/out bsmt. 79'x203' lot. **Cheryl Graff***.

EXCLUSIVE LISTING — OLD YONGE
$1,395,000. Fab. renovated home on close to 1/2 acre w/guest house & basketball court. **Cheryl Graff***.

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
German Mills Area! $408,800. Rare updated 5+1 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. flr. fam. & lau. Nanny suite. Secluded 52'x124'.

WESTMOUNT/WILSHIRE $398,900.
Bramalea built 4 b SOLD ibrary & family room, pool size lot, white/grey, 3000 sq. ft. **Maxine Povering****.

YONGE/CUMMER $289,800.
3 bedroom backsplit on quiet street, 2 new baths, whirlpool, fireplace, C/A ++. **Maxine Povering****.

DOLL'S HOUSE $289,000.
Greenlane/Huntington – Child safe street, dble. gar., modern decor, windows & roof '96. A 10+. **Samantha Graff***.

FABULOUS BUNGALOW!
Renovated 3 bdrm. bung., 2 baths, new kitchen, rec. room, nanny's quarters, fenced yard. **Alisa Abrahams***.

CENTRAL

UPPER FOREST HILL — LARGE!
6 bdrms., 5 baths, updated mechanicals, central air. It's a wonderful opportunity. **Michele Rosen***.

REDUCED! BATH./MANOR SPACIOUS SIDESPLIT
Prestigious crt.! 4 bdrms., on 1 level, white kit., prof. fin. lower level. New roof. Well maint. **Carole Lazer***.

1ST ADS! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Bombay Ave. $344,800. Fab. 3+1 bdrm., fam. rm., 60'x123'. 260 Heath. $274,800. Forest Hill TH. 2+1 bdrms., 3 baths.

SOLD SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
202 Lauder Ave. $219,900! Updated 4+1 bdrm. Listed & Sold 98% of price. Buying or Selling? Call Sandon.

CUSTOM HOME TO BE BUILT!
Avenue Rd./Lawrence 3450 sq. ft., 4 bdrms., 5 baths on 41'x130' lot, mn. flr. lib., fam., fin. bsmt. **Robert Greenberg***.

CUSTOM CLASSICS — LYTTON BLVD.
$659,000. each approx. 2900 sq. ft. & fin. bsmt., 5 baths, 4+1 bdrms., quality finishes. **Robert Greenberg***.

130 NEPTUNE DR. ONLY $119,000.
2 bdrm. condo, SOLD , w/o to balcony, loads of closet space. Shows w Act FAST it won't last! **A. Sussman***.

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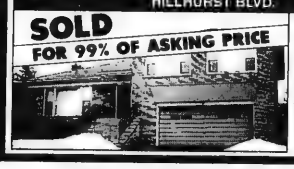
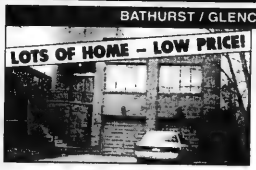


Prestigious address SOLD mount , spacious side-split on 60 x 127 ft. lot, double garage, fam. room, eat-in kitchen. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Custom built exec. home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge fam. room with fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded with upgrades, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – REDUCED
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, prestigious location, newly renovated & decorated, new roof, new windows, new ceramic floors, only $369,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — FABULOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. rm., library, dream kit., shows to perfection! Only $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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BATHURST MANOR — LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bedroom, family room, fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hardwood floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THORNHILL BEAUTY

Bright & spacious, steps to synagogue, shows beautifully. Dream family room, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $369,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD
Spacious executive home, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, huge family room, library, attention to detail throughout, $649,000. All the bells and whistles. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE
51 foot frontage, rare opportunity! Mostly land value, presently rented. Only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN RENTAL
Available March 16, spacious 3 bdrm. bung., fin. bsmt., fabulous location, asking $1850. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

DANBY – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bedrooms, sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Will be vacant! Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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WILSON HEIGHTS / SHEPPARD – CUSTOM EXEC. HOME
2 years new, 4 + 1 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, finished bsmt., only $379,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK - REDUCED

Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

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BAYVIEW/HIGHWAY 7
Spac. 2 bdrm. condo, 2 bths, balc., lndry ens. Don't miss!

BATHURST/FINCH
Split lvl, 5 bdrm. + den, 4 bths, fin. bsmt., steps to all.

SHEPPARD/BATHURST
5 rms. + bsmt., lge. lot, ideal for professionals, great buy. Open to offers.

STEELES/BATHURST
4 bdrm bung., good size, liv. & din., updated kit., fin. w/out bsmt., dble. drive, gar.

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Bath./Lawr., tasteful decor, 1 1/2 storeys, renov., 3 bdrms., new kit., 2 new baths,furn./air, hardwood, bay window, alarm. $239,900. 416-787-0714.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Steeles/Bath., 5 bdrms.,2 1/2 baths,fin. bsmnt. 416-739-0636.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., bath, sep. entr., lge. kit., close to TTC, n/smkr. 638-4070

122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE

Prime time floating wk., sleeps 8, **Vistana Resort, Orlando,** RCI incl. Jackie, 416-498-0814

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

N. Miami Beach, oversized 2 bdrm.,2 bath, kosher, new white kit., 27 ft. screened porch off 34 ft. liv./din. rm., overlooks heated pool, secur., flr. plan., avail. April 1-(incl. Pesach). 630-2473

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The SKYMARK *Specialist*

SKYMARK 2 – NEWLY LISTED. Well-appointed and upgraded prime S.E. corner - sep. 2 BR. + family + sunrm., 2 ens. + powder. Approx. 1,711 s/f. For our updated inventory, please call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I., **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST**, 441-2003; 24 hrs. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

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GIDEON WAICHENBERG

- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, balcony, lokr, approx. 1400 s.f. Reduced only $229,900.
- Primrose - Rent 2 br, Large Corner Balcony $1375/mo.
- Skyrise - Luxury 2 br, Balcony Sunrm $218,000

MORE LISTINGS WANTED
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bath., ex. lge. 2 bdrm. + fam. rm., 2 baths, sol., secur., immed., all inclus., $1,450. 787-6886 or 785-8175.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

3000 Bath./Lawrence - lux. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, brkfst. rm., sol., ensuite lndry., brdlm., gym, sauna, whirlpool, park, 24 hr. sec., utils. & pkg. incl., $1,777./mo. Option to purchase avail. Please lve. msg. at 739-0105.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Shepp., 1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. April 1st. 635-5031.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

1 bdrm., (2 1/2 rms.), apt. in lovely residential area in **Jerusalem.** Reply to CJN Box 6898 or call Jeffrey at 011-972-2-624-5977 in Jerusalem.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED

Private. Want to buy or rent lge. apt. or house in **Jerusalem or vicintiy.** Phone 1-604-872-5970 or fax: 1-604-263-1274.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Esthetic bus. Well established. 10 yrs. Owner moving out of town.
G. BARON RLTR. 665-3044

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

SECOND HAND SHOP, designers clothing, Est. 1984. Prime location, Highly profitable, Turnkey. Retiring. Fax: 905-475-6075.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

PRINCIPAL. Denver Academy of Torah **(DAT),** a modern Orthodox Zionist Day School (K-8) is seeking an unusual person to guide us into the 21st Century. Our goal is to become one of the country's finest day schools - to offer our children superb general, Judaic and religious education. **The Prinicpal we seek preferably has:**

. Experience as a teacher, administrator and Principal.

. Fluency in modern Hebrew.

. One or more University degrees.

. The ability to communicate effectively with parents, teachers and the general community.

Please fax your C.V. We'll reply within 10 days. **DAT Search Committee. Fax: 303-388-9618**

TEACHING OPPORTUNITY IN COLORADO. Denver Academy of Torah **(DAT),** a modern Orthodox Zionist Day School (K-8), Ivrit B'ivrit, is seeking dedicated, passionate teachers to help our children learn and love Chumash, Navi, Mishnah, Mitzvot & Yahadut. We offer you a decent standard of living, a friendly Jewish community and continuing education. *Plus,* a casual, relaxed, lifestyle, and a great place to raise a family. **Fax résumé(s) to DAT at 303-370-6859.**

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WANTED BOYS HEAD COUNSELOR
For modern Orthodox Summer Camp in Poconos, PA. Previous summer camp experience an asset. Must be team player. Camp also seeks **WOODWORK SPECIALIST.**
Call
(201) 575-4268 Ext. 11

TEACHER WANTED
For Sunday School Talmud Torah.
Fluent in English, observant background, classroom experience a must.
Mr. Rubinoff
(416) 785-1161

Kosher Pizzeria Mgr.- Shommer Shabbos individual w/initiative, marketing & organization. Must be willing to re-locate. Base salary + profit sharing.Fax résumé to:Jeff, 1-800-337-1353

Part-time Co-ordinator. The West T.O. Jewish Comm. Assoc. is seeking a self-motivated indiv. to co-ordinate the functions of the Hebrew Heritage Educ. Program. Interested applicants call 236-2054, Sharon.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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3-24 HRS/7 DAYS A WEEK • SERVICE PROVIDED WITHIN 4 HRS.
NO LANGUAGE BARRIERS
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AFFORDABLE RATES
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• No Fee to Employer
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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Cleaning lady with exper. looking for a job. Call 285-8955.

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Exper. cleaning lady avail., for homes or apts. 763-1991.

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, condos/homes, refs. 289-4392.

Exper., reliable, caring lady seeks job as Caregiver for children or elderly,exc. refs.733-7527, Olga.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

Flexible cleaner avail. with a car, for your area. 782-7592.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Looking for nannies from overseas for employment. Free of charge to employer 661-8385

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning lady avail. with exper. & refs. Call 201-0051.

A nurse, companion, hskpr. with exc. refs. from Jewish family seeks job. Call 658-9444.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Writer, older man, widower, requires a housekeeper cum companion, live-in, lovely furn. room, all found, with some money, simple meals, almost vegetarian, light chores, middle-aged woman or older, Cdn. or European, who speaks English, no dependents, intellectual, refs. req'd., free time for all pursuits. CJN Box 6897.

258 HEALTHCARE

Cert. HCA, 12 yrs. exper., enjoys working with seniors, Mon.-Fri., refs. Call 416-246-1713.

258 HEALTHCARE

Exper. nurse seeks job taking care of elderly in their home or facility. Call 447-3438.

HCA for elderly. Call Yvette 416-289-6590, refs. avail.

RESPITE CARE? Day, Weekend, Week? Exper., mature ladies, all ages, refs. 250-5413.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appt's. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1270** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.** 483-4151

Ruth guides you to choose your date. Photos. 800 personally interviewed clients. 905-731-5204

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - late 30's. 633-1728.

GWF, v. attr., soft-spoken, feminine,slim, 39, prof., sks. warm, intell. woman who enjoys laughter,is articulate,expressive & passionate. CJN Box 6883.

Attr., blonde senior lady, would like to meet positive thinking man who loves dancing. CJN Box 6899.

Widower, senior, retired prof., fit, caring, many interests, seeks bright, slim, attr. woman, 65+. CJN Box 6896.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to: Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

330 OBITUARIES

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

DJF, attr., mid 30's, no kids, would like to meet an attr., prof. SJM, 35-40, who has a great sense of humour, likes the outdoors, sports & travel. Photo if possible. CJN Box 6877.

CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted are valid for 30 days only (from issue date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Elegant 7 pce. dining suite, glass top & brass, 1 pr. brown silk Bergere chairs,1 pr. antique chinese wooden horseshoe-back chairs, antique egg pot, 2 acrylic cubes, a designer stereo cabinet, 5 ft. sq. black granite coffee table, antique crystal chandelier. 925-1667.

Hebrew ref. literature & history books, **new.** The Hebrew encyclopedia,The Old Testament, Tanach, Gorden, all writings of Shalom Alachem, The II World War, by W. Churchill, "The New Dictionary" by Evan Shosan, & other Hebrew books. Call Doron, at 905-507-4543, evgs.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Looking for old pictures or newspaper articles of the **Kensington Market.** 538-9163.

Quality Ladies Spring & Summer Wear required for consignment store. Garb's 'n Things, 489-8876.

330 OBITUARIES

MURAKHOVSKAYA, Tsilya - on February 25, 1997.
OSZLAK, Samuel Chaim - on February 25, 1997.
AIZIN, Iukel - on February 26, 1997, late of 750 Wilson Heights Blvd.
BURKES, David - on February 26, 1997.
HERMALIN, Louis Solly - on February 26, 1997, late of 333 Clark Ave. W.
HOFFMAN, Sylvia Celia - on February 26, 1997, late of 36 Dove Hawkway.
ICKOWITZ, Bessie - on February 26, 1997.
YELIN, Morris - on February 26, 1997, late of 668 Roselawn Ave.
CZUTRIN, Mike - on February 27, 1997, late of 31 Regatta Cres.
KREICHMAN, Shalom - on February 27, 1997 , late of 3560 Bathurst St..
SPIEGEL, Frank - on February 27, 1997, late of 18 Lower Village Gate.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

330 OBITUARIES

SWARTZ, Sheldon - on February 20, 1997, late of 135 Sherbourne St., #313B.
ALTER, Florence - on February 21, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GOFINE, Frances - on February 22, 1997, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #524.
SILVER, Jack - on February 22, 1997, late of 1650 Sheppard Ave. E., #308.
WISENBERG, Eva - on February 23, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ROTMAN, Sara - on February 24, 1997, late of 22 De Quincy Blvd.
MIRANSKY, Saba - on February 25, 1997, late of 1 Meadowbrook Rd., #3.
BURNS, Irene - on February 26, 1997, late of 5701 Phillips Ave.
CAMPBELL, Gertrude - on February 26, 1997, late of 3057 Bathurst St.
STEEN, Helen - on February 27, 1997, late of 2330 Bridletowne Circle, #907.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NORMAN GRAYSON ל"ז
will take place
Sunday, March 16th, 12:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St. N. of Major Mackenzie
Judean Benevolent Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

338 SHIVA CATERING

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call 391-1836
for information on classified ad rates

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
123 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
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163 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
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168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
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Travel, Arts & Business

Morgentaler a difficult subject for Toronto journalist to profile

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Catherine Dunphy was in the early stages of researching her newly published biography *Morgentaler: A Difficult Hero* (Random House, $32), Canada's well-known abortion crusader asked her over lunch if she would like to "witness a procedure."

A short time later, Dunphy was chatting at Morgentaler's Toronto clinic with a stripper named Dominique, 11 weeks pregnant.

Thirty years ago, bored with his former life in suburban Montreal, Morgentaler began to perform this simple medical procedure, simultaneously adopting the pro-choice cause of a woman's right to abortion on demand as his own personal creed.

It was anything but a simple road. He's received countless death threats and attacks, such as when a stranger came at him with a pair of gardening shears. His cross-Canada clinics have been raided, set afire, blown up. In 1975 he was imprisoned for 10 months for performing an illegal abortion. He has also been pilloried by anonymous enemies for being Jewish.

Yet right from the start, the iconoclastic doctor decided not to play the role of the old-fashioned backstreet abortionist, working quietly in the vague shadows between morality and legality. Says Dunphy: "Henry said, 'There's no way I'm going to be quiet about this. And when I get caught, I'm not going to plead guilty. I'm going to take it right to the top.'"

Ultimately, that's just what he did. His greatest moment of victory occurred in January 1988, when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the abortion law, leaving in its place a legalistic vacuum that Morgentaler counts as his greatest achievement.

Born 74 years ago in Lodz, Morgentaler was incarcerated nearly five years in the Lodz ghetto, then briefly in Auschwitz, then Dachau. He lost his father, mother and only sister in the Holocaust. A secular humanist, his untiring battle for women's reproductive rights is treated as a legacy of his wartime persecution.

Dunphy adequately demonstrates that Morgentaler can be a difficult, egocentric person whose political agendas often ran counter to those of his feminist supporters, some of whom grew weary of perpetually raising money for his legal defence. He has had troubled relations with family members who often went long periods without talking to him.

Dunphy, a feature writer for the *Toronto Star*, found him a difficult subject on a journalistic level as well. "For a man who loves the spotlight, he's very private, and it must be scary for him to have so much of himself revealed. He's accustomed to the attention that a feature newspaper article would give him. I've tried to show the human side of him and I'm not sure he's comfortable with that."

Does this complex, compulsive crusader genuinely qualify as a hero? Certainly many women he has helped out of their troubles, and many within the pro-choice movement, would quickly say yes. This book is for them. Others might find this a competent albeit tedious book. A media sensation, Morgentaler certainly deserves his 15 minutes of fame, but a more balanced approach would have focused more on the issues and less on the man.

Business centre opens in Gaza

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A ground-breaking ceremony for the Gaza Strip's first business centre took place recently north of Gaza City.

The business centre, which will include a luxury Marriott hotel and 150,000 square feet of office space, will be dedicated to U.S. secretary of commerce Ron Brown, who was killed in a plane crash last year.

Brown, who believed that peace and economic growth go hand in hand, had said that "This facility will signify that Gaza is open for business."

The $100-million project is expected to employ 2,000 workers during the construction phase and will create up to 4,000 jobs once it is completed.

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AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
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Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
Find Out How This Will Affect You!
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Roger Neilson to head hockey camp in Israel

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nineteen ninety-seven could turn out to be a banner year for hockey in the Holy Land. Not only will Israel host the first-ever hockey competition at the Maccabiah Games, but Metulla will also be the scene of a professionally-run hockey camp later in the summer.

St. Louis Blues' associate coach Roger Neilson, Captain Video himself, will lead a team of six shinny experts to the Canada Centre rink in Metulla to conduct a hockey camp along the lines of the one he runs every summer in Lindsay, Ont., said United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada spokesperson Eli Rubenstein.

Joining Neilson will be two as yet unnamed NHL players as well as staff from Roger Neilson's Hockey Camp. The two-week program is set to run from Aug. 10 to 14 and then again from Aug. 17 to 21. Due to commitments to his Lindsay camp, Neilson and his associates will only be available for the second half of the program.

The project is sponsored by the UIA and the Canada Israel Experience Centre (CIEC) in cooperation with Canada Centre, a recreational complex in Metulla built largely with funds raised in Canada.

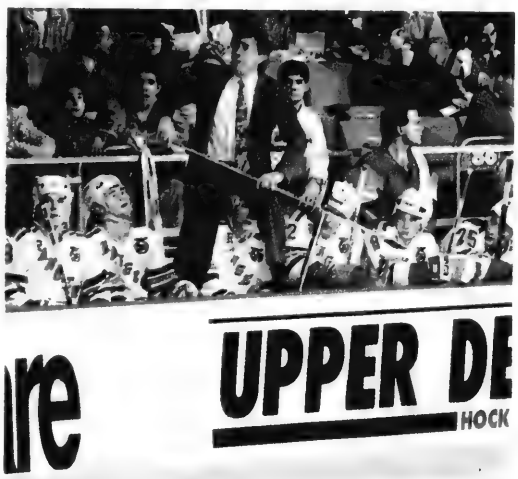
Making the Canadian connection complete is a plan to bring 15 to 20 youngsters from Canada to the camp as part of a unique summer experience. They'll be joined by 30 to 40 pucksters from Israel who'll share the on-ice learning experience while developing social ties with Jewish teens from Canada.

"It'll be fantastic," exults Rubenstein. "It's Israel, it's hockey, it's Judaism...everything a Canadian Jew would dream about."

The program will help promote camaraderie involving young Israelis and Canadians, says Adam Minsky, national education director of CIEC. "The opportunity is to form close ties with Israeli kids through a common sport."

Although hockey may be the selling point for this particular program, there's more to it than merely learning about faceoffs and forechecking. Canadian visitors, expected to range in age from 14 to 18, will be taken on tours of Israel's north, enjoy a Shabbaton, and experience "adventure activities" like mountain bike excursions and hiking, Minsky said.

Also on the agenda will be activities related to environmental conservation and Jewish identity, said Amnon Shinar, director of UIA Canada's Israel office.



Roger Neilson is front and centre on the Rangers' bench during a game at Madison Square Garden.

The $60,000 (US) program is subsidized by the UIA, but each Canadian participant is being asked to pay for airfare and contribute $500 (US). In addition, Shinar is canvassing potential Israeli and Canadian sponsors to help underwrite the program, while Marshall Starkman, a goaltending instructor at Neilson's summer camp is doing the same in Canada.

Neilson and his hockey instructors will be fully subsidized, said Starkman, one of the two visionaries who conceived of the program.

Neilson, who served as head coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs, New York Rangers and Florida Panthers in a 20-year NHL career, didn't need much convincing before he agreed to participate in the program. In fact, when the Blues coach was first contacted, he practically jumped at the opportunity to visit Israel, Starkman said.

For Neilson, it'll be his third visit to the Holy Land. He first visited Israel in 1980 and then again last summer, when he took a group of university students on a 13-country grand tour that began in Capetown, South Africa, and ended in Tel Aviv.

"Of the 13 countries we visited, all the guys liked Israel the best," Neilson said. "They were impressed with the biblical sites and the history." They also enjoyed swimming in the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee, places they'd previously heard about. They were enthralled with Jerusalem, a place Neilson described as "one of the most interesting cities in the world," and the boys stayed up late enjoying Tel Aviv's nightlife.

A student of Israel and its conflicts with its Arab neighbors, Neilson said he was particularly interested by the drive from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem where you can see the burned-out hulks of armored vehicles still on the roadside.

Neilson said he and his staff hope to spend several days touring the country after the hockey camp.

Starkman, 27, is likewise relishing a return to Israel. He was in Metulla last spring working as a volunteer at Canada Centre when he and fellow Canuck Jeff Budd, director of volunteers at the facility, went for a skate.

"We were discussing how nice it would be to bring a hockey school to Israel and I said, 'I might be able to arrange something like that with Roger,'" Starkman recalled. When he called Neilson from Israel, Starkman immediately got a positive response. Others from Neilson's hockey school have also come on board.

In addition to Neilson and Starkman, other instructors will include Alex Andjelic, who currently coaches in Utrecht, Holland; Paul Bedford, general manager and coach of the Lindsay Muskies, a Junior A team; and two pros. Although they are not yet confirmed as part of the instructional team, Dallas Eakins of New York Rangers, Kris King of the Phoenix Coyotes, Bill Lindsay of the Florida Panthers and Craig Johnson of the Los Angeles Kings are among those being considered, Neilson said.

Co-writer and director of an instructional video called *The Puck Stops Here II*, Starkman pointed out that regardless of the NHLers who sign on, the level of instruction will be comparable to that at a Canadian hockey camp. Andjelic, he said, is a well-known coach on the international scene who served as George Kingston's assistant with the German entry at last fall's World Cup. He's also the head instructor at the Lindsay camp and he'll coordinate the on-ice activities in Metulla, he added.

From Shinar's perspective, the camp cements a longstanding relationship between Canadians and Metulla and could serve as a catalyst to entice young Canadian participants to work at the recreation centre.

"The combination of Canada's national sport and Canada Centre is too good to miss," Shinar said. "We'll evaluate the summer camp and if it's positive, we'd like to continue it in years to come."

For more information about corporate sponsorships, contact Starkman at 905-940-9229 or fax him at 905-940-9761.

Anyone interested in supporting the program can contact Rubenstein at 416-636-7655.

To participate in the camp, contact the CIEC at 416-398-6931.

FOURTH ANNUAL
COMMUNITY VIGIL FOR AGUNOT
WOMEN DENIED A JEWISH DIVORCE
Wednesday, March 19, 1997
8:00 p.m
Erev Ta'anit Esther
"Open For Discussion"
Rabbi Mark Dratch
Spiritual Leader, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
WITH
Marsha Razin
Jewish Educator
UJA FEDERATION
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street — 4th floor
For more information call (416) 635-2883 ext. 174
Sponsored by: *Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get • Emunah Women • Hadassah-WIZO • Jewish Women's Federation • Jewish Women International • Na'amat Canada • National Council of Jewish Women • Toronto ORT •*

The Inside Back

SS officer to face trial for role in 1944 massacre

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — A military court has ordered former SS major Karl Hass to stand trial April 14 for his role in Italy's worst World War II atrocity.

It remains to be seen whether Hass, 84, will be tried with former Nazi SS captain Erich Priebke, who faces a retrial for his complicity in the March 24, 1944, massacre of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves south of Rome. About 75 of the victims were Jews.

Both trials will be before military courts.

Judicial sources said the two men probably would be tried together.

In August, a military court found the 83-year-old Priebke guilty of involvement in the massacre. But the court freed him, ruling that he could not be punished because the statute of limitations had run out and because of other extenuating circumstances.

That verdict triggered protests by family members of the victims, who barricaded the courthouse for eight hours until Priebke was rearrested, pending an extradition request from Germany.

Three months later, the verdict was annulled by an appeals court, which ruled that the judges had been openly biased in Priebke's favor.

Priebke has admitted to killing two of the victims, but says he was following orders.

Hass, who was a prosecution witness at the first Priebke trial, tried to avoid testifying by jumping out of his hotel balcony, breaking his hip during the escape attempt.

He has been held under house arrest ever since in a private clinic near Rome.

The military court last week set the trial date for Hass, who also was charged after he admitted taking part in the massacre during his testimony in the first Priebke trial.

In a related development, Italy's national pension office has revealed that Hass, who has lived in Italy for decades, receives state pensions from both Italy and Germany. Hass draws nearly $120 a month from Italy and about $530 a month from Germany.

The pension office said in a statement that Hass's pension came from "10 years of contributions paid in for work carried out in Italy in the 1950s and 1960s."

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
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WE SELL Whirlpool
FOR LESS

FILO HAMANTASHEN

Syrup 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup water, 1 tsp. lemon juice, 1 tblsp. honey

Bring sugar, water, lemon juice to boil, stirring until sugar dissolves. Cook briskly for 5 min. Stir in honey. Set aside.

1/4 lb. butter or margarine, 1/4 cup oil, 1/2—1 cup ground walnuts, 1/2 lb. filo dough (keep filo covered with damp tea towel as not to dry out)

Fillings of choice. Peanut butter with chocolate chips is a good combination. Poppy seeds and other more traditional fillings may also be used.

Heat butter and oil just to melt. Cut filo into 6 strips. Place damp tea towel on work surface. Place waxed paper over damp towel. Place a strip of filo on wax paper. Brush with butter/oil. Sprinkle lightly with ground nuts. Place a teaspoon of filling about an inch from the edge. Fold strip to form a triangle and then fold over in continuous triangles until strip is completely folded. Repeat with other strips. Place on foil lined and greased cookie sheets. Brush filos with butter/oil. Bake 15-20 mins. - until golden brown 350°F. Spoon syrup over hamentashen. Cool on rack. Yield: 6 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Revamped direct election law is gaining momentum

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An initiative is gaining momentum to change the direct election law so that a prime minister can be dismissed by a majority of 61 MKs, without dispersing the Knesset and holding general elections.

MKs from both the Likud and the opposition are calling for the change, in view of the coalition crisis and the possibility that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu might be toppled by a no-confidence vote.

At present, only a majority of at least 80 MKs can vote the prime minister out of office and initiate new elections for prime minister.

The MKs in favor of changing the law say that even if the government must be changed, it doesn't mean the Knesset should be replaced as well, and they call for the separation of the two issues.

MK Michael Kleiner of Gesher, head of the 20 MKs forming the Eretz Yisrael Front opposing Netanyahu's policies from within the coalition, was to convene the group this week to promote legislation that would enable MKs to topple the government with a majority of 61, without dispersing the Knesset.

MKs Ehud Barak of Labor and David Re'em of the Likud have also called for a change in the law.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon joined the initiative last weekend, coming out against the direct election system.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

Do I really need to send a thank you note every time I've had an interview? Is a postcard good enough?

Dear Reader,

Yes! You should send a thank you note every time you attend an interview. These days, some people send postcards, e-mail or faxes and though a postcard is OK, a short note, prepared on a word processor, is far better.

Postcards are not really appropriate in that your words are then shared with whomever picks up the card; therefore, confidentiality cannot be maintained. The same possibilities also exist for e-mails and faxes. Another consideration is that the job for which you have been interviewed may not be internally advertised.

The thank you letter is your way of expressing your gratitude for the appointment, but also reinforces your interest in the job and offers a recap of a few of your strongest points.

A three or four paragraph letter should do the trick. Begin by addressing the letter the same way you would your cover letter; then begin with a statement indicating your gratitude. A statement like "I am writing to thank you for the time you spent with me yesterday to talk about" is a good lead. You would then end this paragraph describing very briefly the reason for your meeting.

In the second paragraph, reiterate your interest in a position with this organisation. If a specific position is vacant and was the topic of your discussion, stress the reasons why you should be considered. Mention the fact that because of your experience you believe you could make an immediate contribution to the organisation.

In the third paragraph, discuss how you as a person fit in with the other people already employed in that organisation or mention your ability to adapt to a company's working style.

In the closing paragraph, thank the interviewer one more time and mention you look forward to hearing from him or her in the near future.

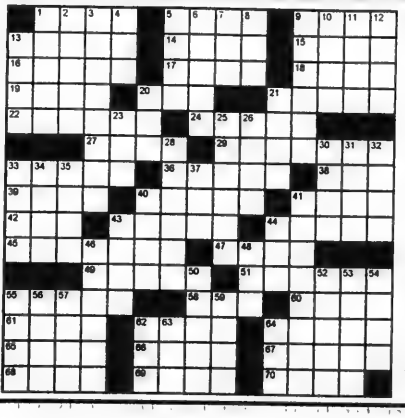
Making a note this long is not a requirement, but it does afford you one final opportunity of showing your ability to communicate and your understanding of business etiquette.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Gulet. Readers are invited to send questions for Lisa to The CJN.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Many-colored coat
5. Eighth day event
9. Deli fare listing
13. Torah crown decorations
14. Calligraphy needs
15. Angel of Death path
16. Singer Cantor
17. Diary writer Frank
18. 1,003
19. Magic Carpet base
20. Goliath
21. Elim offerings
22. Lulav part
24. Oral vaccine inventor
27. Zetz (Eng)
29. David's triumphs
33. Lauder
36. Eretz (Eng)
38. Sabin's Org.?
39. Oy Vez!
40. Peters specialties
41. Ham's brother
42. Leah's sons
43. King David's specialty
44. Labors
45. Read at the unveiling
47. Spoken
49. Leah to Rachel?
51. Moe or Larry
55. Purim villain
58. Mother (Heb)
60. Naomi alias?
61. Sinai climate
62. Writer Ferber
64. Solomon
65. Kinneret
66. Uses his tuches
67. Tref hangouts
68. Ibn Gabirol specialty
69. Knesset position
70. Jerusalem to Tel-Aviv (dir)

Down

1. Singer Helen
2. Simeon to Gad
3. Blinis
4. Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem (dir)
5. ___ Brak
6. Given under Chupahs
7. Son of (Seph.)
8. Ashdod to Be'ersheba (dir)
9. Jewish magazine
10. __ Eye
11. Sedaka or Simon
12. "Exodus" author
13. Moses' horn?
20. Artist Shahn
21. Including
23. Bear false witness
25. Baseball player Cal
26. Greenberg tools
28. Biblical weights
30. Cowardly actor?
31. Valley (Heb.)
32. Levinson and Goldwyn
33. Seder manner
34. Gabbai catch
35. Judd Hirsch sitcom
37. Need chicken soup?
40. Cleo killers
41. Hedonist
43. Ache
44. Dorothy Parker specialty
46. Hebrew letters
48. Third king of Judah
50. Yiddish busybody
52. Desert sweetspot
53. Shalom!!
54. Hamantaschen?
55. Michael's aura?
56. Israeli city
57. "60 Minutes" Wallace
59. Spar
62. Sin (Eng)
63. Reason for shiva
64. Jerusalem to Ashkelon (dir)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 40.)

Prices Effective from
Sun. Mar. 9, 1997 until
Sat. Mar. 15, 1997

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ROASTING CHICKENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Fresh
1.99 LB
4.39 kg

DELSTAR
ALL BEEF SALAMI
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
6.59 kg 2.99 LB

FREE 2 L Plastic Bottle of Mountain Dew with 24 x 355 ml case purchase

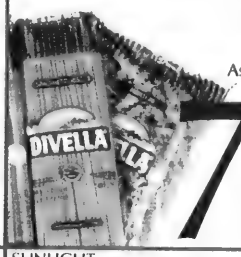
PEPSI, 7-UP & ORANGE CRUSH
750 ml Bottle
Regular & Diet
79 Plus Deposit
5.99 Case of 24 x 355 ml Tins

KELLOGG'S
EGGO WAFFLES
Assorted Varieties
Frozen
312 g Box 1.99 EA

RIB STEAKS
Cut from Canada AA/AAA Grades Beef
Fresh
4.99 LB
11.00 kg

HEAD LETTUCE
Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
79 EA

BRUSSEL SPROUTS
Product of Mexico
Fresh
2.18 kg 0.99 LB



DIVELLA
PASTA
Product of Italy
Assorted Varieties
500 g Package
79 EA

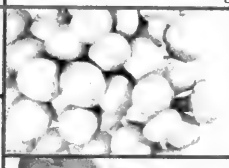
SIENA
CHICKEN BREAST
Cooked or Smoked
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
9.90 kg 4.49 LB

STEWING BEEF
Lazar Yitzchok COR 369
Glatt Kosher Sealed Tray
Packed Meat
Fresh
12.79 kg 5.81 LB

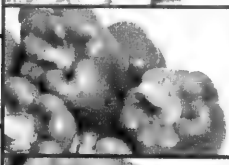
AARON'S BEST
KNOCKWURST
450 g Package 3.99 EA

OPEN WINDOW BAKERY
ONION BUNS
Fresh
3/1.00

MARIANI
PITTED PRUNES
375 g Package 1.29 EA



WHITE
MUSHROOMS
Product of Ontario
Fresh
3.28 kg 1.49 LB



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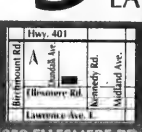

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Branson Hospital's president explores the future of the facility *Page 14*

CHRC chief commissioner fights for equality for women. *Page 17*

She'arim dedicates Arts Integrated Program to the late Judith Dan. *Page 21*

Coast to Coast

Canada's revenue minister denies a tax exists on kosher food. *Page 26*

Israel & the Jewish World

Palestinian Authority has come a long way since 1994. *Mideast Analysis.* *Page 33*

Fashion

Vests are making a comeback this spring. *Page 37*

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By Ayah Norris, *Grade 4*

Construction set for Har Choma

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A conciliatory visit by Jordan's King Hussein and warnings of Palestinian violence by Israeli security forces failed to deter Israeli plans to break ground for a new Jewish housing project in southeastern Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel would stand firm on its decision to build at Har Choma despite Arab and international pressure to back down.

"There is no change," Netanyahu said at a joint news conference with Hussein at the King David Hotel after their meeting."Our friends can agree or not. We understand the concerns of the Palestinians and others, but we made a decision."

The Israeli Cabinet voted unanimously last week to start building this week at Har Choma.

The decision was made despite assessments from security officials who said the construction could prompt Palestinian violence, including new terror attacks against Israel.

Netanyahu had pressed for the construction to counter recent threats from members of his coalition that they would vote no-confidence in his government if the project did not begin.

Meanwhile, the opposition Labor Party said it would press ahead with

Continued on page 30

From the editor

Last year, on the front page of our Purim issue, we wrote the following: "We are not unmindful of the incongruity in the almost surrealistic juxtaposition...in this issue of the paper, of the painful images of mourning and death alongside sweetly innocent representations of Purim drawn by children from across Canada."

One year later, we again stare numbly at the melancholy face of that bitter incongruity. The nightmare recurs; the painful images have returned. But this year, we substitute for Hamas an evil or deranged Jordanian soldier. We substitute for the busy streets of Jerusalem, the formerly peaceful promontory of Naharayim. We substitute for the number 24 dead, the number seven.

But we will never substitute even the most infinitesimal measure of grief for the seven unique universes that have now been shattered, or of outrage at the cowardly act, or of determination to proclaim to the craven killers of children: "We shall not die, but live."

Thus, we must perforce repeat this year, what we wrote last year. "Despite the incongruity, we decided to continue with our Purim presentation, lest the...murderers steal from our children our holidays and our heritage, even as they stole from the people whom they killed the lives that were so precious."

* * *

For the first time ever, we present a special "Purim approach" to the news in the *Greater Toronto Area* (pages 2–7)

EARLY DEADLINE

The advertising deadlines for the April 3 issue are as follows: Classified and organization ads Tuesday, March 25 at noon, and display ads Wednesday, March 26 at noon.

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The Canadian Jewish News

The winners of The CJN *Purim Art Contest — pl*

Purim: The Brief in News

WHAT A WORLD!

CJN on the Move

TORONTO — The *CJN*'s board of directors today announced it would change the paper's look. The front page picture will no longer appear on page 1. Instead, it will be hidden in different parts of the paper. Other planned changes are an extended index with a pull-out flap and the merger of Sports with Travel, Arts and Business to form a new STAB section. Plans to provide shul times in Toronto and Montreal were put on hold due to the large number of shuls in each city that cannot agree when to hold services.

The paper will go ahead, though, with plans to open a winter office in Boca Raton, Fla.

New Directions

TORONTO — The Jewish National Fund has announced that, with development of the Negev Desert well under way, it would turn its attention to a new project.

"Enough sand already," commented one official. "It's so hard to get out of our clothes after a mission."

Passover Cleanup

TORONTO — Thousands of Jewish students descended on the main campuses of the University of Toronto, York University and McGill University to get an early start on preparation for Passover.

The eager students, carrying traditional goose feathers and paper bags, plan to wipe the campuses free of chametz.

"Not one speck shall remain," vowed one eager student.

Mega-Agency

TORONTO — Ontario Premier Mike Harris says he would like to see streamlined "the alphabet soup" of Jewish communal agencies in Toronto into one mega-agency.

The planned "Jews 'r Us" will be known as CJCJIASJFCSCJCF-BBCCICCICFJNF for short.

Dinner From A to Z

TORONTO — The Jewish community has run out of dinner honorees, following last week's glitzy tribute to Ziggy Zylberberg.

"That's pretty much everybody," said Canadian Jewish Committee president Holdie Gershon. "Guess we'll just have to start over."

Thus, Aaron Aaronson will be honored at next week's annual Honoree of the Year late luncheon/early dinner.

Eggleton Centre

TORONTO — The Technical Institute is planning to devote an entire research centre to study Art Eggleton, minister for international trade.

Beth Hanashim

MONTREAL — Following months of pressure from members, Congregation Beth Hanashim has decided to allow men to have aliyot.

"I suppose it's time," sighed president Vashti Cohen. "I mean, men are people too."

New *CJN* Feature

TORONTO — In a bold editorial decision, *CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat-de-Dat announced today the newspaper will introduce a new page 3 feature: Herring of the Week.

The honor of the first-ever *CJN* Herring of the Week will go to the shmaltzed filets from the lovely Bernstein Kiddush at the Beth Dagim last shabbat.

Bobsledding

TEL AVIV — Spurred on by the inspiring example of Jamaica, Israel this week announced its inaugural bobsled team.

The maiden meeting of the Israeli Bobsled Association ended in pandemonium, however, when no one could agree on who would steer the sled or in which direction.

Aliyah Statistics

JERUSALEM — Israel received 76,600 new immigrants in 1996 from all over the world, according to a well-informed Jewish Agency official, including a few from the U.S. and Canada.

Threats Ignored

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected threats from one coalition member to withdraw his support for the government if the prime minister caved in to the threats from his other coalition partners to withdraw their support for the government.

Arafat in Nashville

NASHVILLE — Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat recently ended a three-week visit to Nashville.

Arafat, who reportedly developed a love of country music during his years of exile in Tunis, took part in a hoedown and appeared at the Grand Ole Opry.

"He's just a good 'ole country boy at heart," said one participant.

Commenting on the stalled peace process, Arafat, said he was "a little bit country while [Netanyahu] was a little bit rock and roll."

Women of the New Wall

JERUSALEM – In an apparent bid to resolve the Women of the Wall issue, Israel's Supreme Court said the government has to build a new wall complete with indoor plumbing.

In The CJN, 300 Months Ago...

Friday March 17, 1972 — around tea-time

ISRAEL TO ANNEX FLORIDA

Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir has announced that as of April 1972, Florida will be annexed into the state of Israel.

"The way I look at it, more Jews visit Florida than Israel," Meir said. "Besides, the neighbors are friendlier and the kishka is not as heavy."

U.S. satellite reports already show a PLO base being set up in Georgia and Louisiana. U.S. President Richard Nixon was unavailable for comment. Aides say he was too busy looking for lost tapes.

SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE DEAD: LEVESQUE

The sovereignty issue in Quebec is dead, PQ leader Rene Levesque said.

"The issue of separation will never be raised again. Quebec's future in Canada is secure. I can assure the Jewish community that 25 years from now they won't have to worry about a thing. The PQ welcomes all money and ethnics."

Levesque also told reporters here that he is quitting smoking and will leave politics to help other people kick the habit.

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Harris to amalgamate Toronto synagogues

By BADANAH PANZER
Staff Reporter
With files from Leila Speisman

TORONTO — Ontario Premier Mike Harris has announced an addition to his controversial mega-city bill.

"It is not enough to amalgamate the cities comprising Metropolitan Toronto into one city. My government has decided to disband all the synagogues in Metro and combine them all into one giant shul, a megashul, if you will."

A press release sent anonymously to *The CJN* said that Harris' decision is in line with his concern for the spiritual welfare of the citizens of the province, as shown by his recent hospital closings, which studies have shown to have increased the frequency and fervency of prayer in the province.

'People can vote for service times'

The amalgamation of the synagogues, said press officer Hilary Huntington-Talbot, speaking from his office in North Bay, will stop the needless proliferation of services.

"Right now," he said, "there are prayer services all over the place, and mostly at the same time, on Saturday morning. With amalgamation, there will be just one service, which will save on personnel costs, as well as such infrastructure expenses as heating and electricity."

The government believes that it will be more democratic as well, he said. "People can vote to hold services on a Thursday night, for instance, if that is more convenient for the majority."

Huntington-Talbot pointed out the "wastefulness" of having different kinds of synagogues.

Single caterer to handle mega-shul

"I have been told there are Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist, secular, and something called chassidic. This is an obvious waste of resources, personnel, and news bulletins."

The Vaad HaKashruth reports that it was necessary to call the police to its Bathurst Street offices to keep order among those clamoring to be the sole caterer for the megashul.

"We don't know how anyone will possibly choose," lamented the staff, who were seen packing their personal belongings for a hasty exit out the back door.

Israel Bonds said that there was something to be said for the megashul, as there would be only one Yom Kippur Bond drive, and they wouldn't have to shlep around from synagogue to synagogue picking up pledge cards.

Bessie Cohen, from Congregation Anshei Montreal Beth Winnipeg B'nai Dnepepetrovsk, who has been president of her shul's sisterhood for 43 years, looks forward to the challenge "of branching out to the greater community, and doing for everyone what I have done so well for just my shul."

Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith were in accord in condemning Harris' action. "It is essential for Jewish continuity that there continue to be obfuscation of the primal issues that concern the demographically diverse multicultural aspect of the Jewish community and contribute to its disestablishment," said a joint communique.

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Purim in The GTA

A Purim spiel

Into a land which is as green in springtime as a thousand shining emeralds and as white in winter as a carpet of newly woven white cotton ringlets, where water flows freely in every acre, and trees and flowers crowd every meadow up to the very edge of the permanent frost, where ores and stones and minerals and oils peek and pour from the ground like juice in a punctured over-ripe melon, a wise, elderly visitor once came.

He was invited to this very beautiful and bounteous land by a small group of people who had heard of his gentle but far-reaching wisdom and who felt in need of it because of their bewilderment at the great anger that had settled across their large, expansive land.

The leaders of the beautiful and bounteous land often quarreled among themselves. When they did not quarrel among themselves, they spoke often to the people whom they were elected to lead.

But the people whom they were leading suspected their leaders as being of dubious logic because, even though they spoke often, the leaders were reluctant to do so before they first consulted a secret cadre of expensive uh-pollsterers.

The leaders relied on the secret uh-pollsterers the way the ancient Greek leaders relied upon their oracles.

The polls that the uh-pollsterers pulled out of their holsters were magical. They held the same hidden truths and mystical wonders that were in the gizzards and the innards of the chickens on which the ancient oracles relied.

And the people had to pay for these magic polls just as the ancient Greeks had to pay for the chickens.

Without the magic polls, however, it seemed that the leaders were lost.

In every region across the land, they built legislative chambers and in every legislative chamber they invited their secret uh-pollsterers to help them legislate.

One of the more puzzling practices the leaders adopted was a curious and oddly entertaining ritual they called Question Period. It lasted for an hour. But in the same way an hour in the school yard or in the playground can seem like half a day, especially if a bully is there, so too did Question Period.

As a legislative ritual, Question Period was a misnomer. It could have, perhaps should have, been called Shouting Period or Embarrassment Period or even Nasty Period.

No one really asked a question, at least not for the purpose of eliciting information. Rather, they posed tricks and traps in the hope that an unsuspecting or idiotic leader from the other side would embarrass himself before the people and thus fall out of their favor.

When the trick was suspected or when the trap failed, the poser of the question would invariably pout and begin shouting at the leader who failed to fall. Then, of course, they quarreled.

One shout begot another and then another until the air of the legislative chambers would become filled with nasty vapors of exhaled insults and childish taunts.

Once, in the big chamber of chambers, a leader from one side even asked a leader from the other side if he had "gonads" and if he did, "did he want to fight?"

Thankfully, the people did not hear the answer because they were sore afraid of what might have happened to the gonads if they had been broken in the fight.

Upon hearing of this question and answer in Question Period and after seeing it repeated a hundred times or more on the news and in between periods of hockey games, many children in the land suffered nightmares. An inordinate number of absences were reported in elementary schools for a month after that Question Period until the question was forgotten along with all the other questions asked by the leaders.

Not long after that question was asked in the big chamber of chambers, one of the leaders in a smaller, but still big, legislative chamber was asked a question to help relieve the fears and the worries of thousands of the people whom he led, who spent more than eight hours of each day trying to heal and comfort sick people but who were on the verge of losing their jobs.

Being thoughtful and sensitive and fortified with the impenetrable wisdom of his expensive uh-pollsterers, the leader confidently calmed the people's fears by invoking the memory of an ancient pastime, long since abandoned by the parents and the grandparents of the people: the hula-hoop.

The leader's answer was spread far and wide. It was recorded in the official registry of answers and talked about for days, if not months, so that everyone saw the true measure of his wisdom.

No wonder the people were bewildered. No wonder a great anger had settled across their large, expansive land.

But even the visitor, wiser by far than any owl, could not understand the great anger that existed in a land so beautiful and bounteous, a land that was so grand and so full of the rich, dark brown, sustaining earth of life.

He had no wisdom to impart to the small group that had invited him to visit, for he knew in his heart of hearts, that people often get the leaders they deserve.

One day, merely hours before the old visitor was set to return home, a poor Jew came to him.

He came because he needed to ask a question about the special rituals of Purim and because he knew the wise old man would know how to answer. He told the wise man that he could not afford to buy wine for the festive seudah. Thus he wanted to know if he could make the holy blessing at the Purim seudah over a glass of milk.

"Never mind your question," said the wise man, reaching for his wallet. He then gave the poor man $100.

"Why did you give the poor Jew $100 to buy some wine," asked one of the people in the small group who had gathered to say good bye to the old visitor, "when you know a bottle of wine can be bought for only $10?"

The visitor simply smiled and said, "When a poor Jew asks if he can use milk for a special seudah because he cannot afford to buy wine, it is obvious that he cannot afford to buy meat either."

The visitor then returned home, to a land where people still dreamed and believed in possibilities for themselves and for their children.

But the small group that had invited him and had gathered to bid him farewell, wondered if the visitor had been wise after all. For they knew with certainty that no leader, nor any uh-pollsterer, would give $100 to buy a $10 bottle of wine.

MBD

(With thanks to an anecdote about Rabbi Joseph Baer Soloveichik 1820 - 1892.)

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Purim in The GTA

PM Harris to merge Canada's provinces

Ten Years From Now

By JEFF ROSEN
News Editor

ONTARIO – The federal government of Conservative Prime Minister Michael Harris today announced that it would soon begin plans to amalgamate the remaining provinces of Canada.

"Why have 11 health departments, 11 finance departments, etc. when one will do," said the former premier of Ontario. "We outlined in our election plan, *The Common Sense Revolution, Part V – You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet!* our desire to create a unified country. And a unified country we will get."

Under the government's proposal, the provincial governments would disappear, to be replaced by ministers responsible for the former provinces.

Harris said Ontario will have the least trouble adapting to the new regime since it has managed to eliminate the municipal level of government, a project first started when Harris was premier.

Under the Tories, the government first moved to create a unified Toronto. While initially opposed, the public eventually warmed to the idea after Mel "*No-body*" Lastman was elected mayor.

However, fueled by its initial success, the provincial government extended its plan, allowing the new mega-city to first swallow surrounding regions and then push out in all directions to gobble up the entire province. Finally, one day, the provincial government woke up and discovered that Toronto covered the same area as Ontario.

This time out, Harris promises amalgamation will be both "kinder and gentler."

"We don't want to see anyone put out of work," Harris mused. "And no one will, at least in most of the provinces."

Pressed on how he will ensure this, the Tory leader said they are considering relocating all of the unemployed to Nova Scotia.

Premier Snobelman

"It's perfect," said Harris. "It will be the start of a bold, new experiment — no jobs and a cash-less society. And of course, we will keep one hospital open there, as we will in other jurisdictions."

Opposition to the mega-country announcement came from Toronto premier John Snobelman who vowed to protect the rights of every Torontonian in the province.

"We're such a warm, loving community in our own right. We have our hospital which is open five days a week in North Bay, we have our school board which oversees the thousands of students here. What do we have in common with the farmers and fisherpersons out there."

Federal fisherman minister Dave Tsabuchi was insensed by the premier's remarks. He was overheard saying "listen, there's tuna enough to go around."

Harris said the move will probably result in lower taxes but declined to comment on a study done by the British Columbian anti-racism coalition which found that it would hurt ethnics to a greater degree.

"Anti-Semitism, pure and simple," said the leader of a major Jewish group. "We will launch a national probe to look into this witch hunt. And of course I will take personal responsibility for it, just as soon as I have my picture taken with the prime minister."

U.S. President Hillary Clinton said they were monitoring Canada's situation closely, but would not comment if she was considering a similar move for her own country. At least not until after dinner.

In Israel, coalition prime ministers Ariel Sharak and Yesser Arabfat praised the initiative, saying that it mirrored one undertaken years ago when Israel, Egypt and Jordan united to form one country called Isregan.

"We solved all our problems by eliminating directions," said Arabfat, wearing the same clothes he has worn for years. "This way no one knows where they are going and there is no West Bank."

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Purim in The GTA

Israeli tomatoes help fight assimilation

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Researchers at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care have isolated a substance in Israeli tomatoes they believe could play a role in combating assimilation.

Studies began three years ago after a 95-year-old patient sang *Havah Nagilah* following a meal of spaghetti and tomato sauce.

The concentrated sauce was made from 120 tomatoes grown on Kibbutz Yerakot in southern Israel. According to a Baycrest spokesperson, nobody in the Diaspora had ever used so many of the tomatoes in one recipe, because of their high cost outside of Israel.

It was the first time the patient had uttered a word in months. Her son, a businessman and philanthropist with little previous interest in Judaism, requested anonymity for the family.

Still incredulous over his own intense desire to attend synagogue (which hasn't abated since he sampled the home-made sauce), he is following the research with interest. His 24-year-old daughter, to the family's astonishment, voluntarily attended a Jewish singles' dance.

A sodium isotope, dubbed Tevye-5 by the Baycrest research team, is believed to be responsible for the behavioral changes.

In controlled studies, chimpanzees injected with the isotope learned Hebrew sign language in five weeks. Subjects in the placebo group were unable to master it, although — like those in the "Tevye" group — they were already fluent in American Sign Language.

"We are very excited by this major breakthrough," said Dr. Michael Gordon, medical director of Baycrest.

The chimps suffered no apparent side effects, although the baby of the group, 18-month-old Zelda, escaped one night, ran across Bathurst Street and broke into a kosher food establishment, where police found her eating gefilte fish.

Testing on human subjects is the next step, said Gordon. To date, 5,000 Jewish parents have contacted him to request that their children participate in the study.

The injectable vaccine and an alternative in pill form are being produced by two local pharmaceutical giants. Barring unforeseen complications, both forms should be available to the public before the turn of the millennium.

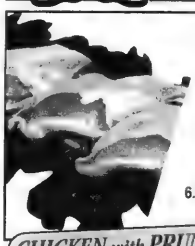
"This could create an unprecedented demand for Israel Experience trips. Maybe I should hire more staff," said Liz Sokolsky, national executive director of the Canada Israel Experience Centre, which opened last year.

"This Tevye thing has tremendous implications," agreed Susan Jackson, director of continuity programming, UJA Federation, which provided a $36,000 continuity grant for the research. (The counter-missionary group Jews for Judaism also provided seed money.)

Although pure Tevye-5 is costly to produce, scientists found they could use less of it without mitigating its effect by adding less expensive chick pea extract.

"Who ARE these scientific food Jews?" asked Jackson. "Is this someone's idea of a joke?"

FORTINOS CELEBRATES PURIM!
LAWRENCE SQUARE



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3 tbsps. olive oil
2 thinly sliced Spanish onions
1 1/2 cups water
12 dried prunes

Preheat oven to 375 F. In a small bowl, blend cinnamon, salt, pepper and cumin together. Rub seasoning mixture onto all sides of chicken. In large skillet, heat olive oil. Add onions and saute until transparent. Move onions with slotted spoon to bottom of baking dish, leaving most of the oil in skillet. On medium high heat, quickly brown chicken pieces on all sides. Arrange over onions in baking dish. Add water and dried prunes. Cover and bake until chicken is very tender and fruit is puffy, about 1 hour. Remove from baking dish and place on serving platter. Garnish with fresh lemon wedges. Serve with rice. Serves 6.

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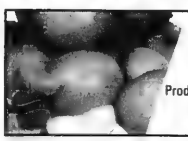

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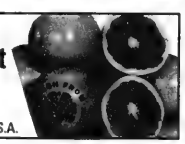

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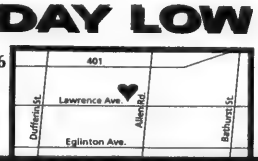

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Congress, B'nai Brith get set to merge

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — In a long-expected move timed with Purim, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and B'nai Brith (BB) have decided to unite into one organization.

"This should have happened a long time ago," leaders from the two organizations, who declined to have their names mentioned because they did not feel the need for publicity, told *The CJN*.

"We've been working together so closely and for so long, we figured that there was no point in having all that extra staff and money going to waste," they said.

There were other reasons for the merger as well, said the anonymous CJC and BB officials. Among them:

• The growing realization among CJC and BB leaders that their organizations were taking up far too much headline and copy space in the local press and were the subject of a disproportionately high level of media attention.

"We just did not need all that publicity," the organizations' spokespersons said in unison. "We were really getting sick and tired of it."

• And the abandonment in Quebec of all ethno-nationalistic and separatist sentiment. "We were fools all these years," said a high-ranking official of the formerly separatist Quebec government recently. "How could we have been so wrong?"

The formerly tense situation between previously opposing linguistic and nationalistic forces in Quebec has changed so much, that officials who once worked for Quebec's now-defunct language watchdog group, the Office de la langue française, have begun to volunteer in droves for B'nai Brith's annual Passover Basket campaign.

> *'It would be a dream come true'*

And at CJC headquarters recently, a well-know formerly separatist journalist was overheard pleading for forgiveness for his past ways. Everyone was crying, according to one source.

"Things have gotten so much better, we just might have to dissolve even the merged organization pretty soon," the BB and CJC officials said hopefully.

"It would be a dream come true!"

Purim in The GTA

'Oy vey! Toronto's treif,' declares rabbi

Mixed shopping cited as one problem

By BADANAH PANZER
Staff Reporter
With files from Leila Speisman

TORONTO — Rabbi Pinchas Yehuda Leib Obergegessen, who recently moved to Toronto from a small enclave in Jerusalem, has declared the entire Jewish community unkosher.

"Pah! Feh! The whole place is treif!" said a press release issued by his secretary, Reb Yaakov Ichhobtsuris.

The rabbi's edict included all butcher shops, bakeries, grocery stores, institutions, synagogues and car pools in the city.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Rabbi Obergegessen explained that he had no wish to cause dissension. "It is all for your own good," he said earnestly.

He said that he was horrified by what he found when he arrived.

"There is only one kashruth supervisory body here," he thundered. "Not one person on staff there is over 75. Furthermore, not one of their administrators or staff attended the great Yeshiva Ohevei Chumros, which, of course, I had the great merit to attend. So what could they know?"

He itemized some of his objections: Butcher shops selling meat with only two hechshers; grocery stores allowing men and women to shop at the same time; and worst of all, bakeries that make hamantashen with strawberry filling, instead of prune or poppy seed, "as is commanded in our holy books, and as I explained at great length in my seminal work *Piskei Hamantashen*.

"And then," he said, there is the car pool. "I personally saw vans in which the children threw milchik and pareve garbage in the same wastebasket."

Reaction to Rabbi Obergegessen's action was swift.

The Torah-True Rabbinical Council said that they had had their suspicions for some time, but in the interests of unity had withheld action. They ordered Rabbi Obergegessen to report to a Beit Din immediately.

He refused.

The GTA and Hinterland Board of Rabbis said they were "saddened" by this decision. "It would never have happened if Conservative and Reform rabbis were allowed to perform conversions in Israel," said a press release.

The Toronto Friends of Those Awaiting the Imminent Coming of the Messiah said that this was another proof that the Messiah was indeed on his way. "When have you seen the community have such a united reaction to anything?" an irate phone message said.

B'nai Brith issued a press release saying they were "shocked and appalled" by the edict. "It is another example that Canadian Jewish Congress is incompetent and has sold out to the establishment."

CJC blasted Rabbi Obergegessen, saying that the whole affair distracted people from worrying about the restructuring of federations across Canada.

Surah Chayah Gittel Messerschmidt, speaking from her car phone, said "I just bet his wife did all the car pools in his family. He probably never tried to shlep 10 kids to five different schools first thing in the morning."

Ashley Goldenberg, with her daughter Savannah, called Rabbi Obergegessen "a product of the patriarchal system that oppresses women in the name of the Jewish religion."

As this article went to press, Rabbi Obergegessen called this reporter to complain about the lack of respect for rabbinical authority in the city. "I think I will go back where I came from — there everyone listened to me."

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Dry Bones

Culture of hatred

On the very same day that a Jordanian soldier massacred seven and wounded six Israeli schoolgirls who were visiting Naharayim, the Island of Peace, the General Assembly of the United Nations voted to condemn Israel for its determination to proceed with the Har Choma housing project.

On the surface the two events appear to have been unrelated; but in truth, they were not. The former was the product of what the *Jerusalem Post* has aptly described as the "culture of hatred against Israel that permeates the Arab world." The latter was one more poisonous ingredient thrown into the noxious potion from which that culture pours forth.

One Israeli commentator observed that the murder of the schoolchildren was the "lethal evidence of the volatile political atmosphere last week in the wake of King Hussein's emotionally-charged letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the artificial tension created by the Palestinians."

To be sure, King Hussein never intended his public criticism of Netanyahu to inspire the soldier's murderous act. His visit last weekend to the grieving families of the seven children was poignant proof of his sincere contrition. But there can be no doubt his much-publicized denunciation of Netanyahu helped to stir emotions in an already delicate emotional situation.

So too will the vote in the General Assembly. Orchestrated by the Palestinian Authority (PA), it spreads a harsh but false accusation that the government of Israel is a violator of Oslo and a threat to peace. In its turn, the accusation will become yet another contamination of the truth poisoning the minds and the hearts of people against Israel. More ominously, however, the vote directly challenges Israel's promise that Jerusalem will never again be divided.

It is therefore with great disappointment we note Canada's support of the General Assembly resolution. Regrettably, Canada thus helps foster the invidious culture of hatred against Israel and is willingly complicit in the campaign to undermine the Jewish claim to an undivided Jerusalem.

New leader on the Bloc

Montreal MP Gilles Duceppe was elected the new leader of the Bloc Québécois last week. Duceppe won 52.8 percent of his party's support compared to his closest rival, former Quebec finance minister Yves Duhaime, who won just over one-third of the more than 50,000 votes cast.

Duceppe's leadership will likely prove "eventful" for his party. No sooner had he been declared the winner than Bloc MP Nic Leblanc resigned from the party to sit as an independent separatist. Nor could the runner-up, Duhaime, bring himself to utter even the perfunctory post-election platitudes towards his new leader. "I don't see why I should change my view tonight," he said, in answer to a reporter's inquiry about his widely-known negative feelings toward Duceppe.

As reported by the *Globe and Mail*, during the weekend convocation, the Bloc also debated its future parliamentary role after the next election. Duceppe was said to be among those members of the party who favor acting as the Official Opposition *for all of Canada* (our emphasis) if the Bloc retains that status after the next election. He need not bother. *All of Canada* expects and demands that a true Official Opposition must be loyal to and must serve Canada. No technical nominative quirk of our parliamentary system will ever change this, regardless of where the Bloc finishes in the election.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"A people can be helped only by its own efforts, and if it cannot help itself, it is beyond succour."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Purim 1862, Reuben Brainin was born. Brainin, editor of the *Keneder Adler* and of *Der Veg*, was a catalyst for the founding of the Montreal Jewish Public Library. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Where is the anger? I wish I knew

"Where is the anger over wartime atrocities?" In the 15 years I have been involved with the problem of alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada, the question asked by Michael Lebovic in *The CJN* (Feb. 15), often rankled me. Why hasn't the enormity of the Nazi genocide of the Jews fastened itself more firmly onto the consciousness of the Canadian public? Why are so many of our judiciary still ignorant about the bestiality of the Holocaust? For that matter, why hasn't the abomination of many alleged perpetrators living peaceful, carefree lives in Canada had a higher priority in our own organized Jewish community? After all, almost everyone in our community had at least one known member of their extended family murdered in the Holocaust. (I am one of the few exceptions.)

In his bestselling book *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, Daniel Goldhagen describes the second mass killing of Jews perpetrated by German Police Battalion 101, in Lomazy, north-east of Lublin, Poland, in August 1942. Of the total population of 3,000, 1,700 were Jews. The round-up of Jews took two hours and proceeded with unspeakable cruelty. Those who could not make it on their own to the assembly point were shot on the spot. Those that were not killed in the fusillade at the round up spot were buried alive.

All of the murderers, the German soldiers and their Ukrainian auxilliaries, were volunteers. The commander of the battalion made clear to everyone that only those who volunteered would participate in the murders.

It is clear that at least 100,000 men and women participated directly in the murder of the six million Jews. We now know that many of these murderers found a post-war haven in Canada. If any of us didn't know before, Mike Wallace told us on *60 Minutes* about Canada's sorry record after the war in welcoming Nazi war criminals as immigrants, but making it difficult for Jewish survivors to come to Canada.

Over the years, many Jewish leaders, including myself, have lobbied Canadian governments, political parties and the media as vigorously as possible to rectify this outrage to Canadian justice, and I am very proud of those efforts, especially the few times we were successful. All our lives we Jews have heard the foul canard recently mouthed by Michael Code, defence counsel for alleged war criminal Helmut Oberlander, that the current court actions are due to the "undue influence" of special interest groups.

The Michael Codes of this world should know that the days are long gone when our community could be intimidated into silence by thinly veiled public accusations that we possess superhuman powers of control over the society and are engaged in a collective conspiracy to undermine social values. *Despite all attempts to frighten us off, we are determined to persist in our efforts until every war criminal living in Canada is brought before the bar of Canadian justice.*

So, how to answer Lebovic's question, "Where is the anger over wartime atrocities?" I wish I had a satisfactory answer, but I don't.

Milton Harris
Toronto

Against appointment of Liberal candidate

As a 12-year resident of Thornhill, I do not agree with the *appointment* of any candidate in our area by the Liberal party. If a candidate cannot be recognized as a nominee by the residents of Thornhill, he/she should not be allowed to represent us. I also disagree with Bernie Green, who is "tooting his horn" with unproven claims about having the support of most of Jewish Thornhill. There are other capable candidates besides Green.

Jack Barmak
Toronto

Murray Goldblatt was important journalist

Re: Jews have come long way in field of journalism (*CJN*, Feb. 20).

One of the most important Jewish journalists in recent Canadian history was my uncle, the late Murray Goldblatt. He worked as a reporter and editor for leading newspapers in both Ottawa and Toronto. In his capacity as a Carleton University journalism professor, he taught and inspired many of Canada's currently active reporters. His expertise was called upon by CBC Radio where he appeared frequently as a news analyst.

Erica Goodman
Toronto

Editor's Note

We regret we missed a typographical error in a letter from Rabbi Moshe Stern in the March 13 issue about brit milah (circumcision). It is a medical, not a radical, procedure.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Massacre at Naharayim

By DAVID RUDGE and DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Seven schoolgirls were killed and five pupils and a teacher wounded when a crazed Jordanian soldier shot them in cold blood as they toured the Jordanian-controlled Naharayim enclave in the Jordan Valley last week.

The seven victims — Sivan Fathi, Karen Cohen, Ya'ala Me'iri, Shiri Badayev, Natali Alkalai, Adi Malka and Nirit Cohen — were eighth graders at the AMIT Fuerst School in Beit Shemesh. They were all buried that same night. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Education Minister Zevulun Hammer attended the funerals.

Jordan's King Hussein said he expected to meet Netanyahu very shortly after the tragedy. Sources said they believed the monarch would come to Beit Shemesh to pay a condolence call to the victims' families.

At a press conference in Amman, King Hussein termed the tragedy "a slur on all of us. It's not political, it's a vile crime," he said.

It was "a day I never wanted to live to see," he said, and condemned the massacre as an attack against "his sons and daughters in his own home."

King Hussein expressed his condolences in a phone call to Netanyahu. Jordanian Prime Minister Abdel-Karim Kabariti also offered condolences to Netanyahu and called President Ezer Weizman.

Despite their current disagreements, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat called to offer his condolences.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who is currently in the United States, also sent a condolence letter to Netanyahu and U.S. President Bill Clinton called.

Earlier in the week, King Hussein had written a harsh letter to Netanyahu, questioning the prime minister's commitment to peace, and some cabinet ministers charged that the attack could not be completely divorced from the monarch's earlier comments to the premier.

"All verbal violence and threats of violence are immediately translated into actions," said Foreign Minister David Levy. "Jordan must take stock and monitor all those who have weapons. This psychological escalation could cause more catastrophes. Who knows how many crazies who carry weapons are waiting for the 'Green Light' [as they interpret them] statements made, characterizing Israel as it is characterized today."

The Jordanians have launched a full inquiry into the massacre, which occurred while the bus of schoolgirls was visiting the enclave that had been returned to Jordanian sovereignty under the terms of the peace accord with Israel.

The children had gotten off the bus after entering the enclave, passing through the Jordanian border post, where their ID cards were checked. One of the teaching assistants on the tour, Ya'acov Zecharya, said that they were standing at the observation post overlooking the site of the historic Rutenberg hydroelectric plant when the massacre occurred.

A soldier, reportedly a driver named Ahmed Moussa, 26, from Adasiya, a town near the site, took a colleague's rifle and climbed the observation tower above the site where the children were standing.

Zecharya said he saw the soldier climb down from the tower and come towards them. As he did this, he opened fire at the girls, who had their backs to him.

The soldier, eyewitnesses said, continued firing, apparently emptying one magazine before his second jammed. It was at that point that other Jordanian soldiers jumped on him and managed to subdue him.

Tour guide Raz Hess said he saw the gunman approach a girl who was still standing and fire at her from point-blank range, shooting her in the head.

A kindergarten teacher from nearby Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov witnessed the horror from a distance. She heard the first burst of gunfire, turned around as the second burst came and saw the children tumbling down the slope and screaming.

"It was terrible, just horrible," she said.

'Suddenly we heard a burst of fire...'

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Schoolteacher Rosa Himi described last week the events that brought a bloody and tragic end to the annual tour for seventh and eighth graders from the AMIT Fuerst school.

"We reached the Naharim enclave at 10:15 and were asked to hand over the weapons at the kibbutz and begin the tour with the guide, who was very nice," Himi said.

"We got out of the bus at the observation point and started to see the process of the pumps at the [former] Naharim electricity plant. In the middle of the description, suddenly we heard a burst of fire. I looked up and saw the Jordanian soldier firing from the observation tower.

"I shouted to the girls to go down the bank which was covered in mustard plants in bloom. The girls started to take cover as one burst came after another.

"The soldier saw that he was not succeeding, so he came after us to the edge [of the slope] and started firing at us from face-to-face distance. He had to change a magazine and when he did so, which didn't work, that was the end of it. It was a nightmare. I still can't take in what happened here.

"I started to call the girls who were around me and saw that some of them didn't answer me. I said to myself, 'What will happen until help comes?' I started to push them into the field and covered them until help came.

"Afterwards, I asked the children to get back on the bus. The Jordanian soldiers were by then prepared for what had happened. They came down but didn't allow us to touch our dead and wounded.

"We struggled with them and took several of the casualties onto the bus and the rest, they, [Jordanians] took them to Jordan." The surviving youngsters along with their teacher were taken to the clubhouse at nearby Kibbutz Gesher, where they were given first aid where necessary, food and drink, and telephones to call their anxious parents.

"They are hysterical. We didn't tell them all the truth. We told them that some are wounded and some of them would not be coming back to us," said Himi at the kibbutz before leaving to continue the process of identifying the youngsters killed in the massacre.

The day after seven of their classmates were killed at Naharayim, these schoolgirls comfort each other at the candle-light memorial set up in their school. [Reuters/RNS]

An island symbol of peace

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jordan's King Hussein, in a June 1995 meeting at Naharayim with Yitzhak Rabin and Helmut Kohl, said that "No place better illustrates the fact that we are at peace" than Naharayim.

Until last week.

Indeed, the island where the Yarmuk and Jordan rivers meet, has — until now — been a symbol of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel. A sign at the entrance to the island, located 10 kilometres south of the Kinneret, reads Island of Peace.

Under the 1994 accord, the Hashemite kingdom regained sovereignty over the area, but Israel leased the land for 25 years with an option to renew. Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov Meuhad and Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov Ihud, which have fields and orchards on the island, continue to cultivate them.

The peace treaty stipulates that although Jordan has complete control of the island, Israelis can enter the area, for a fee, without visas or passports. Entrance is through a Jordanian checkpoint.

Tens of thousands of Israelis have taken advantage of this as a way to "go to Jordan" for a few hours. In addition, thousands of Palestinians and Israeli Arabs go there on the weekends to meet relatives from Jordan, and even some who filter down from Syria. At the end of the day, everyone goes back home: The site is not a transit point between Israel and Jordan.

Opinions

Holocaust ruptured three histories

The following is an excerpt from my inaugural lecture in occupancy of the Franz Rosenzweig Chair at the University of Kassel, the city of Rosenzweig's birth, for the summer semester 1997. In a following letter I hope to explain my thoughts about accepting that invitation.

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

Since Hitler lost the war, the "final solution" has remained incomplete, but at least three histories are ruptured by an abyss, the German, the Jewish, the Christian. Or Europe's as well? So it seems, after what is coming to light now.

Where in world history, i.e., including the German, was ever an attempt made to murder every single member of a human group, as if they were vermin, of which not one must be left alive, while at the same time it was subjected to calumnies and torture, as if they were devils? Even as horrendous a concept as genocide must still be distinguished from extermination, and if one is really bent on the idea that this human group is vermin, that is, behave like vermin because they can't help it, it is in their race, the calumnies and tortures are still unexplained: you get rid of vermin, but you don't insult and torture them. To be sure, Hitler said that he was merciful to the Jews, for he had killed them without unnecessary torture. That's what he said, but not what he did.

If one really wants to explain both these aspects — the vermin and the devil — it is probably possible only through ideology, more precisely Weltanschauung. Indeed, in *Mein Kampf*, Hitler wrote that the conflict between the Jews and mankind was cosmic, and that in case the Jews won, the world would be lifeless for thousands of years, and in a footnote he even improved on this by substituting "millions." (A mere ideology is not cosmic.)

Was he insane? Then how did he become fuehrer? Were the little Hitlers who acted also insane? Raul Hilberg has said that he has always confined himself to small questions — the trains, the paper pushing killers, in short, *how* they did it — for fear of too small an answer to the big question... *Why?* Insanity — of one, of some, of all — is too small an answer for the big question. Much too small.

A German historian, Joachim Fest, says that Hitler was a "metaphysician." That is no small answer, but it is, to say the least, doubtful.

So it is with German history: How with the Jewish? Where were Jews ever not only defined by enemies through birth, but also persecuted on account of it? But in the Holocaust Jews were systematically robbed of freedom even *in extremis*, on the one hand, of heroism, death by fighting, on the other hand, of martyrdom, death of having a choice in it.

The Roman Emperor Hadrian, the worst enemy of the Jews until he was surpassed by Hitler, forbade the Jewish religion on pain of death, and thus *created* Jewish martyrs, 10 of whom are remembered in Judaism to this day, and who help strengthen the faith to this day. (They are remembered on Yom Kippur, the holiest day in Judaism.)

Hitler not only murdered Jews, but with them, also Jewish martyrdom.

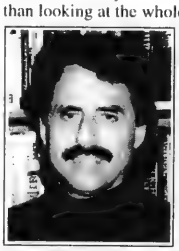
And Christian history? The so-called "myth of the 19th century" was essentially the doctrine of an "Aryan" Christ, a basically German affair. Whether this is really over, by Christians or Germans, I am not sure, for while the world is now generally anti-"Aryan," to be anti-"Aryan" is not necessarily to be pro-Jewish.

But even prior to this aberration, the fact is that even the Christianity of the Jew Jesus was widely hostile to his people, and this for centuries. In my view, this was a tragedy of world-historical significance, for with Christian hatred against Jews hatred got into the religion of love.

Even so, however, the Holocaust is an in principle, new challenge in Christian history. So long as anti-Semitism is only against some Jews — the old anti-Semitism: they are stubborn, they won't convert; the new one: they are money-lovers, unpatriotic, even conspirators — there can always be good Jews beside the bad ones, in an emergency, at least One. But if the aim is a world *entirely judenrein*, without exception on account of birth, then the carpenter of Nazareth is one of them a Jew, too.

Myopia obscures burning issues

Being shortsighted has its benefits. You can see clearly only a few feet in front of you. Sometimes it is easier than looking at the whole picture.



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

Myopia is very popular here in Israel. If you open the local newspapers or watch local television news or listen to the politicians, you would believe the only burning issues in the Jewish State are the latest clashes, casualty figures and political crises in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israelis have found a bizarre reassurance in almost exclusively focusing on this unending saga, not only because of its objective size, but also because such myopia eases the burden of looking at some of the serious, very serious, internal problems facing this country.

Case in point: Last month, 73 Israeli soldiers were killed in a tragic helicopter accident. It was truly a national disaster. The automatic reflexes went into action. There was a day of mourning; there were special lessons in school; there were heartwrenching profiles of those who had died on television. Every funeral was announced. Many were broadcast on the local news.

Israel must hold the world record for annual national days of mourning — Remembrance Day, Holocaust Day and unfortunately numerous days following large-scale bloodshed. Are so many days of sadness necessary?

Of course we must remember the dead. Of course we must remember the sacrifice. But take a careful look at the national dynamic, when there is such a day — and that is the bizarre pay off.

Israel's national dynamic

People are reassured. They are reassured in a national unity; they are reassured in the sad predictability of this conflict. There are seemingly clear rights and wrongs; there are seemingly clear values. The world is firm on national days of mourning.

You might ask, "So what's wrong with this?" The problem is that the real issues that don't have clear cut answers are ignored in the blur of national myopia.

For example, every month more than 20 Israelis are killed in road accidents. The biggest killer in this country by far is not Arab terror. It is the Israeli driver. Hezbollah manages to kill fewer Israelis in a whole year than the highways claim in just over two months.

The children, the innocent pedestrians, the elderly who can't move quickly, these victims of Israeli highway terror only make the inside pages.

There are no national days of mourning. There are no profiles of these tragic victims. There are no broadcast funerals portraying the terrible grief of a mother who lost her whole family in a road accident. Why? Are the roadside victims' lives cheaper? Were their lives not brutally cut off? The answer lies in national myopia.

This is a very aggressive society. Israelis consider themselves "suckers" if they cooperate with each other rather than fight. It is evident in business, it is evident in Parliament and it is bloody evident on the roads.

Instead of really and truly examining the problem, it is easier to rally to the flag and to hide behind the painful sacrifice for the Jewish State.

The same rule holds true for the disastrous state of education and hospitals, or in the very hostile relations between religious and non-religious, or in the serious drug problem, or in the gap between rich and poor.

We have to stop insulting those who have fallen for this country by hiding behind their sacrifice. They would want those they have been left in this world to use their legacy to face the problems of this state and transform it into a better society.

Archives reveal schnorr letters

Several months ago, I wrote a column about my old teacher, Prof. Jacob R. Marcus, the pre-eminent historian of American Jewry. I had received a booklet of his famous schnorr letters, written on behalf of American Jewish Archives, the prime repository for American Jewish historical materials. I could not resist quoting a sample of Marcus' gems. The response to my article was wonderful and encouraged me to print another letter, written in 1995:

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

"As you know, if I have luck I will become 100 years of age soon. When Abraham was 100 he fathered Isaac. Believe me, I have no such ambitions.

"People do ask me how I account for my longevity, such as it is. The secret is that I never smoked, drank or ran around with girls until I was 12 years of age. I am kind to women, children, worms. I speak of God in the highest terms.

"In other words, I am an Anglo-Saxon Hebrew, a Reform Jew who believes in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man and the neighborhood of Cincinnati. I learned to discipline myself. The only fiction I now read is my own historical writings. I am alert and find it easy to remember many things that never happened.

"I am very proud of the history of the American Jew. Despite the fact that we are only about 2.5 percent of the population, we have a remarkable record. We are found in the White House assisting the president; there are several Jews in the presidential cabinet; Jews are found on the Supreme Court; they are numerous in Congress; they have distinguished themselves in science.

"How would you account for what the Jew has accomplished here in this country? I find it very difficult to explain. I don't know the answer.

"One might say it is because the Jews devote themselves to education; they go to school and apply themselves in every sense of the term. This may, or may not, explain why we achieve what we do.

"I do not believe — although I know very little of these things — that Jews were born superior. I believe that one advances through hard work, through learning and through application. The Jew has always been challenged to be somebody and on the whole he has responded. That in part explains why he is what he is today. Despite the fact that Jews are a minuscule part of American life they have had a profound influence upon it.

"As an American Jewish historian, the question has often been put to me: What books have helped you? The answer is obvious; my mother's cookbook and your chequebook.

"P.S. God willing, I hope to be 100 years of age in a few months. I hope you will respond to the Archives. Over the years, you have been very good to us."

Unfortunately, Marcus was not permitted to become a centenarian. But, for all his disciples, he remains as alive as if he were with us in the flesh.

The Kirshner File

Strands of German history converge in Weimar

By Sheldon Kirshner

The confounding, contradictory strands of German history converge in Weimar, a pleasant town in the eastern state of Thuringia.

Weimar is the home of some of Germany's greatest literary and musical figures and the birthplace of the short-lived Weimar Republic, a paradigm of democracy.

Yet Weimar bears several crosses. It was the site of the Nazi party's first national congress. It was the abode of Fritz Saukel, the *gauleiter* (district leader) of the Nazi party in Thuringia, the first German state in which a Nazi official achieved ministerial power. And Weimar had a disturbing relationship with a notorious concentration camp, Buchenwald, which is only eight kilometres away, high in the wind-swept Ettersberg hills.

Weimar, then, has a schizophrenic and tortuous soul, torn as it is between the polar opposites of modern Germany.

Late last year, I visited Weimar and Buchenwald as a guest of the German National Tourism Office and Lufthansa Airlines, both of which have launched a campaign to encourage Jewish travellers to see the new, reunified Germany, the Germany which emerged from the ashes of the Third Reich.

On a cloudy day in November, I began my visit of Weimar with a tour of a special exhibit in the State Museum called *In the Footsteps of Jewish Life in Weimar, 1770-1945.*

Before the tour got under way, I asked the guide to explain the purpose of the exhibition, which closed three weeks later after a lengthy run.

I was told that it was mounted for the edification of the present generation, which has little or no knowledge of the historic Jewish presence in Thuringia. This is not surprising. Until 1990, Weimar was part of East Germany, a Communist state which did practically nothing to foster the continuity of its minuscule and moribund Jewish community.

Jews arrived in Thuringia in the 10th century and in Weimar - the capital of the state - four centuries later. The Jewish burghers of medieval Weimar did not enjoy equal civic rights and were subjected to mob violence and expulsions, as elsewhere in Germany and the rest of Europe.

On the eve of Adolf Hitler's appointment as chancellor in 1933, the Jewish population of Weimar was modest, less than 100. There was no synagogue and not much of an organized Jewish life. Indeed, Weimar Jews were affiliated with the Jewish community in neighboring Erfurt.

The advent of the Third Reich spelled finis to Jewish existence in Weimar, which, under Saukel's influence, became a centre of Aryan racial research and anti-Semitic agitation. Hitler was a frequent visitor, and when he was in town, he stayed at the Hotel Elephant, which is still one of the best hotels in the region.

In the wake of Kristallnacht, scores of Weimar Jews were interned in Buchenwald, and only released when they agreed to emigrate. Jews unable or unwilling to leave were dispatched to Auschwitz and Treblinka in May 1942. They shared the fate of Thuringian Jews from towns like Eisenberg, Jena and Gotha.

A handful of Jewish survivors returned after the war, frustrating Saukel's grandiose goal of rendering Weimar *Judenrein.* Saukel himself, having been declared a war criminal, was hanged in 1946, following a celebrated trial in Nuremberg. Today, an estimated 10 Jews live in Weimar, a town of about 60,000 lying along the banks of the Ilm River.

Despite its size, Weimar has a distinguished pedigree. The Saxon countess Anna Amalia, an exceedingly wise woman, invited the poets Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller to Weimar, where they flourished. The composers Johann Sebastian Bach, Carl Maria von Weber and Franz Liszt were also drawn to its hospitality. Their respective homes have been renovated and turned into popular museums.

Weimar, as well, is inextricably linked with the 16th century painter Lucas Cranach the Elder. His half-timbered, fairy tale house rounds off an exquisite ensemble of renovated Renaissance buildings in the central square, the *Marktplatz,* one of the prettiest in Europe.

Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus movement of architecture here in 1919, the year the ill-fated Weimar Republic was proclaimed by the German National Assembly in the National Theatre. The statues of Goethe and Schiller stand shoulder to shoulder in front of the gray building where German democracy, born in a flush of optimism, was swiftly snuffed out just 13 years later by a cruel, megalomanical regime.

The twisted face of Nazism reveals itself in Buchenwald, which was established in 1937 as a camp for political opponents, religious dissenters, common criminals, social misfits and homosexuals. During the war, Allied soldiers - including Soviets and Canadians-passed through Buchenwald. Jews were initially brought here in 1938, in the aftermath of Kristallnacht. The majority were set free after promising to sell their properties and leave Germany and Austria (which Hitler had annexed).

Former Nazi bastion lies near Buchenwald

Buchenwald, which was converted into an anti-fascist museum and a memorial by East Germany, sprawls over four square kilometres, running into densely wooded valleys where prisoners' huts once stood. From these green hills, 470 metres above sea level, you can see the outlines of Weimar and the plain upon which it sits.

Buchenwald, guarded by the SS, was a work camp, funnelling inmates from more than 30 countries into armament factories on the grounds and in Weimar. The older residents of Weimar thus cannot claim that they were unaware of Buchenwald.

Buchenwald had no gas chambers, but crematoriums, manufactured in Erfurt by Topf & Sohne, were installed in 1940 to dispose of thousands of prisoners who had been shot or who had succumbed to disease and gruesome medical experiments.

All in all, Buchenwald consumed 55,000 people, approximately 11,000 of whom were Jews.

It was liberated by the U.S. army in April 1945. But after the war, the Soviet Union controlled it, using it as a labor camp for Nazis.

Virtually all its buildings, from the barracks to the munition plants, are long gone. The factories were bombed in 1944 by the U.S. and British air forces. The barracks were dismantled in the 1950s to cope with a scarcity of residential housing. The crematoriums are still intact, a particularly chilling reminder of the depths to which Germany sank under Nazism.

There are two Jewish monuments. The first, which takes the form of a simple stone marker, was erected by the Communists. It is inscribed in German, Hebrew and Russian. The second, which was built recently, is in the shape of a rectangular stone quarry.

One final note. My guide in Buchenwald, which evokes a terrible sense of bleakness, was Daniel Gaede, a Hebrew-speaking German who lost an eye in a terrorist incident near Jericho eight years ago. He, too, carries the scars of hatred.

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Books

By Bernard Baskin

***The Five Books of Moses* translated by Everett Fox (Random House, $70).**

***The Stone Edition Of The Tanach* edited by Nosson Scherman (Mesorah Publications (no price indicated)).**

The earliest translation of the Hebrew Bible was into Greek in the early third century BCE. According to tradition, this work was undertaken in Alexandria, Egypt, by 72 elders from 12 tribes. The number was eventually rounded off to 70, from which we derive the Greek term for the translation, "Septuagint" — usually indicated as LXX.

This translation served the educational and liturgical needs of the large Greek speaking Jewish diaspora.

The Targums were rendering of the books of the Hebrew Bible into Aramaic. These translations probably go back to the second Temple period when Jews living in Palestine and elsewhere in the Near East were no longer familiar with their ancestral tongue.

The renderings of the Bible into English were often a source of danger to the translators. The first complete translation is credited to John Wycliffe (1330-1384). For 150 years, this was the only Bible in English. In 1415, however, his work was condemned and his body exhumed and burned.

William Tyndale published his translation of the Pentateuch in 1531. In 1536, he was found guilty of heresy, strangled and burned at the stake. His last words were reputed to be, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes!"

The Bible translated during the reign of James VI of Scotland by 54 "learned men" was published in 1611. This work, and its revisions over the years, became the most widely read and revered of all English versions.

In the United States, the earliest translation of the Hebrew Bible was done by Isaac Leeser (1854); it became the accepted version in all synagogues in the United States. Under sponsorship of the Jewish Publication Society (JPS) of America, a group of scholars produced a new translation (1917), which became the standard Bible of the American Jewish community, until the appearance of what is known as the New Jewish Version by the JPS published under the title, Tanach, in one volume in 1985.

Today, in English alone the Bible can be found in at least 40 translations and is a household icon in nine out of 10 American homes.

Everett Fox is professor of Jewish Studies at Clark College in Worcester, Mass. The aim of his translation is to draw the reader into the Hebrew Bible through the power of its language. He concentrates on echoing the style of the original through rhythms and sounds and verbal patterns. All five books are put in verse form that helps to capture the musical and poetic flow of the original.

For his inspiration, Fox, who spent 25 years on this work, went to the pioneering German translation of Martin Buber and Franz Rosenzweig. They were eager to have their translation read aloud — as is Fox — which, of course, is how the Jewish community hears the Torah in the synagogue.

The volume has an insightful and helpful running commentary by Fox, as well as introductions and notes.

The Stone Edition of the 24 books of the Hebrew Bible is intended especially for the Orthodox community. The brief commentary, drawn largely from Rashi, the Talmud and rabbinic literature, constitutes an invaluable anthology of traditional sources.

The translation, edited by Rabbi Nosson Scherman and a group of contributing scholars, shows little advantage over the JPS version. But, this mammoth volume of 2,050 pages contains an innovative group of timelines, charts, maps, a translation of names in the Hebrew Bible and an index of themes and personalities.

Both of these works of scholarship — meant for the general reader — are indicative of the increased interest in Jewish learning and knowledge in our time.

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Diplomatically Speaking

By Jehudi Kinar

Pilgrimages to Israel

As the month of March nears its end and April approaches, the number of people travelling to Israel will increase in preparation for the spring holidays. Each year at Passover and Easter, Jews and Christians travel to Israel in large numbers to mark these traditional holidays, be it in Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem or the Galilee. Israel is acknowledged worldwide as the centre of religious consciousness.

Indeed, 30 to 40 percent of tourism to Israel is pilgrimage-based. For our purposes, a pilgrim is defined broadly as an individual visiting Israel out of fundamentally religious motivation. The pilgrimage market is important for the Israeli tourist industry; it is, according to the Ministry of Tourism, a loyal market, much less affected by the political environment than other tourists since there is no substitute for the religious sites of Israel in general and Jerusalem in particular.

For all three of the major monotheistic religions, Jerusalem figures as a place of great importance. In biblical times, Jews fulfilled the religious injunction to make offerings at the Temple on three feast days. It was the Pesach pilgrimage that brought Jesus to Jerusalem; and although the primary Muslim pilgrimages are to the holy sites of Mecca and Medina, Mohammed's night ride to heaven in order to receive the Koran is said to have begun at the Temple Mount, and Jerusalem is thus a revered holy city.

For Jews, Passover is one of the most popular times of the year to visit Israel. Passover is one of the three pilgrim festivals (along with Shavuot and Sukkot) when Jews were commanded to make the pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem (Ex. 23:14). Indeed, the special pull to visit Israel during Passover is reflected in two of the holiday's four names — the Season of our Freedom (Zman Cheruteinu) and the Festival of Spring (Chag ha-Aviv). Passover has special significance for Jews as the celebration of the freedom from bondage in Egypt and the return to the Land of Israel.

Since the second century CE, Christian pilgrims have set out on long and difficult voyages crossing deserts and oceans to visit the holy sites of the "Terra Sancta," to set foot in Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem. Today, travel to Israel is obviously much easier and faster — the donkey has been traded in for the airplane.

As this column is geared toward the Jewish public, it may be of interest to note some of the sites in Jerusalem that Christian pilgrims tend to flock to, among them Ein Kerem, the Mount of Olives, the gardens and grotto of Gethsemane, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Via Dolorosa, the site of the Last Supper and the Garden Tomb.

Since the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967, there has been an enormous amount of archeological activity, more than ever before in the city's history. During the course of the 1970s, vast excavations were conducted at the Southern Wall of the Temple Mount, the Jewish Quarter of the Old City and the City of David.

Shifting now from the spiritual to the more mundane, Passover and Easter usually fall during the month of April — springtime in Israel. According to all accounts, pilgrimage visits no longer focus exclusively on the holy sites of the country. Everyone is attracted by the beauty and dynamism of modern Israel as well. The weather during this period is warm and sunny but not yet too hot. The flowers are in full bloom; it is undoubtedly the most beautiful time of the year to visit the country.

Jewish Life

Guest Voices

Purim, the Gulf War and a volunteer in Israel

By DONIA BLUMENFELD CLENMAN
Special to The CJN

What shall I say about Purim, this holiday for young and old, the best known, the most celebrated, the most public of all holidays?

What words shall I, a Canadian volunteer at Camp Naftali, use, in order not to darken the festive spirit of this soldiers' party and the contributions of the volunteers who worked with such fervor to make it a success? Just a few brief reflections. For strangely, this most extravagant holiday is also the most elusive and many-layered tale; parables, marvels and deja vu almost drowned by masks, parades and partying.

In a certain way, the scroll of Esther has the form of a fairy tale. "Once Upon a Time"...the lush opulent East, a palace, an oriental potentate, an evil vizier, a beautiful maiden, a queen — nay two queens — and the essential struggle between good and evil. Except that "Once Upon a Time" has a definite locale. Shushan is Persia, the time is the first exile and the succession of Babylon, Assyria and Medes-Persia; Mordecai is a Jew and the beautiful maiden is Esther, a Jewish girl whose Hebrew name is Hadassah.

It is also an unusual Jewish holiday, for normative Judaism advocates restraint and, while not making a virtue of poverty, in its wisdom, it tries to curb the excesses of human passions. Yet this is the one holiday that advocates *excess*. *Ad lo yadah* (Till you don't know the difference), eating, merrymaking, indulging to the point of drunkenness, *excess* glorified.

Why? This is not a simple Dionysian release, a Bacchanalian orgy, for Judaism has a different philosophical outlook on the channelling of human eroticism. True, it is a celebration of victory, but there were other victories in our history, and appropriate celebrations.

How is this one different? A Passover *kushiyah (question)*?

My friend, Dov Noy, professor of folklore and literature at Hebrew University, told me of the extraordinary impression the celebration of Purim made on him when he observed Purim customs among Oriental Jews in Islamic countries. Such joy, such passion, such rejoicing were possible only in a people who knew total helplessness. Always dependent on the good graces of others, living in perpetual state of fear and subjugation, here perpetual victims suddenly turned victors. A sense of power unknown to the weak.

It is obvious from the story that this was not a question of war, of equal adversaries, of territorial or political claims. No, Haman's reasons for annihilation are: "O King, there is a certain people in your kingdom who are different from all others," mere existence the reason for total destruction.

Two millennia later, we heard the same words, "There is a certain people..." restated by Hitler, and then came the ensuing extermination of European Jewry.

Achashverosh is not an evil man, only an indifferent one, and yet, he and his courtiers led by Haman are not so different from the Holocaust bystanders. For when evil is not checked, seemingly good people become accessories and partners to murder.

Scanning history from misty BCE and the first exile to World War II and the Holocaust brings me to the present Haman called Saddam, the Gulf War, our volunteering, the Scuds falling on an Israel forbidden to defend itself and finding it necessary to comply, masked faces in sealed rooms.

And if we rejoice in the courage of one Jew, Mordecai, and one young woman, Hadassah (Esther), and every year party and party, how much more do I rejoice to be today in my country, Israel, among my people, defenders of a Jewish State which stands on guard for us, a haven for all Jews — Russian, Ethiopian, Yemenite, Iraqi, Moroccan, Polish, French — all who were, are, might be threatened and persecuted?

Today, I, born in Poland, who knew Haman and the face of evil in Europe, for whom any army was always an enemy, so that it took me years in Canada to overcome a fear of a friendly policeman, am joined to my brothers and sisters from all corners of the world. At Camp Naftali, an army base, surrounded by Jewish soldiers, myself wearing a soldier's uniform and, Scuds or no Scuds, lack of sleep and dark dark memories, I feel protected, guarded, defended and as straight and proud as I have never felt in my life.

A toast, l'chayim, to life, the destruction of all Hamans, the genius of our people and the Third Commonwealth, and the passionate merrymaking at Purim.

מצבות ירושלים

JERUSALEM MONUMENTS

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STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

Greater Toronto Area

Branson president explores hospital's future

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An easy to reach out-patient service for elderly people in the area, possibly in Branson Hospital itself, is an absolute necessity when the hospital is closed in about two years, Branson's president says.

"It's unthinkable that this community will be abandoned," said Jack Gallop.

In concert with North York General Hospital, Gallop said, such a recommendation will be made to the Health Services Restructuring Commission in the appeal period, which ends April 12.

Other options for use of the Branson building will be presented to the commission, but they are still under discussion, he said.

One issue still to be settled is whether a state-of-the-art $2.7-million scanning machine, paid for by donors, will go to North York General or York Finch.

"We would like to keep it here at Branson for use in the community," said Gallop.

If doctors have to affiliate with other hospitals and move out of Branson, it will leave a big gap in medical services available and this is causing much concern, he added.

Meanwhile, an official at the newly-named Humber River Regional Hospital (formerly York Finch/Northwestern/Humber Memorial) said it will welcome new patients when Branson closes.

Located at Finch Avenue and highway 400, Humber River is destined to receive 60 percent of Branson's medical and emergency patients, 50 percent of its surgery and 20 percent of its obstetrics.

"We appreciate that there may be a lack of information in the community about our hospital," said Greg Gaudet.

For one thing, the hospital complies with any requests from patients for kosher meals, he said.

This is also true of North York General, marked for 70 percent of Branson's obstetrics, 50 percent of surgery, 30 percent of medical, 30 percent of emergency and 100 percent of pediatrics.

Kosher meals are also available at York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, according to president Frank Lussing. The commission said York Central would get 10 percent of Branson's obstetrics, medical and emergency patients.

A new nursing care building is likely to be built at York Central because of the region's rapid growth.

The Humber River Hospital expects affiliation requests from Branson doctors and each case will be considered, Gaudet said. Since changes are not going to happen right away, "it's business as usual," he said.

In its report ordering closing of Branson, the commission said that hospital had the smallest volume of patients in the area. By contrast, it described the York-Finch area as a "high need" population and said that hospital has a surplus capacity.

The catchment areas of North York General and York-Finch overlap that of Branson, the report said.

Crown attorney briefed on fighting racism

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In Scarborough recently, an Asian man was the victim of a crime that police investigated and brought to trial. Although the perpetrator was convicted, the Crown attorney was unaware that the perpetrator had links to extremist groups and that racism may have been a motivation in the attack.

Under current Canadian law, racism may be taken into account as an aggravating factor when the trial judge considers sentence.

That incident, and the lighter penalty handed to the perpetrator, prompted Crown attorney John McMahon to do something so that such cases don't continue to "fall between the cracks."

McMahon contacted Canadian Jewish Congress and arranged a special 1½-hour presentation on racist groups. About 25 Scarborough Crown attorneys took part in the recent seminar conducted by Bernie Farber and Steven Shulman, director and associate director of Congress' community relations committee, along with Sgt. Dino Doria of the Metro Police anti-hate unit.

Congress, which had a file on the perpetrator of the attack, could have served as a resource for police and Crown attorneys in the case, McMahon said. Congress' activity monitoring extremist groups took the Crown lawyers a little by surprise, Shulman said. Congress provided them with copies of *From Marches to Modems*, an analysis of modern hate groups. Both sides agreed to keep open the lines of communication.

Looking to organizations like Congress could serve as a model in consulting with other community groups, McMahon said. "Any information from any source could be quite helpful."

Although hate-motivated crime in Scarborough doesn't represent a large percentage of infractions, "we take this seriously and one is too many," he said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Germany urged to identify SS vets receiving pensions

TORONTO — The head of the Canadian office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC) is calling on the German government to reveal the names of 1,882 SS veterans living in Canada who are receiving German disabilities pensions.

Pointing to the prosecution in Italy of former major Karl Haas, Sol Littman said the case shows the alleged Nazi war criminal has been receiving a German government pension of $560 (US) a month, despite allegations against him that date back to 1944. Haas is to stand trial for his alleged role in the 1944 Ardeatine Cave Massacre in which 335 Italian men and boys were shot in retaliation for a partisan attack on a German convoy. Seventy-five of the victims were Jews.

"The Haas case clearly indicates that the German government's claim that none of the pensioners could possibly be war criminals because war criminals are not eligible for pensions according to German law, is the worst kind of circular reasoning," Littman stated.

The SWC accuses the German government of failing to investigate records of former SS men receiving pensions and of refusing to turn over the addresses of wanted war criminals.

In a letter to German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, Rabbi Marvin Hier and Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Centre's Los Angeles headquarters suggested the information about Haas "destroys the credibility of any claim that the list of pensioners was ever checked for criminal behavior.

"That the former SS criminals living in Europe, Canada and the United States are still recipients of such funds indicates that their whereabouts were known to your government and that no serious effort to analyze the virtual Rosetta Stone of Nazi war criminals was ever considered by the Federal Republic [of Germany]," the letter states.

The Wiesenthal Centre demanded that all SS pensions be suspended; that lists of SS pensioners be made available to governments and organizations that search for Nazi war criminals; and that an immediate investigation be launched to determine whether other notorious war criminals like Josef Schwammberger, Erich Priebke, Adolf Eichmann, Josef Mengele and Klaus Barbie ever received German government pensions.

STUDENT THANKS HOSPITAL

Jonathan Gordner, 12½, a student at Associated Hebrew Schools, spent nearly a year, on and off, at the Hospital for Sick Children's neurosurgery ward. To thank the hospital for the care he received, he donated a Nintendo Play Station, complete with games and controller, to Ward 5C, where he was treated. In the photo, Jonathan presents the play station to Carmela Figluvzzi, child life specialist trainee. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Caplan appointment stirs controversy

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — The appointment of Elinor Caplan by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as the Liberal candidate in the riding of Thornhill has stirred some controversy.

Disappointment with Chrétien's decision lies mainly with "the potential candidates" in Thornhill, Caplan told *The CJN*.

"The truth is, they were all told that because this is a new riding, a candidate might be designated," she said.

Besides, she added, the party voted overwhelmingly in 1992 to change nomination rules to allow the leader to appoint a candidate in any riding.

"This is wholly and strictly an internal matter," said the Oriole MPP who was named the Liberal hopeful in Thornhill, following weeks of rumors that Chrétien was seeking high-profile women to run in the next election.

"The leader has his reasons," said Caplan. "We must accept his decision."

She was quoted last week as saying she supports Chrétien's decision to appoint women as candidates. "Women are socialized to wait to be asked," Caplan stated. "[It is] important to have an initiative such as this from the prime minister. It changes the dynamic."

Longtime Vaughan city councillors Bernie Green and Mario Racco, who were both seeking the Liberal nod in the riding, expressed bitterness at Caplan's appointment.

"I don't know which is worse, this or losing," Green told *The CJN*. "It's very disappointing."

Green, who claims to have sewn up support from major Jewish organizations and synagogues in the riding, says he spent thousands of supporters' dollars on his "full-scale" campaign.

"But that's really irrelevant. Hundreds of people joined the political process, and now that's been snatched from their hands," he said.

Green said he's still a loyal Liberal, but criticized Chrétien's move. "He should have shown greater sensitivity to a new riding. I don't think it's a right approach for women. I think women can stand on their own two feet."

Racco stopped short of endorsing the riding's Conservative candidate, Bill Fisch, in the next election, but said, "Anyone who is appointed must be defeated."

Caplan's appointment is "a slap in the face of democracy. It never should have happened," he said.

"I don't see how [Caplan] has a chance to win. The only beneficiary is Bill Fisch. We've lost this riding."

For her part, Caplan said Racco "would have accepted an appointment."

And she defended not living in the riding, saying she "probably knows as many people" in Thornhill as in Oriole.

"Oriole and Thornhill have a lot in common. They both have large multicultural populations and Jewish communities.

"For me, in a way, it's like coming home."

Former Liberal hopeful Doron Aronson supported Chretien's decision. "It's disappointing but we have to respect the leader and look at the larger picture, which is unity," said Aronson, who said he gathered about 1,000 signatures of support for his campaign.

* * *

Also last week, Metro Councillor Norman Gardner announced he will seek the Conservative nomination in the federal riding of Willowdale.

Gardner is a member of B'nai Brith, the Jewish war Veterans of Canada and Beth Tikvah synagogue. He has also held various civic positions.

The riding is currently held by Liberal MP Jim Peterson.

Hate crimes down

TORONTO — The incidence of hate crimes reported to Metro police plummeted by 43 percent in 1996, according to statistics compiled by the Metro police intelligence unit.

The total number of incidents reported to police in 1996 fell to 175, considerably fewer than the 302 hate crimes reported in 1995. Police attributed the drop to several factors, including an effective outreach program to high school students to warn them of the dangers of racism and to the under-reporting of incidents.

Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber suggested also that organized racist groups like the Heritage Front are experiencing a leadership vacuum, contributing to the decline in incidents.

Blacks, Asians, Jews and gays were the groups most often targeted for hate crimes, says the report, presented to the Metro Police Services Board.

Assaults were the most common hate crime and the majority of perpetrators were found to be males between the ages of 12 and 25.

Those suspects found to be affiliated with organized groups were most often linked to the Heritage Front and Polish Skinheads, the report stated.

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Greater Toronto Area

CHRC head fighting for equality for women

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Over one-fifth of the 1,200 complaints received by the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) last year dealt with sex discrimination. Many of them were sexual harassment cases.

"We still have a lot of work to do here in Canada before women achieve full equality," said Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, chief commissioner of the CHRC, "but at least we are out of the dark ages."

Montreal-born Falardeau-Ramsay, a lawyer who was CHRC deputy commissioner for eight years before being appointed to her current position in January, was speaking recently to commemorate International Women's Day (March 8) at the B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) building on Hove Street. The event was co-sponsored by the Canadian Human Rights Commission and Women in Interfaith Dialogue of BBC's League for Human Rights.

On a global scale and even in Canada, women's rights have not automatically been included under the umbrella of human rights, said Falardeau-Ramsay.

In French-speaking countries "with the notable exception of Canada," human rights are referred to as *Les Droits de l'Homme* (men's rights), she said.

Both in this talk and at a recent Ottawa meeting with a delegation of Canadian Jewish Congress, Falardeau-Ramsay indicated that issues relating to the status of women would be among her priorities as chief commissioner.

The biggest difference between Canada and other parts of the world in terms of women's rights Falardeau-Ramsay believes, is that "we are just a little ahead in the pursuit of women's equality. Many of us remember a time when open and overt sex discrimination was not only acceptable but legally sanctioned."

Newspaper ads, for example, used to have two categories under Help Wanted: male and female.

Falardeau-Ramsay herself took only three weeks off work, at her own expense, when her son was born — before the days of six-month maternity leaves. "It's not that long ago, because I'm not a dinosaur," she quipped.

Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay

It was only in 1994 that the United Nations commission on human rights appointed a special reporter to investigate systemic violence against women. That change can be attributed to the efforts of women's organizations, Falardeau-Ramsay said.

There is a growing recognition worldwide that "violation of women's rights, whether social and economic inequality, access to education, female genital mutilation, or domestic violence and rape, is as serious as unlawful detention.

Universal rights

"At the level of individual countries... decision makers can no longer look at issues like domestic violence and say, 'That's just a women's issue;' nor can countries continue to hide behind culture as an excuse for violating the rights of women. If human rights are universal, so are women's rights."

Challenges we still face in Canada include child poverty, Falardeau-Ramsay said. "If we are to do something for child poverty, equality for women has to be part of that equation."

Canadian women working full time still earn only 73 cents for every dollar earned by men, she noted. Although more women are entering management-level jobs, the majority are still concentrated in clerical and service positions.

"Let us all hope that one day we won't have to talk about whether women's rights are human rights because it will be something we can all take for granted."

Other participants in the program included Rochelle Wilner and Karen Mock, national chair and national director respectively, League for Human Rights; Mervin Witter, Ontario regional director, CHRC; Beth Porter of Women in Interfaith Dialogue; and Talat Muinuddin, president of Women's Intercultural Network.

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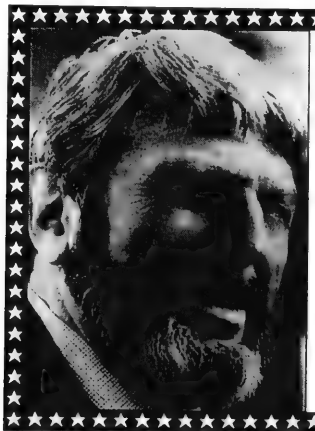

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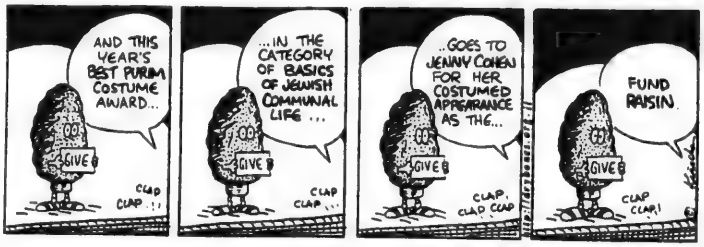

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פון מאניע ליפשיץ

פורים ווערט געפראָוועט פון אַלע יידן איבער דער גאַנצער וועלט, און כמעט אין אַלע לענדער פֿראָוועט מען דעם יום-טוב אויף זעלבן שטיגער. אומעטום ווערט דער יום-טוב באַגלייט מיט פּריידּ, געזאַנג, מיט לאַזן זיך וואוילגיין, און מיט ספּעציעלער פּריידּ און הנאה בּיי די קינדער. אויך די צוגריייטונגען צום פורים ווערן באַגלייט מיט פּונקט אַזויפיל פּריידּ און לוסטיקייט ווי דער יום-טוב גופא.

עס דערמאָנט זיך, ווי פורים פלעגט געפראָוועט ווערן אין דער אַלטער היים. דער טאָג ערב פורים איז אסתר תענית, אַבער דאָס איז אייגנער פון די תעניתים, וואָס בלויז געצילטע האָבן אָפּגעהיטן.

אין אונזט פון דעם דיימענטן אָדר האָט זיך אַנגעהויבן דער פורים יום-טוב. דעם אונזט זיינען אַלע זיך צוזאַמענגעקומען אין בית-מדרש. פריער האָט מען געדאָונט מעריב און דערנאָך האָט מען געליינט די מגילה. די קינדער פלעגן שטיין גריייטע מיט די גראַגערס און ווי נאָר המנ'ס נאָמען איז דערמאָנט געוואָרן, האָבן די קינדער אָנגעהויבן דריייען מיט די גראַגערס, קלאַפּן מיט די קלאַפּערס און אַנמאַכן אַזאַ מורא'דיקן טומל, אַז מען האָט דאָס ליידער ניט געקאָנט הערן. די עלטערע יידן פלעגן שרייען אויף די קינדער, אַבער די קינדער האָבן זיי געהערט ווי „המן דעם גראַגער".

ניט אַלע מאָל האָט מען געוווּצט אַ גראַגער. אַמאָליקע צייטן פלעגט מען פאַרברענגען המנ'ס טשוטשעלע. אט-דער מנהג איז געבליבן בלויז בּיי די פערסישע יידן. דער מנהג שטאַמט פון די צייטן, וועו פורים איז געווען דער יום-טוב ביים אָפּשלוס פון ווי-טער און ביים אָנהויב פון פרילינג, און מ'פלעגט פאַרברענען אַ טשוטשעלע, כדי צו פאַרטרייבן די בייזע רוחות. אין פּינסק יאָר-הונדערט האָט אט-דער מנהג זיך אָנגענומען אויף דער קעגנער-שאַפט פון קריסטן. עס איז פאַרשפּרייט געוואָרן אַ בּלבּול, אַז יידן פאַרברענען יעזוסן אום פורים, און דאָס האָט אפט געפּירט צו אַטאַקעס אויף יידן. מיט דער צייט איז דעריבער דער מנהג פאַר-שוואונדן איך אַלע לענדער פון דער קריסטלעכער וועלט.

אַן אַנדער אופן פון שלאָגן המנ'ען פלעגט זיין אָנצושרייבן דאָס וואָרט המן אויפן זויל פון שוך און דערנאָך קלאַפּן מיטן פוס יעדעס מאָל, וואָס המנ'ס נאָמען איז דערמאָנט געוואָרן בּיים ליי-נען די מגילה.

פורים אינדערפרי האָט מען וויידער געליינט די מגילה, אַבער איצט זיינען שוין ניט געווען אַזויפיל קינדער אין שול.

שיקן שלח-מנות און קריגן שלח-מנות איז איינער פון די פּיי-סטע מנהגים פון דעם יום-טוב. מ'שיקט שלח-מנות צו משפּחה, קרובים, צו גוטע פריינד און צו נויטבאַדערפטיקע.

כאָטש פורים איז נישט געפראָוועט געוואָרן ווי אַלע אַנדערע רעליגיעזע יום-טובים מיט פיל רעליגיעזע צערעמאָניעס און מען האָט געארבעט, איז דאָך אין דער היים די שטימונג געווען אַ יום-טוב'דיקע. אויפן טיש זיינען געווען גוטע גרייט צובייסנס, אַ שנעפּסל, אַ ביסל ווין, קיכלעך און המן-טאַשן. אין אונזט האָט מען געפראָוועט אַ פורים סעודה, צו וועלכער עס איז זיך צוזאַמענגעקו-מען די משפּחה און גוטע פריינד.

בּיי דער פורים סעודה האָט מען דערוואָרט די פורים שפּילער, חוץ דעם וואָס מען האָט געוווּנדערן לידער און בכלל זיך משמח גע-ווען. די פורים שפּילער זיינען געווען מערסטנס יידן און בחורים פון דעם אייגענעם שטעטל, מערסטנס אַרבעטער חברה, וועלכע פלעגן זיך אָנטאָן אין קאָסטיומען מיט מאָסקעס און אויפפירן די פורים-מעשה מיט אסתר'ן און המנ'ען.

אַמשטאַרקסטן האָבן די קינדער הנאה געהאַט פון די פורים-שפּילער. זיי פלעגן מיטלויפן מיט די שפּילער פון הויז צו הויז, מיטגיין מיט זיי אַהיים, זיי שטאַרק מקנא זיין און זיך פילן גליקלעך וועו די שפּילער האָבן זיי צוגעלאָזט נאָענט צו זיך.

פון אָט-די פורים-שפּילער און פורים-שפּילן האָט זיך ביסלעכ-ווייז אָנגעהויבן אַנטוויקלען דאָס יידישע טעאַטער (אין 16-טן יאָרהונדערט).

Greater Toronto Area

Nazi hunter gets stopped at Canadian border

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Efraim Zuroff, a recent visit to Canada held more than its share of irony.

Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israel office, was stopped by Immigration authorities when he arrived in Toronto recently to deliver a lecture on Nazi war criminals.

Before being released, he was questioned closely about the lecture and about any fee he'd receive for it.

"If they had shown the same concern about Nazis, I wouldn't be talking about it today," he later exclaimed.

Zuroff, author of *Occupation: Nazi Hunter*, was permitted into Canada, where he delivered his talk to about 70 guests at the home of Lorri Kushnir.

His message to them was simple: keep the pressure on the Canadian government to ensure they treat the issue of Nazi war criminals as a priority. Canadians must follow up the momentum created by U.S. private investigator Steven Rambam, who located 157 Nazi collaborators virtually on his own and interviewed 62, Zuroff said.

For Zuroff, Rambam's investigation and the publicity it generated in the United States and Canada marks a watershed event.

"In the wake of Rambam, there isn't a person in Canada who doesn't know there are Nazis here," Zuroff said.

Rambam's great contribution in the search for justice for war criminals was to take the issue and make it comprehensible to the average Canadian. "He personalized it to the level of a Jew seeking justice," Zuroff suggested.

A key element in that endeavor

Efraim Zuroff

was publicizing the transcript from his interview with Antanas Kenstavicius, former deputy police chief in Svencionya, Lithuania. Kenstavicius, who lived in Hope, B.C., was one of 10 alleged Nazi war criminals federal authorities are seeking to deport for lying about their wartime activities. Kenstavicius died on the first day of hearings but before he did, he granted Rambam an interview — ostensibly about police/military cooperation during wartime.

Kenstavicius described being present at a killing site in Lithuania where thousands of Jews were shot. "When he described the murder of the last Jew and said, 'Finished, no more Jews,' it was chilling, absolutely chilling. It sent a shiver down your spine," Zuroff said.

Not only did Rambam's exploits capture the imagination of Canadians, it did the same in the United States. An audience of millions learned on CBS' *60 Minutes* and *Dateline NBC* of Canada's sorry record of turning a blind eye to war criminals. *Vanity Fair* magazine, a widely-read U.S. publication, is also preparing an item on war criminals with a special focus on Rambam's work, Zuroff added.

Continuing his analysis, Zuroff suggested that by capturing the imagination of the public and the media, Rambam "energized" the Jewish community. Not only must community organizations continue to push for further deportations, the public must get involved by writing to their MPs "urging the government to take action," he said.

Historically, the Canadian government, fearing inter-ethnic tensions, hoped the "issue would go away." While Justice Minister Allan Rock seems committed to deporting war criminals, a key question that remains is whether that view is accepted by the middle echelons of the Justice Department bureaucracy, he said.

Turning to developments elsewhere, Zuroff said an international effort is underway to protest the continued presence in Costa Rica of Bogdan Koziy, a notorious war criminal. A former member of the security police in wartime Ukraine, Koziy personally murdered 14 people, including a 3-year-old Jewish girl in the village of Lysiec. He was stripped of his U.S. citizenship before fleeing to the Latin American nation.

"I don't think he should have the privilege of living in a place like Costa Rica," said Zuroff, noting that Koziy is receiving support from the local Roman Catholic Church.

In Britain, authorities are actively investigating five suspects with a view to laying criminal charges, while in Australia, there is a push to convince authorities to adopt the denaturalization/deportation track after the failure of criminal prosecutions.

Turning to Lithuania, Zuroff said he is urging the government there to charge Alexandras Lileikis with war crimes. Lileikis returned to the Baltic nation after being stripped of his U.S. citizenship in June 1996. Despite assurances by the president of Lithuania that war criminals would be prosecuted and despite a letter of protest from 92 Israel parliamentarians, nothing has been done about Lileikis or other suspects, Zuroff said.

On the contrary. Five Lithuanian Nazis, three of them from the notorious 12th Battalion, a killing squad, have left the United States and found sanctuary in Lithuania, he said.

Droege nabbed taking car

TORONTO — Wolfgang Droege, founder of the white supremacist Heritage Front, was arrested last week for possession of a stolen vehicle.

Droege, 47, and Balwinder Singh Dhaliwal were arrested at an airport hotel after police received a tip. A Jeep Cherokee and a Dodge Caravan were seized.

Droege and Dhaliwal are charged with possessing stolen goods worth more than $5,000. They were released and ordered to appear in court in April.

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Greater Toronto Area

Ethnomusicologist explores crypto-Jewish traditions

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Simply put, this-year-in-Belmonte is Judith Cohen's wish for Passover.

Since last summer, the Montreal-born ethnomusicologist/medievalist has been to the Portuguese mountain village three times as part of a research project focusing on musical traditions in crypto-Jewish areas of Spain and Portugal.

Because Passover is one of the few Jewish holidays observed by crypto-Jews (descendants of forcibly converted Jews who have secretly maintained Jewish traditions), Cohen, 47, would like to take one of the Belmonte residents up on an invitation extended last fall.

How soon she returns depends on funding. Although her one-year York University research grant ends this month, the project itself — an extension of Cohen's longtime work with Sephardi music — isn't over.

An expert on Judeo-Spanish music in Canada (the subject of her 1989 doctoral dissertation), Cohen teaches at York University and is known outside the academic world as a performer.

A founder and the only non-Sephardi member of Gerineldo, a Moroccan Judeo-Spanish ensemble, Cohen will take part in a medieval concert at Hart House on April 17.

As a researcher, she believes now is the time to study crypto-Jewish traditions. In Belmonte, for example, Marrano customs are being replaced to a significant extent by mainstream Jewish practices among those who have formally converted to Judaism. Of about 4,000 residents of the town, perhaps 150 are Jewish or Marrano (the term they themselves use).

Yet even in Belmonte, where many have "come out" as Jews, local Marranos are circumspect about their background.

In smaller Spanish and Portuguese border communities, Cohen found people even more reluctant to admit to Jewish ancestry. "They've spent so many centuries being careful about what they say and who they say it to that it's really built in."

Last summer, Cohen — accompanied by José-Ramón Aparicio, her Spanish research assistant, and 10-year-old daughter Tamar – set out in a beat-up old car to interview

Judith Cohen

residents of some three dozen Spanish and Portuguese towns over a period of three months. They are in the process of transcribing and interpreting a total of 30 hours of audiotape and 10 of video, some gleaned on a second trip this winter.

One of the early results of her study shows reported preferences of crypto-Jews for lyrical, romantic stringed music.

While Cohen found the Belmonte community "nice but kind of suspicious" on her initial visit, she encountered a much warmer reception on her return.

"You realize you have a responsibility. You have to sort out what your responsibilities are to them and to the music. I'd like to publish something ethnomusicologically sound that doesn't compromise them in any way. I'd like to have their traditions preserved, ideally in humidity-controlled archives."

Cohen recently led a series of colloquia for graduate students on Fieldwork Ethics related to her work of the past year. Although ethical issues are important in any kind of research, they tend to be magnified when one is working with crypto-Jewish communities, she noted.

With the advent of electronic recording equipment, particularly small tape recorders, ethnomusicological issues have shifted from authenticity to questions regarding consent.

By and large, Sephardi Jews she has recorded have been happy to contribute and be credited. "But...there are people who don't want their names mentioned or their photos taken – crypto-Jews specifically but [not exclusively]. In some cases, even if you just mention the village, everyone knows who you're talking about."

Cohen's familiarity with local musical traditions has proven to be a boon. "It's helpful to be able to say, 'Do you know this one?' and sing it reasonably well. Then someone answers, 'It doesn't go like this; it goes like this.'

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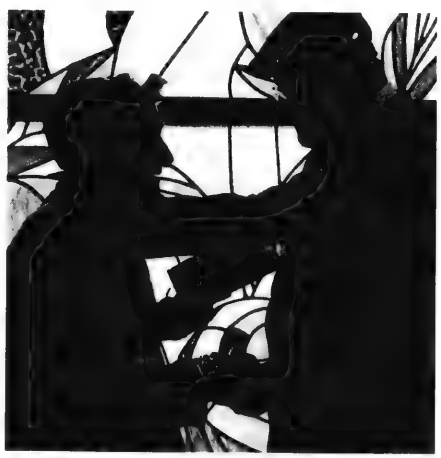

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Greater Toronto Area

She'arim students show Leslie Dan some work done in the Arts Integrated Program. [Gregory Talas photo]

She'arim dedicates program to the late Judith Dan

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Arts Integrated Program of the Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School was dedicated last week to the memory of artist Judith Dan.

Dan, who died in 1995, was the wife of philanthropist Leslie Dan, founder of Novopharm Inc. After the couple was honored by She'arim for their charitable work, she became interested in the school, particularly its arts program.

The integrated arts program is a way of using art, music, drama and movement to teach skills. It is particularly useful at She'arim, a school for children with learning disabilities, since many traditional teaching techniques are not effective with these children.

Judy Leitner Spetter, who created the program, told a gathering at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue that Dan "shared the same basic beliefs as teachers do: that children learn best in a creative environment, that you can foster the development of learning skills through music, drama, art, and movement, and that some of the best art can be made from recycled stuff!"

Dan wandered into an arts class during a tour of the school, Spetter recalled, and just sat down and joined the children in untangling telephone wire, which they were using as sculptures. She later helped scrounge supplies for the school, including looms and weaving fabrics.

She called Dan "a great friend, a supporter, and an inspiration."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman, spiritual leader of Beth Emeth and a founder of the school, said that "we honor Judith Dan's memory because she was a special person. She had the ability, the desire and the inspiration to use her G-d given talent."

Board of Jewish Education executive director Rabbi Irwin Witty, another co-founder of She'arim, said that the nachas the school gave its organizers over the years made the effort worthwhile.

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What's New and About People deadline is Monday, 10 days prior to publication date. i.e. Monday, March 24 is deadline for April 3 issue and Monday, March 31, is deadline for April 10. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, March 20

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Beth Tzedec series, One Hundred Years of Zionism continues with The Early Conflicts of Zionism with Prof. Edward Breuer, University of Pennsylvania, 7:30 p.m.

CAFE L'EUROPA

Purim Shpiel, "What really happened the night Esther met the King?" and adult puppet show, **Judy Shier**, 2-3:30 p.m. RSVP 635-2883, ext. 153.

Friday, March 21

CHASSIDIC INSIGHT

University of Toronto seminar series on chassidic experience, 11 a.m.-noon, Sidney Smith, Room 2131. 905-764-8042.

Saturday, March 22

PURIM EVENT

Congregation Shir Libeynu Purim event with Megillah reading by **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**, 6 p.m., Bloor JCC. 537-3435.

WOMEN'S SERVICE

Women's service to celebrate International Women's Day, 9:30 a.m., Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave. 694-1593.

PURIM CARNIVAL

Shaarei Shomayim Youth Purim Carnival, Megillah reading, games, costumes, prizes. 789-3216.

PURIM PUPPET SHOW

Purim puppet show 8:45 p.m. following Megillah reading (7:30), music, face painting, Beth Joseph Lubavitch, 44 Edinburgh, 636-9869.

Sunday, March 23

LIBERALISM OR JUDAISM

Liberalism or Judaism: A Time to Choose, **Prof. Ruth Wisse**, introduction by author **Linda Frum**, 7 p.m., Sandford Fleming Building, University of Toronto, 10 Kings College Rd., Room 1105. For tickets, 789-3351.

MEGILLAH READING

Community Megillah reading by women for women, 10 a.m.,Shaarei Shomayim Congregation BYOBook and costume. 789-3213.

FESTIVE PURIM MEAL

Festive Purim meal, 6 p.m., (late Megillah reading 5 p.m.), puppet show, masquerade, music, Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill, 905-731-7000.

Monday, March 24

BREAKFAST SEMINAR

Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce & Industry breakfast seminar featuring **Rina Pridor**, Technological Incubators Program, 7:45-9 a.m., Borden and Elliot, Scotia Plaza, 40 King St. W., 44th floor. RSVP 410-7273.

MEDINA THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Staged readings from familiar plays, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. **Roselle** 633-2057.

HONORING RABBI WITTY

An evening honoring **Rabbi Irwin Witty's** dedication to Jewish education on the occasion of his retirement, sponsored by Federation of Hebrew Teachers, 8:15 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Tuesday, March 25

IS CANADA A REAL COUNTRY?

Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada noon luncheon with **Howard Galganov**, Quebec Political Action Committee. Topic, Is Canada a Real Country? To reserve **Flavia,** information, **Bert Raphael**, 594-1812.

AUCTION AND CASINO

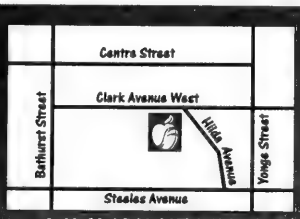
Village Shul auction and casino:, silent auction 6-9:30 p.m., auction 8:30 p.m., dice start rolling 6 p.m. at Leah Posluns Theatre. Proceeds go to Village Shul educational programming. 782-2222 or 783-0806.

HEART OF DARKNESS

Simon Wiesenthal Centre, in cooperation with Canadian Friends of Yad Vashem, lecture, Inside the Heart of Darkness, with **Tom Leyden**, for many

[Cont'd. on page 23]

IGA Happy Purim Kosher



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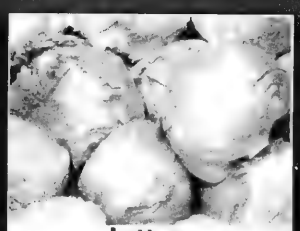

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

years a recruiter and propagandist for the White Supremacist and neo-Nazi movement, 7 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Dessert reception follows.

O.J. SIMPSON CRIMINAL CASE

Lawyer **Morris Goldstein** speaks on O.J. Simpson Criminal Case revisited – The Real Conspiracy, 8 p.m. Beth Sholom Synagogue.

Wednesday, March 26

ISRAELI-ARAB UPDATE

Dr. Joshua Teitelbaum Tel Aviv University, speaks on Mutual Fears, Mutual Hope: The Obstacles to Israeli-Arab Normalization, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Sponsored by Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and Beth Emeth.

FORUM POSTPONED

The public forum on the topic, The Sandwich Generation: Looking After Parents and Kids — How to Cope, originally scheduled by Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital for March 26 at the George Weston Recital Hall in North York, has been indefinitely postponed.

A DIFFERENT COOKBOOK

Beth Avraham Yoseph Sisterhood presents Why Is This Cookbook Different From All Other Cookbooks?, a presentation of the Pesach Segment of cookbook *To Life*, by authors **Thelma Baker-Stein, Esther Schwartz, Risa Vandersluis**, 8:30 p.m., synagogue, 613 Clark Ave. W. 905-886-3810, ext. 127 or **Cindy** 905-731-0485.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada meeting, The Migration Patterns of the Jews of Poland, **Prof. Piotr Wrobl,** University of Toronto Department of History, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

HEALTH ISSUES

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood series on Women's Health Issues, deals with Bladder Problems in Women: New Techniques, Diagnosis and Treatment, **Drs. Sidney Radomski, Sender Herschorn, Harold Drutz**, 8 p.m.

FOR LIBRARIANS

Association of Jewish Libraries, Ontario chapter, meeting, 8 p.m., Ulpanat Orot Girls' School, 45 Canyon Ave. **Gloria Jacobs**, 783-2024.

BOOK REVIEW

Elaine Newton reviews *Alias Grace* by **Margaret Atwood,** National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, 8:30 p.m., Council House. 633-5100

Thursday, March 27

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Jewish Single Parents Group (ages 30-50) lecture, Dating, The Balancing Act, **Debbie Cowitz**, past coordinator of Jewish Dateline, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation. 633-5500.

OPEN FORUM

Open forum co-sponsored by United Jewish People's Order and Canadian Palestinian Congress (CPC), **Simon Rosenblum**, Canadian Friends of Peace Now, and a representative from CPC. Chaired by **Prof. Ester Reiter,** York University, 7:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

CARD AFTERNOON

Magen David Adom, Toronto chapter, fundraising card afternoon, 2 p.m. Earl Bales Park. Bring your own cards. **Sadie Bloom** , 905-709-0859 or MDA 780-0034.

And What Else Is New

RAV NACHMAN BULMAN

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto lectures with **Rav Nachman Bulman**, Ohr Somayach-Tanenbaum College, Jerusalem. Thursday, March 27, The Terms of Jewish Destiny, 8:30 p.m., Temmy Latner Jewish Learning Exchange, 446 Spadina Ave., Suite 203. Sunday, March 30, Burning the Internal Chometz, 8:30 p.m., Ohr Somayach Thornhill-BAYT, 613 Clark Ave. W.

PROGRAM FOR TEENS

Jewish Family & Child Service and the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region adolescent social skills group for ages 13-18. Begins April 1 at JF&CS in Promenade Mall. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215,

BARRIE HAPPENINGS

Barrie events, 80 Bradford St., 705-721-6126:

Minyan – Regular monthly erev Shabbat family services. Next one is Friday, March 21, 6 p.m.

Purim Celebration in Cottage Country, Sunday, March 23, 6 p.m.

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Late Breaking News by current affairs specialist **Erika Biro**, Thursday, April 3, 8 p.m., Temple Sinai. Members $8, non-members $10. 487-4181.

WOMEN'S TALMUD CLASS

Rabbi Moishe Spalter leads a women's Talmud class at Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill, Mondays, 8:45-9:45 p.m. Text in Hebrew and English provided. Rabbi Spalter 905-731-7000 or **Chava** 905-764-2933.

WEST TORONTO

West Toronto Community Association events. 236-2054:

Oneg Shabbat service, Friday, March 21, Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave., 7:30 p.m.

Purim Carnival Sunday, March 23, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Swansea Community Centre, 207 Windermere Ave. Please bring a non-perishable food item for food bank donation.

JUDAISM COURSE

The Rabbinical Assembly-Ontario region (Conservative) community-wide introduction to Judaism class, 48 sessions for all those considering conversion to Judaism. Curriculum offers Jewish history, prayer, biblical and rabbinic literature, beliefs and religious practice, basic Hebrew reading skills, knowledge of Friday evening and Shabbat morning prayer services. 781-3511, ext. 41.

KOL YISROEL SERVICES

Kol Yisroel Congregation Shabbat services led by **Meir Bester** resume Saturday, March 22, 9:30 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Kiddush follows.

WOMAN TO WOMAN

Woman to Woman seminar – lectures and discussions for today's Jewish woman, Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Register. 905-771-0903.

ORAYNU

Oraynu Children's School Purim Carnival, Sunday, March 23, 10 a.m., 131 Fenn Ave.

Oneg Shabbat, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Don Mills Foundation, 1 Overland Dr. RSVP 364-7002.

PNAI PURIM PARTY

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) Purim Party, singer **Faye Kellerstein,** pianist **Paul Matthew**, Sunday, March 30, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. 783-7872.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Purim schedule: Saturday, March 22, children's puppet show 7:45 p.m; Sunday, March 23, morning services 8:30 a.m., Megillah reading 9:30 a.m., community Purim festive meal, 5:30 p.m. Reserve.

How to Turn Friday Night Into Shabbat, Wednesday, March 26, 8-10 p.m.

Passover Haggadah series with **Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz**, Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., March 25, April 1, 8 and 15.

PERFECT PURIM GIFT

Jordana-Yamit chapter, Hadassah - WIZO, is selling kosher candy trees, $12. Free delivery. **Carol** 499-9534 or **Ruth** 665-4053.

HEBREW LANGUAGE

Canadian Zionist Federation Hebrew Language Studies spring session, Beginners I & II, Intermediate and Advanced classes **Chana Sargon** and **Mira Starkman.** Register now! **Barbara** 633-3988.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Purim: reading of Megillah Saturday, March 22, 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 23, 11 a.m.; party at Earl Bales Community Centre, Sunday, March 23, 5 p.m.

Special lecture, Immortality, **Rabbi Philip Berg,** Tuesday, March 25, 8:30 p.m. Register.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215: Parenting Alone begins March 24; Stepparenting starts March 27; The Struggle to Juggle: If I am a mother, a daughter, a wife and a working woman, can I also be me? begins March 26.

PURIMANIA

Purimania at the Minsker (Anshei Minsk Synagogue), 10 St. Andrews St., Kensington Market, 595-5723.

Saturday, March 22, Megillah reading 8 p.m., Purim party, 9 p.m. Sunday, March 23, food, live music and dance, 5 p.m. RSVP.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, March 27, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. **Steven Shulman,** speaks on Advocacy and Activities of Canadian Jewish Congress. Reserve. **Goldie Leiberman,** 635-2860.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: musical *Dames at Sea* in Buffalo, Sunday, June 1; *Camelot,* Stratford, Sept. 17. In the planning, musical *Barnum* at ArtPark, trips to Ottawa and Rochester **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Purim Shpiel, Saturday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 25, Casino Niagara Falls; Thursday, March 27, Greek show *Electra* on video. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dances 7:30 p.m.; bingo Tuesdays 1 p.m.; Sunday dance, March 23; Atlantic City, March 31-April 4; Buffalo April 3; Avon cosmetics May 1, Spring Fair May 4; Israel trip May 7-20; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-15; Casino Rama May 21. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Fire Safety and Fire Prevention in the Home, **Capt. Ian MacPherson**, Thursday, March 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group, Tuesday, March 25, 1:30-3:30 p.m., speaker pharmacist **Debby Qwan.**

Etrog Israeli club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. March 26 is a free evening. **Anna**

Movie *Phenomenon*, Sunday, March 23, 2:15 p.m.

Purim party with **Shlomo Aviv** Wednesday, March 26, 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

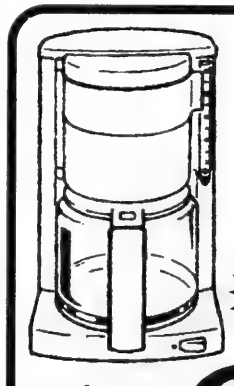
BJC and Junior UJA Purim Extravaganza, Sunday, March 23, 2-4 p.m., at BJC. ext. 284.

Matzo Ball Run II, Sunday, April 13, 9 a.m. Grant Smith ext. 374.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club – All About Shalach Manot, **Shoshana Lebovic**, plus preparing gift baskets for isolated seniors, 2 p.m., Thursday, March 20. Purim party, entertainer **Michael Khinkis**, Thursday, March 27, 2 p.m. **Judy**.



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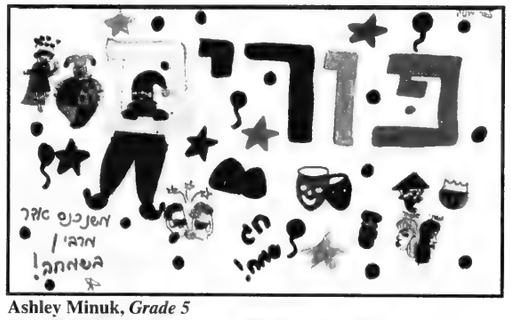
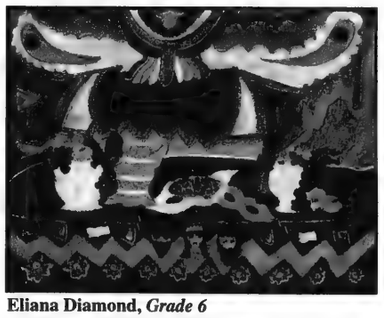
The Canadian Jewish news

3RD ANNUAL PURIM POSTER

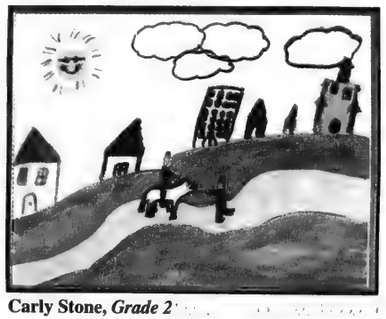
Shery Goril, *Grade 4*



Ashley Minuk, *Grade 5*



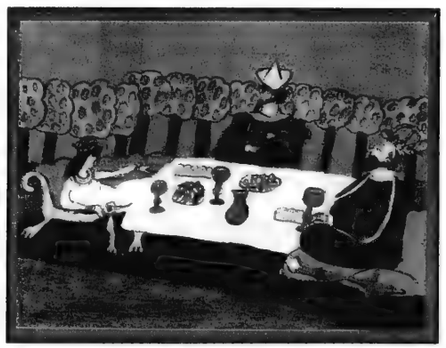
Eliana Diamond, *Grade 6*



Carly Stone, *Grade 2*

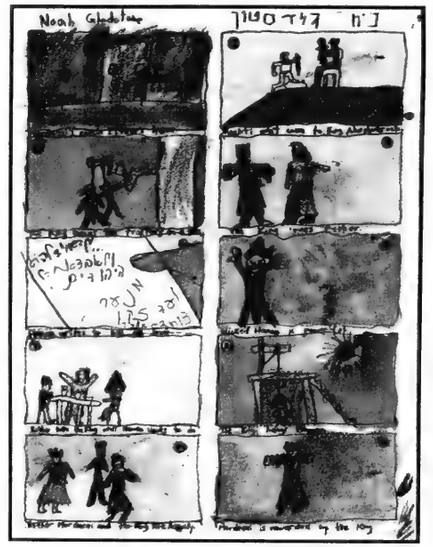
Matthew Robins & Daniel Evin, *Grade 2*

Noah Buchman, *Grade 6*



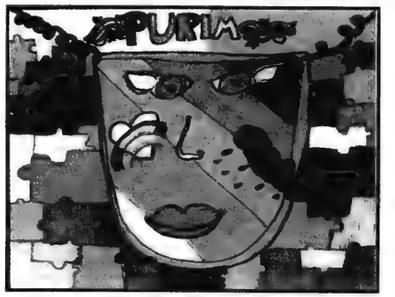
Ilana Ludwin, *Grade 5*

Joshua Neubarth, *Grade 1*



Noah Gladstone, *Grade 1*

Dana Morenstein, *Grade 3*



Arielle Cantor, *Grade 3*

Faygle Train, *Grade 4*

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From coast to coast

Bleyer headed Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre

MONTREAL — Stephen Bleyer, who spent his youth in Auschwitz and devoted his later years to speaking to students about the dangers of prejudice, died recently at the age of 65.

Bleyer had been president of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) since 1994, and previously had been chair of its speakers' committee, which coordinated visits of Holocaust survivors to schools, universities and community organizations.

"Stephen Bleyer was an articulate spokesperson for the MHMC. During his mandate, outreach to the general community increased by over 500 percent," said Bill Surkis, MHMC executive director.

Bleyer frequently travelled well beyond Montreal, to Drummondville and Victoriaville, for example, to talk to students, and also guided visiting young people through the MHMC's museum.

He played a key role in a nationally-televised commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. He spoke of his commitment to countering anti-Semitism and prejudice generally by exposing the consequences of hatred and teaching appreciation of social justice.

Bleyer, an architect by profession, was born in the small town of Komadi, Hungary, in 1931. In the summer of 1944, at age 13, he, his brother Frank, parents and both sets of grandparents, were among some 70 Jewish families transported in railway freight cars to Auschwitz.

When Auschwitz was liberated on Jan. 27, 1945, Bleyer and his brother were the only survivors among his immediate family.

Bleyer returned to his hometown after the war, but fled after the Communists took power in Hungary, first going to Italy and later settling in Montreal.

He began his studies in architecture in Turin and graduated from McGill University in 1956. He was a founding partner of the firm Bleyer, Soucy and Wiseman Architects, and won a number of architectural prizes, including the BOMA Award for the best designed suburban office building in 1995.

Bleyer served on the building committee of the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital and was a vice-president of the Visual Arts Centre.

"Stephen Bleyer personified the good in man," Surkis said. "His courage in the face of the unspeakable taught the meaning of respect, honor and humility. His leadership stands as a model of unconditional commitment and vision."

Bleyer is survived by his wife Hilda and son Peter (Mandy) and daughter Lisa (Miles). Donations may be made to the Stephen Bleyer Memorial Fund, c/o the MHMC.

Hamilton JNF launches campaign

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Jewish National Fund (JNF) launched its local 1997 campaign recently with a reception at the Hamilton Art Gallery to introduce this year's Negev Dinner honoree, Hamilton Mayor Bob Morrow.

Dinner chair Marvin Rosenshein said Morrow has, throughout his career, shown an outstanding commitment not only to Hamilton, but also to its Jewish community.

Born in Hamilton in 1946, Morrow is the city's longest-serving mayor. He was first elected alderman in 1971, then served as controller and as deputy mayor from 1976 to 1980. He was first elected mayor in 1981.

The mayor also said that together with JNF co-president Claire Waxman, he is engaged in negotiations to twin Hamilton with a city in Israel. Waxman has already twinned Hamilton with nine other cities around the world, including Afula in Israel with the neighboring town of Dundas.

This year's Negev Dinner will take place on June 25. Proceeds will go towards Action Negev, JNF emissary, Brig. Gen Dubi Dekel announced.

Kosher 'tax' denied

OTTAWA — National Revenue Minister Jane Stewart last week expressed concern that a hate group is saying Canadians pay a "hidden tax" on kosher foods and goods.

Various flyers circulated by the group says Canadian consumers pay higher prices for foods labeled as kosher. One alleges that a growing number of food processing and manufacturing plants use a hidden kosher food tax to raise food prices.

The flyers suggest taxpayers should claim a deduction ranging from $200 to $500 because they supposedly contributed to a Jewish religious organization when they purchased these goods.

"The intent and message of this literature is deeply offensive to the Jewish community and indeed to all Canadians," Stewart said in a statement. "The so-called 'deduction' described in these flyers does not exist and I urge all taxpayers to ignore this misleading advice."

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From coast to coast

Shabbat program launched

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Friday night is not just another night of the week. On April 4, 450 shuls in Canada and the United States will prove it.

The National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), based in New York, is sponsoring Shabbat Across America, "to celebrate what unites all Jews — Shabbat," a press release explained.

Patterned on the NJOP's Turn Friday Night Into Shabbat program, participants will learn about Jewish traditions, and meet other members of their community in a comfortable and relaxed setting, the release goes on. The evening will include a short prayer service and a traditional Shabbat meal, complete with singing and dancing. Questions and answers are encouraged.

Rabbi Reuven Tradburks, spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah synagogue in North York, said that "we desperately need to show American and Canadian Jews that Shabbat — and Judaism — is more than chicken soup and gefilte fish. It's an enriching spiritual event that happens every week.

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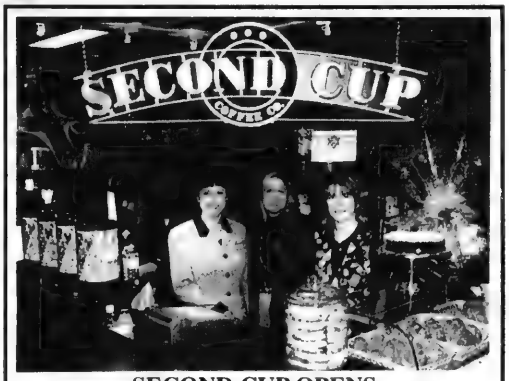
One of the noteworthy aspects of Shabbat Across America is that it crosses denominational lines. Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist synagogues are taking part. In Toronto, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda, Temple Har Zion, Kehilat Shaarei Torah, Beth Jacob, and Beth Tzedec are offering the program. Shuls in Edmonton, Vancouver, Halifax, Chomedey, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Kitchener, London, Ont., and Montreal are also participating.

For more information, or to find out where to take part, call the toll-free number, 1-888-742-2228.



SECOND CUP OPENS

Seen at grand opening of the Second Cup at the Bathurst Jewish Centre are (from left) Sue Rosenblat, officer of the centre; Deborah Pinsky, executive director; and Jackie Saltzberg, Second Cup operator. [Stephen Epstein photo]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy first birthday Nathan from your parents, grandparents and your uncles.

Eden Rose Kleinhandler was born Nov. 8, 1996. Proud parents Andrea & Michael, grandparents and great-grandparents are thrilled.

Happy fifth birthday on March 1 to Cody Hoffman, with love from her parents, brother, Bubbie & Zayde, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mazel tov and best wishes on your bat mitzvah Feb. 1. With love from Mom & Dad, Danielle, Michael & Ranger.

Helen & Hersh Rubinoff happily announce the engagement of their daughter Laura to Jeffrey Smurlick, son of Larry Smurlick, Joan & Sam Waldman.

Ruth & Alan Golden and Judy & Roger Preston are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Linda & Jason. A summer wedding is planned.

Bonnie & Michael Bottman and Toby & Alan Brunswick are excited to announce the engagement of their children Hayley & Mark. A fall wedding is planned.

Mazel tov to Claire Urstein who celebrated her 75th birthday Feb. 14.

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Exhibit explores survivor's experiences

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — On The Edge of The Abyss, an exhibit at the Holocaust Education Centre at the JCC here, chronicles the experiences of Holocaust survivor and artist Ella Liebermann-Shiber.

The exhibit, which was produced by the Tampa Bay Holocaust Memorial Museum and Educational Centre in cooperation with Beit Lohamei Haghetaot (The Ghetto Fighters' House in Israel), is sponsored by the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and features 93 sketches made by Liebermann-Shiber. In 1945, at age 17, she was released from a Nazi concentration camp.

In the exhibit, Liebermann-Shiber claims that her mother was instrumental in helping her survive the horrors that were surrounding her. She adds that "one other factor was instrumental in saving her life." She wanted to survive so that she could document the atrocities she had seen, and she did that by drawing.

"I drew their faces, cold murderous eyes, I drew their families, their wives and their children, in spite of whom they murdered, the wives and children of others in a strange land."

And her chilling sketches manage to convey both personal suffering and the suffering of those around her. One sketch, *The Gestapo Cellar*, depicts a Nazi officer looking on while three of his comrades are beating a Jew to death. The Jew being beaten was the artist's uncle.

Liebermann-Shiber says two other uncles "received terrible blows and were mutilated beyond recognition," but survived the beating.

Another sketch entitled *German Thoroughness* depicts a Nazi standing on top of a pile of dead and nearly dead bodies. Underneath the pile was Liebermann-Shiber's sister.

"To make sure that they were all dead, he stabbed the still-warm bodies," she said. "My sister was underneath a pile of bodies. The bullet had missed her. Miraculously, she survived."

Many of Liebermann-Shiber's other sketches depict the destruction of synagogues. After portraying the discrimination and degradation of the Jews, the sketches depict the deportation of Jews to the concentration camps in packed cattle cars.

The most prominent section of the exhibit, which is called To Auschwitz and Beyond, chronicles the horrors of the concentration camps, mass killings, the murder of children and the torture, beatings and forced labor to which the Nazis subjected the Jews of Eastern Europe.

One particularly chilling sketch portrays the bones of Jews being crushed and ground to serve the Nazi war effort. Another depicts the murderous Dr. Josef Mengele deciding who shall live and who shall die.

Other grisly sketches depict the death marches that Jews were forced to take. Liebermann-Shiber's exhibit ends on a hopeful note — a sketch of her liberation.

But this one optimistic note is tempered by the very last sketch in the exhibit, which depicts a tombstone with the following Hebrew inscription: "Remember the six million holy ones slaughtered by crazy beasts from Nazi Germany in a cruel and horrible manner on the soil of Europe during the time of the Holocaust 1933-1945."

On the Edge of the Abyss will be shown at the Holocaust Education Centre at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver until May 1.

Israeli Counsellor meets with students

By VIVA PRESS
Special to The CJN

HALIFAX — Chen Ivri, the newly arrived counsellor from the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa, recently spoke about Israel and the peace process to students at Dalhousie University here.

Ivri came to the Maritimes to meet with the small Jewish communities and spoke to students at both the University of New Brunswick and Dalhousie during his visit.

"It's important to talk to the students because they're the leaders of tomorrow," he said.

Irvi spoke about the peace process in the Middle East as seen through Israeli eyes.

"The peace process started with the Egyptians," he said. Since the peace agreement with Egypt in the late 1970s, Israel has made peace with Jordan, and they're now in peace agreement talks with the Palestinians.

"So far we have the interim agreement," Ivri said. "Both Israel and the PLO have to have a lot of creativity to find a solution. We have to be optimistic because there is no option to the peace process."

Ivri explained why he believes Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was right when he ordered the Palestinian offices to close in Jerusalem.

"Jerusalem is excluded from the interim agreement, which means that the Palestinian side has to shut down those offices if they are related to the Palestinian Authority," Irvi said. "They can have offices in Gaza and Jericho, but not in Jerusalem.

"When talking about reciprocity in the peace process, Israel has to implement a few things, and the Palestinians do too," he said. "One of the things is to shut down the Palestinian offices."

As for the Palestinians' outcry over Israel's nine percent withdrawal, Ivri said "it's bizarre to say it's too low."

"According to the peace process, it was agreed that in the three stages of redevelopment, the amount of territory will be decided unilaterally by the Israelis according to the security measures," Ivri said. "You can find experts that say a 10 percent withdrawal is dangerous and will endanger the Jewish settlements."

Ivri also spoke about the many international expectations placed on Israel in the peace process. He said Canada as well as other countries can help alleviate some of these pressures.

"International countries can contribute a lot to the atmosphere of a real peace process and reconciliation between the two people," Ivri said. "There are many ways to do this. These countries can help bring people to people, help the Palestinians economically, and do a lot in the multilateral channel."

Ivri seemed optimistic that the peace process will work, but he admitted that Jerusalem may cause a problem.

"Our position is that Jerusalem has never been a capital of other people for 3,000 years," he said. "We cannot let Jerusalem become a new Berlin with a new wall, separating people. It's one city and it's a city in which Israelis are tying to do their best to let other people from other religions have equality."

Ivri said he does not think the issue of Jerusalem as the capital for the Jews has to hurt the peace process.

"We think the Palestinians have to admit and accept this position," he said.

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Hussein's visit shows strength of peace with Jordan

Makes unprecedented visit to bereaved

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Jordan's King Hussein came to us last week like a distant relative who manages to visit every once in a while for a funeral. The gesture of the visit is greatly appreciated, but something is missing.

The relatives burying their dead can be heard whispering, "Why doesn't he ever come on a happy occasion or even just to visit? Why does he wait so long?"

Since the peace accord was signed with Jordan in 1994, King Hussein has publicly visited four times. Once for Yitzhak Rabin's funeral, once to dedicate a trauma centre named after Rabin at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital and now for the shivah call. One time, soon after the signing, he did come just to say hello.

"I appreciate his visit," said Beit Shemesh shopkeeper Gregory Ya'acovov, whose store was on one of the streets closed down because it was on the king's route. "I just wish he could come once for a celebration."

A handful of Beit Shemesh residents stood outside the house of Adi Malka, the king's first stop in the town, to catch a glimpse of the king, even to pay him homage. Had King Hussein come under better circumstances, it is likely that the empty streets — despite the rain — would have been full of people standing under Jordanian and Israeli flags, throwing rice and flowers.

Israel likes the king, despite all the ups and downs.

King Hussein, with gestures such as those he made last week, has charmed the country. It is to King Hussein's infinite credit that he used the horror at Naharayim as a way to try and patch up relations that were severely soured last week.

His visit to the bereaved, his shivah call, was both unprecedented and poignant. Watching him kneel in the homes and — in his resonant, empathetic, royal voice — offer his condolences did have a balm-like effect, if not on the families suffering beyond comfort, then at least on much of the nation.

"Words cannot express how I personally feel, how my family feels, how my people feel. We consider this a loss that all of us suffered," King Hussein said in the Malka home, his words, delivered slowly, swiftly translated into sign language for the grieving parents, who are both deaf.

"I feel that I have lost a child, and I feel that if there is anything in life, it is to ensure that all the children enjoy peace and security. I hope you consider me a brother and a member of the family."

When was the last time an Arab leader so mourned the victims of terror? Who would have dreamed a few years ago that such words would be uttered by the head of an Arab state?

It is, likewise, to Israel's credit that the king was welcomed so openly, so warmly. It is difficult to imagine such a greeting had the shoe been on the other foot, had Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu needed to pay a condolence call on the families of Jordanian youths killed by an Israeli soldier.

Beit Shemesh, hot-blooded Beit Shemesh, known to many only as the place where Labor leader Shimon Peres was pelted with tomatoes during a campaign stop in the 1980s, greeted King Hussein with restraint, with respect. This, even though the town of 25,000, many of whom are linked by family ties, was still in shock, still licking its wounds after the killing of the young girls.

That the king made the visit, and that the Israelis accepted him so readily, shows that the peace between Israelis and the Jordanian leadership has sunk deep roots.

"Sad, so sad," murmured Esther Afriati, watching in the rain as King Hussein was hustled from his limousine into the Malka home. Her daughter is in the eighth-grade class at the AMIT Fuerst school that went to Naharayim, but because of financial constraints, didn't join the group. "It is nice that he came; it does an aching heart good," she said. "Next time he should come for a happy event."

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Hussein pays hospital visit to Ezer Weizman

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — "Our legacy for all our children must be peace, security, and friendship — all the things that we, in our generation, have missed," King Hussein declared after embracing and kissing President Ezer Weizman in his hospital bed at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem.

Weizman was recuperating in hospital after he suffered a broken wrist and hip in a fall last week while alighting from a helicopter. He was returning from a visit with the grieving families of the girls who had been killed in Naharayim.

"We have had a few days of real sorrow and national shame over this terrible crime," King Hussein said. "I tried to express [to the bereaved families] that we shared that loss. Don't be surprised to see me here, that loss is very personal."

Weizman described the king's visit as "a brave and courageous act in these terrible circumstances."

He said that "we have to look for the positive side even in disaster.... The king knelt before the people whose daughters were killed by his soldier. It is an important visit both from the humanitarian and the political points of view. I too will do everything possible to bring everyone closer."

Weizman then invited Hussein to pay another visit, under happier circumstances. "You see our country in sadness," he said. "I invite you to come and see us also when it is blooming and industrious."

Weizman, who was clearly in pain, nevertheless kept up his good spirits as his hospital bed was wheeled into a large room in the orthopedic ward, where carpets had been laid down to receive King Hussein. It was soon far too small to contain all those who crowded in, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other cabinet members.

Reuma Weizman, who accompanied Hussein all day, returned to join her husband at his bedside, where he had been tended by his daughter, Michal.

"What are you doing in bed?" King Hussein said jovially as he came towards Weizman.

"We are both pilots, but you flew here today and I am grounded," Weizman replied.

Turning to King Hussein's daughter, Princess Aisha, who was dressed in her Jordanian army uniform, Weizman said: "I watched you admiringly on my TV screen."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai took the opportunity to invite Aisha and her brother, Prince Faisal, to visit as guests of the IDF.

On the seventh floor, the atmosphere was less jovial. King Hussein visited Yaffa Shmuel, one of the pupils seriously wounded in the Naharayim attack, and presented her with a pendant and gold hamsa. To her teacher, Yaffa Shukrun, lying alongside her, King Hussein extended an invitation to visit Jordan.

Tensions ease but housing on Har Choma to proceed

[Cont'd. from page 1]

no-confidence motions against the government's decision to build at Har Choma.

Before holding their talks, Netanyahu and Hussein spent the day paying condolence visits to the families of the seven Israeli schoolgirls killed by a Jordanian soldier last week.

Hussein's trip was widely viewed as an effort to patch up relations between the two countries, days after the king had sent an angry letter to the Israeli leader warning of the dangers of building at Har Choma. The shooting occurred a day after the letter's publication.

Hussein referred to his letter during the news conference, saying that it was "never meant for publication." He added that it was "leaked mysteriously" and that it contained "many distortions."

Both Netanyahu and King Hussein stressed the importance of communication in the peace process.

"It was a personal letter," Hussein added. "No offence was intended."

Netanyahu echoed the king's conciliatory statements, saying, "I believe that our disagreements have to be ironed out in direct conversations and human contacts."

While Netanyahu did not budge on the Har Choma plans, he acknowledged that Israel was willing to be more flexible with the Palestinians in other areas.

Both he and King Hussein confirmed that they had spoken by telephone with Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat.

"We spoke to Chairman Arafat," Netanyahu said, adding, "We cannot let our disagreements, which are yet unresolved, destroy the process."

At the news conference, Hussein and Netanyahu repeatedly emphasized their commitment to peace despite last week's shooting of the schoolgirls at the Naharayim enclave, which is under Jordanian control and leased to Israel under the two countries' 1994 peace treaty. Hussein said the two discussed a special project that would be set up at the enclave in memory of the murdered children.

He also pledged a full investigation of the incident. Countering reports that Israeli-Palestinian contacts had broken down over Har Choma, Netanyahu said that one of the joint committees negotiating unresolved issues from the Hebron agreement, which was signed in January, had recently met.

In a clear gesture to Arafat, he said a joint committee discussing security at a new Palestinian airport in southern Gaza had agreed that Israel would allow Arafat to take off and land from the airport, even before all details of its operations were completed.

Netanyahu also said he expected that other Israeli-Palestinian committees would continue discussions.

Despite his assurances, it remained unclear whether the impasse in the Israeli-Palestinian relations was overcome.

Palestinian officials have claimed that the construction would alter the status quo of Jerusalem, whose future is to be determined in the final-status talks.

Those discussions were scheduled to resume this week, but Palestinian leaders said they might not attend.

Israel maintains that it has the right to build anywhere in Jerusalem and that the construction is not prohibited by the Israeli-Palestinian accords.

Arafat convened foreign diplomats in Gaza to discuss what he described as unilateral steps taken by Israel.

In addition to Har Choma, Palestinians were outraged over Israel's decision to withdraw from a smaller area of the West Bank than they deemed adequate.

For the first of three further redeployments called for in the Hebron accord, Israel had announced that it would pull out of nine percent of rural West Bank areas, two percent of which are now under sole Israeli control. But the Palestinian Authority angrily rejected the plan, prompting a delay in its implementation.

In a four-hour meeting with envoys from the United States, Russia, the European Union, Norway, Japan, Jordan and Egypt, Arafat asked his guests to "save the peace process."

"We no longer have a partner" in Israel because of Netanyahu's recent actions, Arafat said.

The envoys pledged to convey Arafat's protests to their governments and to make them clear to Israel.

Edward Abington, the U.S. consul general to Jerusalem, said the diplomats agreed that "each government would conduct intensive efforts to lower the tension and restore confidence."

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Old blood libel levelled at Israel by PA

By URIEL HEILMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The centuries-old blood libel levelled at Jews was revived again last week at a human-rights forum in Geneva, when Palestinian representative Nabil Ramlawi accused the "Israeli authorities" of having "infected by injection 300 Palestinian children with the HIV virus during the intifadah."

The same charge was printed in late January by the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram*. However, it was retracted several days later; *Al-Ahram* admitted on its front page that the story was completely false.

Responding to Ramlawi's accusation at the session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Christian Solidarity International representative David Littman called upon the commission to "challenge manifest anti-Semitism...and prepare a declaration from the chair outlawing such racist statements."

Calling the charge "false" and "grotesque," Littman lamented "the foul accusations, [which were] followed so tragically — albeit in a different context — by the cold-blooded shooting of Israeli schoolgirls by a demented Jordanian soldier, who would probably have believed every single word of hatred pronounced three days ago."

The Israeli representative to the commission, Yosef Lamdan, urged the president of the 53rd Session of the Commission on Human Rights to expose the "hideous libel" and cease to take Ramawi seriously.

"He apparently advocates the well-trained technique of the 'big lie,'" Lamdan wrote in a letter to the president.

In his speech, Littman reminded the commission that this was not the first time such libels were produced against Israel. In 1983, then-chairman of the PLO Yasser Arafat accused Israel of "poisoning Palestinian schoolgirls" in a letter addressed to the UN secretary-general, a charge later confirmed as false by a team of independent medical experts.

Urging the creation of a similar medical team to investigate this latest charge, Littman suggested that, if proved to be false, the international community declare the calumny a "racist crime" punishable by an international tribunal.

CONSOLATION TO THE WOUNDED
King Hussein stoops at the hospital bedside to kiss Yaffa Shukrun, the teacher who was wounded when her class was attacked during their field trip to Naharayim last week. [Reuters/RNS photo]

Reform threatens Israel fund boycott

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — If IDF soldiers can't visit Reform synagogues on educational field trips, while being allowed to visit yeshivot where they are exhorted to be religiously observant, the Reform Movement will boycott all Israeli speakers and fundraisers abroad, an official of Israel's Reform Movement warned recently.

Anat Galili, spokesperson for the Reform Movement's Israel Religious Action Centre, was responding to an item in *Yated Ne'eman*, the haredi daily, which said henceforth official IDF field trips would not take soldiers to visit mosques, churches or Reform temples. The paper said soldiers' visits to mosques, churches, and Reform institutions were stopped following a parliamentary question by MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) to the defence minister.

Gafni said some soldiers are unwilling to enter such places. The paper said Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak ordered that visits to these institutions be stopped, after Gafni's question.

Galili said the Reform Movement could live with a decision that would exclude visits to Reform institutions, if the order also applied to yeshivot that try to convince people to become observant. If some soldiers object to visiting Reform institutions, others object to visiting yeshivot, she said.

If the ban is not a general one, she said, official Israeli representatives and fundraisers would be banned from all Reform congregations abroad. The ban, she added, could well extend to the activities of Jewish federations, since in many of these organizations Reform Jews play a leading role.

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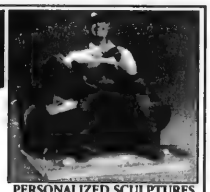
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Canadian MDs help heal Middle East wounds

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Isabel Silverman Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO) hopes to be a catalyst for bringing Israelis, Jordanians, Palestinians and others together by encouraging joint medical research and collaboration.

Feature

CISEPO was founded in 1984 by Prof. Arnold Noyek, chief of otolaryngology at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto.

It began as a bilateral program between Israel and Canada to promote cooperation in the ear-nose-and-throat (ENT) specialty, especially in dealing with cancer.

Within two years, however, Noyek and his colleagues decided to expand CISEPO's agenda. "We decided to bring others into it so that everyone benefits," said Noyek in a recent interview during one of his frequent visits to Israel.

CISEPO, which has an annual budget of $300,000 (mostly from the Saul Silverman Family Foundation in Toronto), forged formal links with Hadassah University Hospitals in Jerusalem, the Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikvah, Wolfson Hospital in Holon, the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot and Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, as well as the King Hussein Medical Center in Amman, Green Lane Hospital in Auckland, New Zealand, and University Hospital in Utrecht, the Netherlands. It also has ties with the Arab community in Canada, which numbers in the tens of thousands. "We have excellent relations with Palestine House-Canada in Toronto, which is headed by Rashad Saleh and Shawki Fahel. At the same time, we have close ties with B'nai B'rith and the Canadian Jewish Congress, and representatives of both have met with heads of Palestine House."

Using its connections with Canadian medical institutions, CISEPO aims to enrich academic medicine and health care both locally and internationally and — with respect to Israel and its neighbors — "to contribute to enhancing security and peace and furthering the goal of economic and cultural growth and development," Noyek explained.

The program provides academic, financial and directorial support to several programs here and has initiated collaborative research and medical service programs in this area involving Canadian and Middle Eastern professionals.

"When medical cultures rub up against each other, the result is synergistic. Both of them gain," Noyek said.

He said CISEPO's programs are growing to other disciplines, but because ENT is his specialty — and because otolaryngology was the pioneer in endoscopy and other non-invasive medical procedures — it will continue to be prominent. So far, CISEPO researchers have produced 250 medical articles in textbooks and journals around the world.

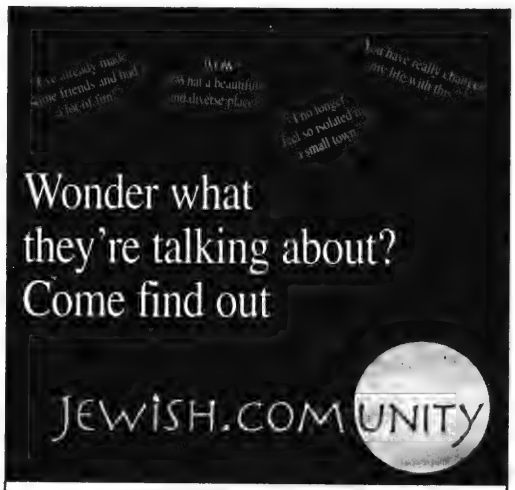
Philip Aber, CISEPO's policy planning adviser, who accompanied Noyek on his latest trip, noted that recent meetings they organized in Gaza involving Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians were successful. "The Jordanians are very encouraging of scientific cooperation with Canada and want it to expand to other neighbors in the region," he said. "The same is true of the Palestinians, but it has to occur at a pace that satisfies all the partners."

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza met with Noyek and Aber during their visit here and endorsed efforts to serve as a bridge between doctors in the region. "Israel can and should reach out to its neighbors and establish lasting partnerships that address common interests. Our organization can serve as an honest broker," Aber added.

The result is the establishment of a CISEPO Canada-Israel-Palestinian Authority medical and health services program.

It will extend to dentistry, nursing, public health and other medical and paramedical specialties.

Palestinian doctors are "realistic" about the need for cooperation with Israelis, said Aber. "They and the Israelis both know you can't have economic and social development without peace, or peace without economic and social development."



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Temple Mount mosque to stay open

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's High Court of Justice ruled this week that a recently established mosque beneath the Temple Mount can remain open.

However, a dissenting member of the three-justice panel recommended that the Israeli government reconsider allowing the mosque to operate.

The petition to shutdown the mosque was submitted by two Israeli groups, the Temple Mount Faithful and Hai v'Kayam. They argued that the creation of a new Muslim prayer site in the area offended the sensitivities of Haredim.

Chief Justice Aharon Barak and Justice Yitzhak Zamir maintained that the two petitioners had not proved that the presence of Muslims praying under the Temple Mount inflicted harm on the feelings of Jews, who also consider the site holy.

Justice Eliezer Goldberg, who dissented, said Jewish sentiments could be hurt by the continued operation of the mosque.

The mosque, which opened in December, is located beneath the Temple Mount in the site known as Solomon's Stables.

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The Week in Israel

Mar. 10

• An IDF soldier and two Lebanese children were wounded when a car bomb exploded in the southern Lebanon security zone. A soldier was also wounded Sunday in an exchange of fire with Hezbollah.

Mar. 11

• An IDF soldier guarding the community of Omarim, south of Hebron, was repeatedly stabbed. He is in stable condition. A number of suspects were arrested.

• Israel and the European Union signed an agreement for Israeli scientists to use satellite photographs to conduct coastal research. The advanced technologies will enable researchers to study and map sea depths, currents, wind patterns and beach erosion.

Mar. 12

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu concluded an official visit to Russia, declaring a "new partnership" between the two countries. Russian President Boris Yeltsin expressed concern about Israel's housing plans in Har Choma but also called for an increase in trade with the Jewish state.

Mar. 13

• Seven schoolgirls were killed, five wounded along with a teacher when a Jordanian soldier shot them as they toured Naharayim in the Jordan Valley.

• Opposition leader Shimon Peres declined an invitation to participate in the weekend gathering in Gaza of foreign diplomats organized by Yasser Arafat to muster support for his allegations of Israeli violations of the Oslo accords.

• Israel announced the first phase of construction on Har Choma would begin next week.

Mar. 14

• A joint Jordanian-Israeli inquiry was launched into last Wednesday's nightmare at Naharayim. The investigation will try to ascertain how an unarmed Jordanian soldier, reportedly a driver, managed to take a rifle from one of his colleagues and open fire on the schoolgirls.

With files from the JTA.

Arafat can do more

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

A year ago last winter, a wave of four Islamic fundamentalist suicide bombings rocked Jerusalem, Ashkelon and Tel Aviv, killing more than 60 civilians, rattling the peace process and contributing to the unseating of the Labor party government.

The crisis prompted the Palestinian Authority (PA), headed by Yasser Arafat, to crack down on Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Due to greater PA vigilance, Israeli sweeps, international pressure and a sense that the prospect of peace should not be held hostage by terrorism, there has not been a single suicide bombing since then, despite occasional calls by Islamic radicals for "armed struggle" against Israel.

Such is the present situation, that Hamas and Islamic Jihad have openly acknowledged that the PA has prevented them from carrying out further suicide attacks, while Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has conceded that the PA is no longer playing a "double game" of condemning terror while cynically exerting "feeble efforts" to stamp it out.

On the theoretical level, too, the PA has come a long way since the autumn of 1994, the year the suicide bombings began.

• In his first face-to-face meeting with Netanyahu last summer, Arafat said, "Security is not just for you but for us. This is a permanent policy."

• As part of its recent Hebron agreement with Israel, the PA reaffirmed its commitment to combat terror, stop violence, apprehend, prosecute and punish terrorists, act systematically against terrorist organizations and confiscate illegal arms.

• In talks with President Bill Clinton at the White House earlier this month, Arafat agreed to strengthen cooperation with Israel and the United States in the war on terrorism.

Be that as it may, the PA is still not in full compliance with its obligation under the Oslo accords to "take all measures necessary" to prevent terrorists operating in its territory from attacking Israel.

Despite the PA's arrest of terrorist leaders, raids against Hamas institutions, replacement of imams preaching support for terrorism and public condemnations of terror, Arafat can do more, as Netanyahu, Clinton and the chief of Israeli military intelligence have noted.

In a report released several months ago, the former Israeli army coordinator in the territories, Gen. Oren Shahor, took the PA to task for ignoring the terrorist infrastructure in Palestinian autonomous areas.

And in a separate report, Peace Watch said the PA had not followed through with a 1996 decree outlawing the military wings of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, had released numerous Islamic activists from prison, and had ignored more than a dozen Israeli extradition requests.

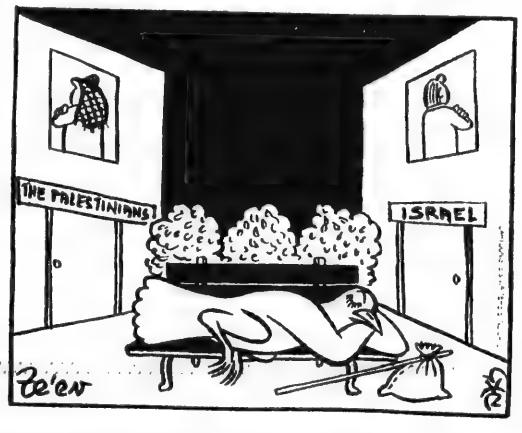
In addition, Peace Watch said that the PA had undermined its denunciations of terrorism by praising leading terrorists as martyrs, calling for holy war and threatening a new intifadah if Palestinian political demands are not met.

The PA's uneven record with respect to confronting terrorism stems from one major factor.

Although the majority of Palestinians support the peace process, there is a strong and vocal segment in their community that rejects Israel's existence, portrays the Oslo agreements as a betrayal of Palestinian rights and considers terrorism as a legitimate weapon.

Arafat, though keenly aware of this disruptive constituency, is reluctant to suppress it completely. He fears that a showdown with the rejectionists would ultimately trigger an Algerian-style civil war, the cost of which would be terrible. It would diminish his stature and power in the eyes of Palestinians and Arabs alike and, catastrophically, could lead to the disintegration of the Palestinian self-rule areas.

Arafat, however, realizes that a renewal of the suicide bombing campaign would be disastrous. It would stymie final status negotiations, delay further Israeli withdrawals from the territories and perhaps, dash hopes for an independent Palestinian state.



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Bar-Ilan University, the Israeli Ministry of Education, and the Jewish Agency for Israel, is pleased to announce an international study competition on Jewish identity, to be held in honor of the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress.
The competition is open to Jewish youth age 11 to 16 from all over the world and covers Jewish history, holidays and many other issues related to Jewish identity.
Participating countries will send winning representatives to the international finals on June 24, 1997, in Basel, Switzerland, home of the first Zionist Congress. The three top winners will receive a scholarship for a future year of study (toward a B.A.) at Bar-Ilan University, and all finalists will travel to Israel for an educational seminar entitled, *From Basel to Jerusalem.*
Students who wish to compete must register by March 31. For more information, please contact: **The Torah Department of the Jewish Agency: Mr. Yitzchak Elmaliach, Toronto,On. (416) 633-7770, or Bar-Ilan University: schwarz@ashur.cc.biu.ac.il**
Bar-Ilan University
Government of Israel

Arrow launch a success

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Last week's successful test launch of the Arrow anti-ballistic missile marked a significant step toward an initial deployment of the defence system against surface-to-surface missiles by the end of next year.

It was the fourth test launch of the Arrow 2 missile and a Defence Ministry statement said the Arrow succeeded in locking onto and destroying the target missile fired from a navy ship. However, it said a malfunction in the warhead prevented the Arrow from detonating its warhead. The target was destroyed by the direct hit.

Engineers at Israel Aircraft Industries are analyzing the data to evaluate and confirm the results. Interception is supposed to take place between 10 kilometres and 50 kilometres above the ground.

The test launch of the interceptor took place at the Palmahim Air Base north of Ashdod. The test marked the first time that the system's Green Pine control radar and Citron Tree battle management centre participated.

"Both worked according to plan and fulfilled all the test objectives," the statement said.

U.S. and Israeli engineering teams were "very satisfied with the test results and are confident that they constitute significant forward progress toward a total integrated weapon system, the statement added."

The mainly U.S.-financed missile was last tested in August. At that time, it made its first impressive "metal-on-metal" direct hit of a target missile at high altitude. Another test is planned for this summer.

News of the successful test launch came as Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai was meeting with King Hussein at his palace in Amman. The monarch told Mordechai it was a "great achievement."

Mordechai later said he emphasized to King Hussein that the Arrow could be used for regional defence.

Mordechai later praised the test and said that the "significant and positive progress" of the Arrow project is bringing Israel to the forefront of world technology.

The IDF already has ordered two Arrow batteries, which are expected to be ready by the end of next year. Their deployment is expected to greatly enhance the protection from Scud surface-to-surface missiles, but will hardly be enough to completely eliminate the threat.

The United States and Israel are financing the Arrow's development. So far, the project has cost $700 million (US), with Israel's share being $250 million.

The projected cost is about $1.6 billion, but analysts have reportedly said the missile could cost many times that figure. Because of U.S. financing, Israel has agreed to give the United States access to the Arrow's research and development data.

'My distress is genuine'

Excerpts from the letter sent last week by King Hussein of Jordan to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Prime Minister,

My distress is genuine and deep over the accumulating tragic actions which you have initiated as the head of the government of Israel. Making peace — the worthiest objective of my life — appears more and more like a distant elusive mirage. I could remain aloof if the very lives of all Arabs and Israelis and their future were not fast sliding towards an abyss of bloodshed and disaster, brought about by fear and despair.

I frankly cannot accept your repeated excuse of having to act the way you do under great duress and pressure. I cannot believe that the people of Israel seek bloodshed and disaster and oppose peace. Nor can I believe that the most constitutionally powerful prime minister in Israeli history would act on other than his total convictions. The saddest reality that has been dawning on me is that I do not find you by my side in working to fulfil God's will for the final reconciliation of all the descendants of the children of Abraham.

Your course of actions seem bent on destroying all I believe in or have striven to achieve with the Hashemite family since Faisal the First and Abdullah to the present times. You cannot send me assurances that you would not sanction any further construction of settlements and [you] tell me of your decision to construct two roads to help all concerned Israelis and Palestinians alike and then [you] renege on your commitment. In pushing matters to the point of securing a U.S. veto at the Security Council, you have ill served the image and interest of your major ally and benefactor and our partner in peace making as the honest balanced peace broker.

Mr. Prime Minister, if it is your intention to maneuver our Palestinian brethren into inevitable violent resistance, then order your bulldozers into the proposed settlement site without doing much which is needed in recognition of Palestinian and Arab sensitivity, anger and despair and ameliorating the situation, then order the young Israeli members of your powerful armed forces surrounding Palestinian towns to commit wanton murder and mayhem, possibly resulting in creating yet a fresh exodus of hapless Palestinians from theirs, and their ancestors, homeland and bury the peace process for all times.

On the question of your withdrawal from territories you have committed Israel, before the United States, Jordan, and the world, to complete the process by mid-1998, what good did it serve to offer such an insignificant first phase withdrawal? Why the apparent continued deliberate humiliation of your so called Palestinian partners? Can any worthwhile relationship thrive in the absence of mutual respect and trust?

Sincerely,
Hussein
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

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Gilda's Club cancer support facility coming to Toronto

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Comedian Gilda Radner was one of the brightest lights of the early Saturday Night Live shows. Her mishkabibbled Roseanne Rosanadanna is the stuff of comedic legend.

Radner lost her battle with ovarian cancer in 1989, but her legacy is a network of free, non-profit, non-residential support communities for men, women and children with cancer, as well as for their families, called Gilda's Club.

The first one was opened in 1995 in New York. Others are being created in Detroit, Fort Lauderdale and Nashville.

Gilda's Club is now coming to Toronto. Volunteers, supporters and members of the cancer support community are working to create a permanent home in Greater Toronto. They hope to raise $3 million over the next three years, through corporate and private donations and from foundations, and to open in fall, 1998.

A benefit fundraiser will be held April 2, at the Paradise Banquet Hall and Convention Centre, 7601 Jane St., in Concord. Tickets are $100.

The event, called Sparkles '97, after Radner's dog, Sparkle, will include comedy, drama, a fashion show with headliners Enza Unitque and Malabar Ltd., and a five-course dinner.

A silent auction will feature such items as a New York trip, with passes to *Late Night with David Letterman* and the *Rosie O'Donnell Show*; a vacation for two to Jamaica; spa packages; and horseback riding lessons.

Hosts for the evening are Hair Salon Visible Changes and Sebastian International, together with Metro Beauty Supply and Paradise Convention Centre.

Actor Gene Wilder, who was married to Radner at the time of her illness and death, called the club "an unfulfilled wish she had before she died. It is her and our gift to other Gildas who need a place to go, alone or with their families, to learn to shake off feelings of hopelessness and isolation and reclaim their gift of laughter."

For more information, contact Gilda's Club Greater Toronto, 636-3318, or Hair Salon Visible Changes, 733-1101.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. We hear a lot about fat grams these days, how much should the average person be consuming per day?

A. The average female can consume approximately 60 grams of fat per day while the average male can consume approximately 90 grams of fat per day (to maintain not lose weight). Remember these numbers when reading packages. If you are about to indulge in an ice cream bar as a snack, containing a whopping 28 grams of fat, realize that that is half your daily intake in one snack.

Q. I always find the mornings to be such a rush that I rarely have time for a proper breakfast, do you have any advice?

A. It is important to remember that breakfast is anything, anywhere, as long as its eaten before lunch. It can be a banana and a piece of cheese on the bus, a granola bar and juice box in the car or leftover pizza on the way to school. Something is better than nothing at all. In this age of busy lifestyles there are a lot of convenience foods that make it easy to eat on the run. Try breakfast cereal bars, individual packs of instant hot cereal at your desk, granola bars, yogurt, a bagel, low-fat muffins, fruit, dried fruit or a milkshake.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Fashion

Beauty SHOP

By CAROL WISE

By CAROL WISE
Special to The CJN

It's a total look this spring — eyes lips and cheeks are painted with soft pastel colors and shimmered with gold and pearl. Sexy new eye shades are banana yellow, baby blue and icy mint. Nails are adorned with soft pink, pure white and iced with varying shades of metallic. Lipstick hues are luscious hues of nursery pink, beige and corals, topped with super gloss for optimum shine. Matte textures are definitely last year's news.

Carol's Tips

Skin care is where it all begins. The extra humidity in the air might cause unwanted blemishes, so use lightly formulated creams as opposed to my winter suggestions. Get ready for summer by doing the four essentials to having great skin — exfoliate, cleanse, treat and moisturize.

Christian Dior's Equite is specifically designed for oily skin. This trio includes a purifying cleansing gel, toner and cleansing mask. It helps eliminate excess sebum and impurities, leaving your skin soft and smooth.

Pamper your body with Dior Svelte Perfect, a new formula to help control cellulite. It promises to be effective within a month, with a firming result in just eight days. For your special guy, Polo Ralph Lauren offers a fabulous facial scrub. After the long winter, his skin might look a little fatigued and dull. This scrub help's remove dirt, grime, clogged pores and ingrown hairs and the result is fresh energized skin.

Lancome's new Renergie oil-free lotion is a lightweight, anti-wrinkle firming complex that leaves your skin plumper and smoother, with a dramatic decrease in the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles.

Bronzewear Tinted Self-Tanner from Clinique is a sheer gel bronzer, so when applied, you see where it goes. No build-up, no missed spots and no regrets. Your face will have an even tan as quickly as you can apply it. After two to three hours, you can remove the bronzer, and like magic, you have a golden tan.

Estee Lauder, re-invents face powder. Lucidity, Enlighten and Double Matte, include loose and pressed powder to suit almost every skin type and shade. These state-of-the art powders will help to set your makeup, reduce shine and will look and feel totally natural without that dry masky appearance — they are an absolute makeup "must." Blush gives you the brightness of spring. Choose a natural color and blend well. Always look like you have a healthy glow.

Prommette from Lancome is a sheer veil of creamy blush for cheeks and eyes. Its transparent formula glides on with a creamy touch, yet has the velvety softness of powder — great for all skin types. Chanel cheeks get the royal treatment with their new color — Golden Beige — it's gorgeous by itself or as a finishing touch. I recently interviewed Tyler Banks and she dusts her whole face with a golden blush. Almay Amazing Lasting Blush is oil free, streak-proof and stays on all day. It's available in eight tantalizing shades.

Eyes that twinkle say it all. Cool pastel blends, gleaming with frosty glitter is the look of the season. Blend shadows well and line your eyes with black for evening or icy blue, yellow or mint for the day.

[Cont'd. on page 37]

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Fashion

It's a total look this spring

[Cont'd. from page 36]

Sophisticated eyes are a "brush" away with Chanel's Trio, Invincible, apricot, brass and jet (black) all in one compact. It can provide a natural effect or impart a glamorous sultry look.

Clinique's — Stay The Day Eye Shadow is non-creasing, non smudging and really stays put. Its dreamy-like feeling is attributed to lecithin-coated pigments that moisturize and enhance adhesion.

Courageous Liners from Lancome, are absolutely enticing with colors, such as, primary yellow and icy mint, and don't miss Estee Lauder's Social Butterfly collection with fun colors such as, Apply Canary Island and Honolulu blue. Almay Amazing Lasting Eyepencil stays on for 16 hours and is water-resistant — great for those days that never seem to end.

Lips are the most sensuous part of your face. Keep them soft and supple. Top up your favorite colors with clear gloss or frosty sparkle.

Liner and lip color in one plumped-up pencil, Chubby Stick, is the latest news from Clinique. It provides a one stroke application without sacrificing the finished polish of lipstick.

Levres Lamiere Neon is an exceptional creation from Chanel. This beautiful compact contains iridescent, crystalline gloss that enhances your lip's sheer brilliance while capturing and reflecting light.

Elizabeth Arden's Long Wearing Exceptional Lipstick Line introduces the unique shade of Amber, a burnished, sparkly neutral that anybody can wear, either by itself or as a shimmering topper.

Almay Amazing Lasting Lipcolor takes long-wearing lipstick to a new level. This creamy, feel good formula meets the top three need gaps for long-wear, protection and moisture retention.

Hair reflects this seasons light and sheer fashions. Hair designer, Daniel, of Daniel's Salon (25 Bellair) says, "The style is all in the cut. The weight of the hair must be balanced so you can simply wash and towel dry. To achieve a healthy sheen, use a hair moisturizer. Your hair should always enhance you, not your stylist."

During a recent interview with Claudia Schiffer, she shared that her favorite shampoo and conditioner is Revlon's Outrageous.

Fragrance is soft and subtle for spring. Remember all scents smell differently once they are enmeshed with your body chemistry.

Georgio Armani treats us with Aqua Di Gio for men. This intriguing scent exudes mystery, creating a sensuous harmony with water, air and the sun. It's fresh, clean and oh so sexy.

Davidoff, Cool Water Woman, is a burst of sparkling, fresh citrus followed by a bouquet of aquatic florals. This effervesent blend is invigorating, fresh and to befit its name — synonymous with feminity.

Cacharel's Anais Anais is offering us perfume in two distinctly exquisite bottles. One, a precious glass flowerpot and the other an elegant, stemmed flower. These gorgeous gems are only enhanced by the exquisite scent inside the bottle.

From Kevlar to satin, vests making comeback

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN
Special to the CJN

Everyone has a Vested Interest...

Anyone who is minimally aware of fashion can attest that, when it comes to clothing trends, what was once old eventually becomes new again.

Maybe it's a way to reach back and grab a piece of what was safe and warm and comfortable — the same reason why in an ever faster-moving world, the trendiest restaurants are reinventing the mashed potato.

I can't think of another piece of women's clothing that epitomizes this more than the vest. Possibly it's our craving for a leftover tidbit of grandfatherly nostalgia in a lifestyle so full of technomania, that we anticipate its comeback every season. So many of us welcome that extra layer of protection from the cold cruel world when we can get it.

Somewhere between a clothing basic and an accessory, a vest adds a finishing touch to any outfit — pulling the individual pieces together to create a total look. As an alternative to the classic jacket, a vest is the more casual cousin, adding a dash of panache when girls just wanna have fun.

From the ever popular men's pinstripe to western denim, formal brocade to biker leather, Kevlar to satin, there is a vest to suit every occasion and lifestyle.

Coastguard, undercover detective or dominatrix, there's one for you. Found in every type of clothing store from the designer digs on Rodeo Drive to the alternative lifestyle shops on our very own Queen Street West — "Perhaps I could show you a little of something in studded latex?"...You see everyone gets a little nostalgic sometime.

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Travel, Arts & Business

'Shoebox' photos on display

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Most of us have a collection of family photos hidden in albums, boxes or envelopes, which we occasionally view to connect with past moments. Rarely, though, do we consider that personal history may have wider appeal.

Steven Fistell, however, understood that the hundreds of images his father (Irving) took in the late '40s and in the '50s were "a unique gift that helps explain who I am and from where I have come." Fistell, an artist and art dealer, who lives in Toronto's Bloorcourt area, perceived that Irving's work was beyond the calibre of the family snapshot.

"I wanted this exhibition to give his work the recognition it deserves, both as art and as a valuable cultural record of everyday life."

The Shoebox Collection, at the Photo Passage at York Quay Centre, until April 27, is the realization of Fistell's wish to bring his father's artistry to light. Produced and curated by Fistell, the exhibit is an evocative selection of people and landscapes in Toronto, during the middle of this century.

Born in Montreal, in 1918, Irving Fistell moved to Toronto with his family, in 1927. In the mid-'40s he and his brother, Sam, opened a second-hand shop at 99 Queen St. W., which sold cameras and other goods. It was during this time, spurred by the availability of high-end camera equipment at his store, that Irving developed an interest in photography. Borrowing quality 35 mm equipment, he taught himself the intricacies of lighting and composition, while photographing family, friends and cityscapes. Romantic and whimsical, the black and white pictures wonderfully record an era and specifically the world of the downtown Toronto Jewish-Canadian family in the '50s.

"Who knows how long the hands-on family photo album will survive as more of us choose to record our lives with video," says Steven Fistell. "The dusty old shoebox brimming with memories may soon become a thing of the past."

This lovers' embrace is part of the Shoebox Collection.

Mother's Courage

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian premiere of *My Mother's Courage* affords a chance to see a unique play about the Holocaust, which, though laced with humor, still defines it in a realistic, tragic way.

There is an inexpressible beauty of language in the drama by George Tabori, the 83-year-old playwright once blacklisted by Senator Joseph McCarthy.

The Theatre Asylum's production is running at Theatre Passe Muraille until March 30. Phone (416) 504-7529.

Tabori writes about how his mother escapes the Nazis one summer day in Budapest in 1944.

After that harrowing day, she goes to her sister's apartment to play gin rummy, as planned, only to be chastised by her unfeeling brother-in-law for being late.

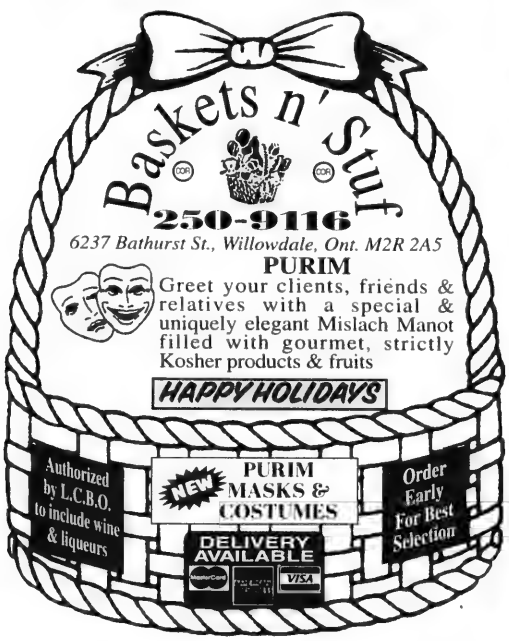
It is these human details that make Tabori's play such a fascinating way of describing a woman's attempt to save one life as thousands of other Hungarian Jews were loaded on to box cars headed for Auschwitz.

Though a hurried reading might suggest that Tabori's mother befuddled a German officer with her brilliant blue eyes, its deeper layers imply that sheer chance and the complexities of human nature were the cause.

In this context, her compliance with the lustful request of a man pressed against her in the round-up train is understandable.

Director Jennifer H. Capraru has assembled a stellar cast including Elizabeth Shepherd as the mother and Richard Partington as the son.

My Mother's Courage is another feather in the cap of Theatre Asylum which has produced *Dear Elena* and *The Gut Girls*.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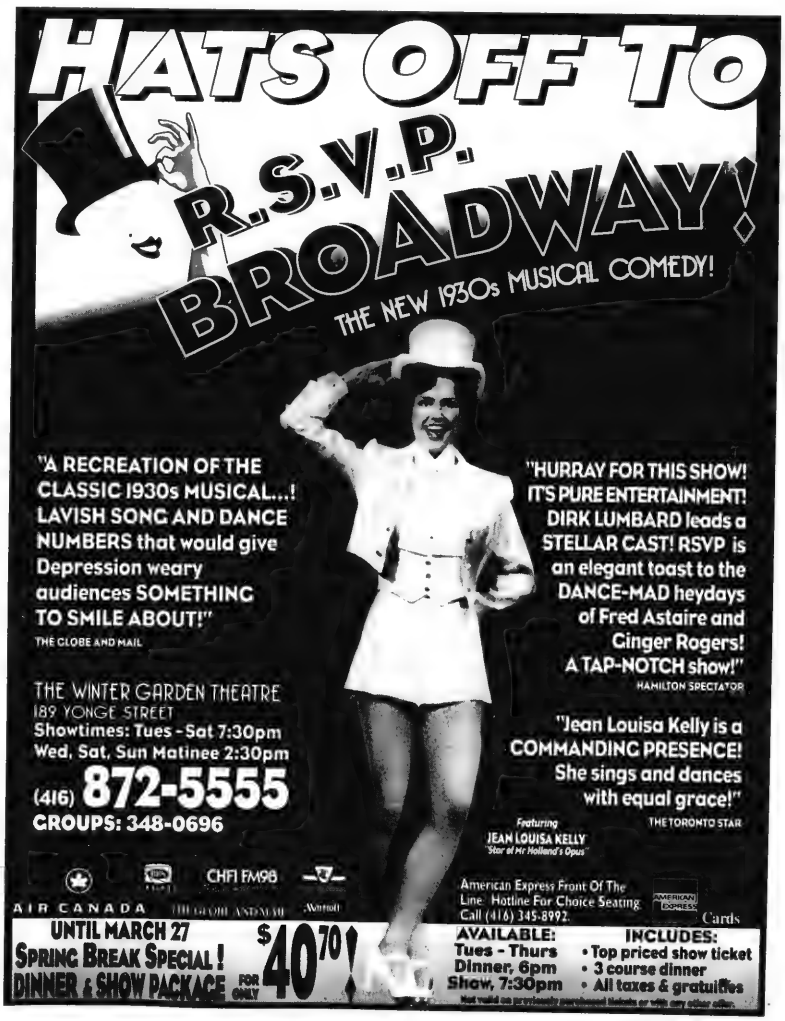
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Havana a city to be savored

By JOSEPH SERGE
Travel Editor

HAVANA — Only a two-hour bus ride west from the popular resort of Varadero, lies this ancient city recently declared a World Heritage Sight by UNESCO.

No trip to a resort is complete without spending at least one day in this city of two million people and even one day is hardly enough.

Havana is home to 900 of the island's 1,500 recognized Jews. Almost all observe the Sabbath and get together for community activities. Jews have lived in Cuba for many years (at one time numbering 15,000), but many fled following the revolution.

In 1991, a new law was passed allowing religious communities to organize. There are three functioning synagogues in Havana, the Patronato Synagogue, the Adas Israel Orthodox synagogue and the Sephardi synagogue Shevet Achim.

A trip to the colonial part of the city is like travelling through time. Founded in 1514, the city is replete with ancient cathedrals, palaces and cobblestone paved streets. One street, across from the palace of the Spanish governor, was paved with hardwood to soften the sounds of horse traffic. (The Spanish governor liked to sleep peacefully.)

Book collectors will have a field-day browsing through the many competing stands of second-hand books in this part of the city.

Across from the ancient Cathedral (built in 1777 and recently reopened as a place of worship) is a square where hawkers sell beautiful hand-crafted wooden sculptures at bargain rates. A foot-long sculpture of a woman that took the artist three days to complete was sold for $14. (All tourist transactions in Cuba are in U.S. dollars.)

Far from the maddening crowd of the plaza, is a food market for Cubans. Vegetables, meat and produce are in abundance here and hawkers were eager to let me try samples for free.

Of course, cigars are also in abundance. Best tip is not to buy cigars from the street but from a legitimate place like La Casa Del Habanas (one each in Varadero and Havana) or from the Partagas cigar factory in Havana, which is definitely worth a trip.

Inside the factory, the tour guide will take you through all the steps that go into making the best cigars in the world. In each room 40 to 50 people sit employed beneath framed photographs of Fidel Castro or martyr Che Guevera, either sorting leaves, rolling, pressing or wrapping. One person's job consists solely of sitting at a microphone and reading newspapers or magazines to the employees over a PA system.

No machines are used at all. Each of the cigars is completely handmade.

If you get a chance, visit the Hemingway Marina. This beautiful, modern marina, 20 minutes from the centre of Havana, is a residential resort that provides full docking and technical services for fishing and pleasure craft.

The resort compound contains a nightclub, swimming pools, tennis courts and an outdoor Pizza Nova. If you plan on staying, there are 78 bungalows and houses for you to rent.

And speaking of the famous novelist, drinkers might delight in taking the Hemingway bar hop. (Hemingway lived in Cuba for several years after 1939.) First, there's the tiny Bodeguita del Medio, a graffiti-inscribed, psychedelic hole in the wall. Look for famous signatures and order a *mojito*, a cocktail of rum, sugar, lime juice and mint leaves.

At La Floridita, sit in Hemingway's favorite chair (now below a framed photograph of Castro congratulating Hemingway on his Nobel Prize award) and try the famous daquiri, rumored to have been invented on these premises. Or if you're feeling really brave try the *papa especial*, Hemingway's own mix of a double shot of rum, lemon and crushed ice.

Hemingway's former residence here is now a museum. Inside you'll find a wide assortment of the writer's hunting trophies. Outside the museum you'll see the El Pilar, Hemingway's boat made popular in the *Old Man and the Sea*.

Havana hosts many museums, ranging from culture to colonialism and of course the Museo de la revolucion, which commemorates Castro's rise to power.

Further south, The Plaza de la Revolucion in modern Havana is a wide-open expanse that houses government buildings. It is home to the May Day parade and the place where Castro delivers many of his never-ending speeches.

After a hot day in the sun, nothing can be more soothing than taking a walk along the breezy Malecon, a promenade that runs along the edge of the city. Many Cubans come out for strolls here and are glad to mingle with foreigners over a *cerveza*. Cubans are highly educated and young people speak English well.

There is plenty of nightlife in Havana, not the least of which is the cabaret show at the Tropicana. There's also plenty of little night clubs and the local musicians are excellent.

Havana should really be savored. There is so much to see and do, it's worth more than a day trip. There are plenty of hotels, all of which are clean and professionally managed. These include the five-star Melia Cohiba and the four-star Canadian-managed Old Man and the Sea.

Joseph Serge travelled to Cuba as a guest of Cubanacan International.

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Travel, Arts & Business

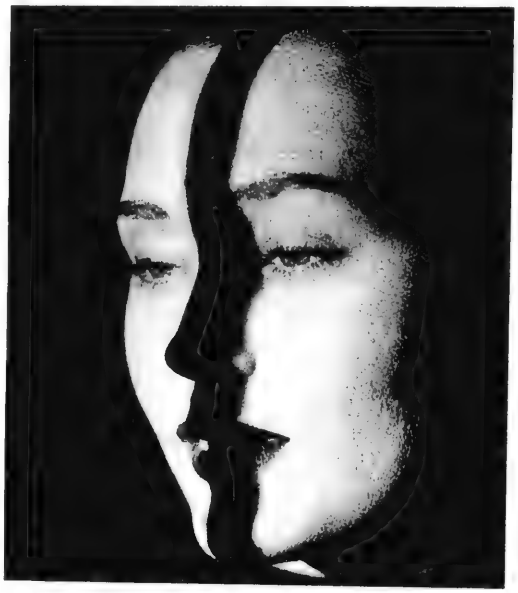
El Al's privatization expected soon

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The long-awaited privatization of El Al will start within the next month, Transport Ministry director-general Nahoum Langental told the *Jerusalem Post* last week.

"Next week we'll be in a better position to know exactly what the situation is," he said. "But in my opinion we'll be ready within the month."

There appear to be three main sticking points in any decision to privatize: the protection of workers' rights amid fears of job losses; the company's 1996 and early 1997 predicted losses, which could amount to many tens of millions of dollars; and the insistence of Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy that the company not be allowed to fly on Shabbat no matter who owns the airline.



ERWIN BLUMENFELD EXHIBIT

An exhibition of Erwin Blumenfeld's photography runs at the Jane Corkin Gallery 179 John St. Toronto until March 29.

Blumenfeld (1897-1969) took up photography almost by chance in the '20s beginning with portraiture and the nude. From the late '30s to the '60s his work at *Harper's, Bazaar* and *Vogue* transformed fashion into high art and he became one of the most successful photographers in the world.

Blumenfeld's experimental and visionary work was a seamless blend of the negative and the positive: *taking* the picture in the studio and *making* it in the darkroom. An unusually inventive artist, he developed his own idiosyncratic language, using solarization and negative printing, double and multiple exposures and a host of hybrid techniques.

Throughout the course of his life his interests expanded to include architectural subjects, landscapes and works of art, but photographing "Woman" would remain his chief obsession.

On exhibition are some original works that were *Vogue* covers in the 1950s. Pictured above is *Line on Face* from 1949.

'96 March on Vision

March of The Living will be presented in four parts on Vision TV March 24-27 at 2 p.m. as part of the *Over The Fence* showcase of community programs.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Film News

• The fifth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival will take place May 1 to 8 at the Bloor Street Cinema. Festival passes are $72 before April 7, $80 afterwards. The first 50 people to buy a pass also receive a free double pass to the movie *A Summer in La Goulette* opening at the Carlton Cinemas April 18. 416-324-8600.

• The San Francisco Jewish Film Festival has just released a new book, *Independent Jewish Film: A Resource Guide*, which it calls the most comprehensive work ever published on the subject. At 172 pages, the book gives instructions on how to find more than 400 films and videos and includes a descriptive summary of each one. $29 Cdn 415-621-0556.

Theatre News

• Jewish Theatre Projects offers workshop performances of *This Could Be The One!* a play that explores the world of contemporary Jewish singles and the struggles they face in their search for love and happiness. Presented in conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre. March 29, 8:30 p.m., and March 30, 1 p.m. Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, North York. $5 in advance, $7 at the door. Tickets available at the Jewish Singles Registry, 55 Eglinton Ave. E. #405, or by calling 905-882-9641.

• *Mrs. Warren's Profession* by **George Bernard Shaw,** is at the Tarragon Extra Space, 30 Bridgman Ave., Toronto, March 21 to April 5. Tickets $15. 416-531-1827.

• Medina Theatre Ensemble presents staged readings from familiar plays, March 24, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St., North York. Pay What You Can. Roselle, 416-633-2057.

• Danny Grossman Dance Company premiers two new works inspired by singers **Dorothy Maynor** and **Paul Robeson**. Respectively, they are *Spiritus* and *Hear The Lambs A Cryin'*. March 25 to April 5, Premiere Dance Theatre, Toronto. Tickets $20 to $32. 416-973-4000.

At the Galleries

Saints and Sinners, a show by **Rebecca Cowan,** continues at the Open Studio Gallery, 468 King St. W., Toronto, to April 5. Cowan's works have been widely exhibited across North America, most recently at the Holy Blossom Temple. Open Monday to Saturday, 12 to 5. 416-504-8238.

In The Spotlight

Last December, *Variety* magazine, the daily Bible of the U.S. entertainment industry, included 33-year-old cinematic whiz-kid **Lawrence (Larry) Guterman**, formerly of Toronto, as one of three directors in its select year-end listing of Multimedia 20 To Watch.

Guterman, the son of Monty and Blema Mazin of North York, first turned heads with his masterful 35-minute film *Headless!*, which he completed for his master's thesis at a California film school. Even before graduating, Guterman had penned an episode of the TV show *Tales From The Crypt* and was working on scripts for both Paramount and TriStar.

Hired by cinematic legend **Steven Spielberg**, Guterman directed the live-action portion of the Goosebumps interactive CD-ROM *Escape From Horrorland* for Spielberg's Dreamworks Studio, in a co-production with the Microsoft Corp. Released last December, the game reportedly did extremely well over the holiday period and won a favorable mention in *Time* magazine.

Guterman's newest directorial venture is *Ants*, an entirely digital feature film being co-produced by Dreamworks and Palo Alto's Pacific Data Images, with a projected release date in early 1998.

Guterman recently spent five hours with **Woody Allen** in New York, persuading him to lend his voice to the production. Other voices confirmed for *Ants* include those of **Gene Hackman, Sylvester Stallone, Meryl Streep** and **Sarah Jessica Parker**.

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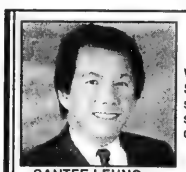

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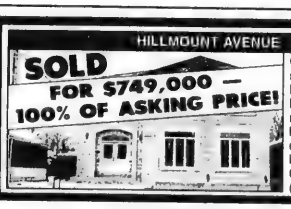

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USDS Bayview captures day school basketball title

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Maybe it's in the water they drink or maybe it's something in the air, but whatever the reason, USDS Bayview continues to churn out championship teams.

Around the same time the hockey team repeated as winners of the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Tournament, the basketball squad took top honors in the Jewish Day School Basketball League. In the championship game held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), USDS Bayview Warriors defeated arch rivals Bialik 60-45, putting the cap on an unblemished 15-0 season. Last season, USDS lost the final by two points.

This season, "our kids were focused and they knew how to play as a team," said Barbara Tweyman, school vice-principal and "number one basketball fan."

Tweyman credited coaches Jeff Goldstein and Michael Zalev, both USDS grads, for rounding the team into shape and making them a competitive team on a city-wide scale. She pointed out that the Warriors, consisting of students in grades 7 and 8, played one exhibition game against St. Andrews Junior High and won that matchup too.

Despite their accomplishments on the court, the main emphases in the league are sportsmanship and camaraderie among day school students, Tweyman said.

The league, which just concluded its fifth season, includes teams from USDS Bathurst, Associated Finch, Associated Leslie, Bialik, Netivot Hatorah and Leo Baeck. Each team plays a 12-game season beginning in October, with one home game and one away against each school. Playoffs are held on neutral territory at the BJC.

Teammates of the USDS Warriors cheer in celebration after winning the championship game of the Jewish Day School Basketball League.

Warriors' games generate plenty of interest at Bayview. Many "parents, siblings and friends come out to support the team. It's become a wonderful bonding experience," Tweyman said.

Sportsmanship is a key component in games and "we applaud good play for whatever team," she added.

Tweyman suggests Bayview's success might be traceable to the school's "very high emphasis on sports. It helps create a wonderful school spirit and it's another important dimension to school life."

Members of Bayview's champion boys team are: Jeremy Blustein, Jonathan Mandelbaum, Yonatan Refaeli, Evan Marcus, Keven Scheeter, Seth Goldberg, Jonathan Gonsenhauser, Isaac Kessler, David Isaacman, Milton Mednick, Ari Sargon, Michael Wilchesky, David Goldstein, Joel Warsh and Mark Abramowitz.

With the boys' season now over, the girls' day school basketball league is kicking into gear. Its season runs from March through May and features the same schools as the boys' league.

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Boys' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 23	4:30 - 6:30 p.m. (13-14 yrs) 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (15-16
Girls' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 23	8:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Volleyball	Sun. Mar. 23	10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (Girls) 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. (Boys)
Soccer	Thurs.. Mar. 27	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Tennis	Mon. Mar. 24	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Track	Sun. Mar. 23	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Sun. Mar. 23	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Golf	Sun. Mar. 23	9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. Mar. 23	12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Table Tennis	Sun. Mar. 23	11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletics, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented at the Games. Notwithstanding a fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

All tryouts: Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.
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The Inside Back

Discovering new identities in time for Purim

By JORDAN MAX

Once again, it's Purim. You're taking the family to hear the Megillah, but you don't have a costume. No need to worry. Here are a few sure-fire ideas and background information for responding to the inevitable question "And who are you supposed to be?" Of course, costumes are optional; just use your imagination. Chag Purim Samayach!

The Last Laugh

Carpool Woman: Seemingly inexhaustible, this dynamo can singlehandedly cross various time zones with multiple child pick-ups and drop-offs, while carrying on three conversations with passengers. Knows all lyrics to all children's tapes and full weekly schedules of five other households. Expert in timing. Nemesis: Snowsuits, government officials who won't let her put a siren on her van.

Chazzanic Wannabee Man: Provides unsolicited backup vocals for shul-designated chazzan, particularly on Shabbat and yamim tovim. Has memorized all opera arias in Italian; however, is still searching for an Italian-speaking minyan. Once shook hands with Luciano Pavarotti's agent's father-in-law's second cousin. Fulfils secret desire by cruising karaoke bars, but is often shouted off the stage for refusing to relinquish the microphone. Believes that tone deafness should not disqualify someone from leading services. Often claims air is too dry to sing properly anyway. Nemesis: Persons with perfect pitch, choirs.

Kiddush Man: Sharpest elbows in town. Able to consume vast quantities of honey and sponge cake, herring (preferably schmaltz) within nanoseconds of Kiddush being recited after shul on Shabbat morning. Able to detect schnapps within a 10-mile radius. Will often be sighted anytime a kiddush offered. Thrives at wedding sweet tables, even if five-course dinner finished only minutes before. Nemesis: Rabbis with lengthy divrei Torah, shul presidents with announcements.

Metziyah Man: Known for penchant for finding best bargains in town (or beyond), and broadcasting to all within earshot. Can even bargain with food grocers for deals on canned tuna. Happiest when finding things for free even when he can afford to pay. Useful community resource on prices on absolutely anything, even without being asked. Nemesis: Full retail prices, persons who find better metziyahs by any margin.

Pesach Person: A rather agitated person, easily excited and worried about Pesach cleaning and planning once Simchat Torah ends. Measures time by date of first seder. Full of boundless energy and uses vast quantities of household cleaning products. Prefers hand scrubbing to mechanical devices, as more authentic and closer to the action. At fullest potential and happiest during the month of Adar. Will even offer to clean other houses when too effective on home turf. Tends to collapse exhausted sometime during first seder. Nemesis: Pieces of chametz found on erev Pesach, months between Pesach and Sukkot.

Cappucino Man/Woman: Constantly sleep-deprived superhero relentlessly in search of caffeine. Known to frequent coffee bars, coffee and pop machines, donut shops. Expert in art of coffee-making and self-appointed protector of Juan Valdez. Nemesis: Herbal teas, instant coffee.

Cellular/Car Phone Man/Woman: Known for the warbling cry "I'm on the cell phone," this superhero is constantly on the move, searching for someone to call or something to talk about. Especially fond of calling from driveways to announce imminent arrival. Bane of restaurants and movie theatres. Occasionally crashes car into other moving vehicles while engaged in important telephone matters. Most active on evenings and weekends when air time is free. Nemesis: Pay phones.

Internet Supersurfer: Usually found bleary-eyed, this person faithfully pursues computer excitement for the latest software to download, bulletin board or discussion group. Somewhat paranoid about missing a day's e-mail or new entries. Lives for new Web sites. Able to double-click and breathe at the same time. Vulnerable when unconnected or exceeds monthly time limit. Nemesis. People without access.

Supermom/dad: No explanation necessary.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
PURIM POPPYSEED CANDY
WE SELL GE FOR LESS

1 lb. poppyseeds
1/2 cup raisins, optional
3/4 cup sugar
1 1/4 cups honey
1 cup nuts
1 pinch salt

Wash poppyseeds thoroughly in boiling water and drain well. Cook all ingredients except nuts and raisins to soft ball stage. Add nuts and raisins and cook for 5 minutes. Pour onto wet board and spread with spatula to about 1/4" thick. Allow to cool for a few minutes and cut into square or diamond shapes. When cool, remove from board. Yield: 36 servings

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About Life

Dear Ella,

With Passover quickly approaching, I am always filled with memories of preparing for the holidays with my mother.

My mother, who passed away four years ago, used to make all kinds of wonderful recipes for Pesach. Preparing some of those dishes now, I get a warm comforting feeling. When the kids say things like, "this is bubbie's brisket," it makes me happy knowing that they carry some of those special memories too.

One of the recipes I can't seem to duplicate is a dessert she made with matzos dipped in wine, layered with filling and covered in chocolate. When I think about it, I can almost taste it.

I wish I had taken the time to learn more of her culinary secrets, but it never seemed to be one of my priorities.

I thought maybe one of your readers might have heard of this recipe and be kind enough to forward it on.

Chag Samayach.

Food for Thought

Dear Food for Thought,

Food you shared at home with your family when you felt happy and safe is the ultimate comfort food.

Everyone has a wonderful gefilte fish recipe that bubbie used to make. My mother used to make something she called an "oungebrenteh zip" (translated it would mean "burnt soup"). It was delicious, but that recipe is gone too.

It is important to spend time with our aging parents and grandparents. Take the time to follow them around when they are cooking. You can be sure that most of the time, they are not using a cookbook.

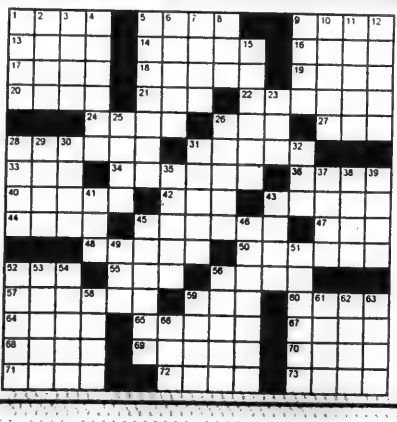
Besides ending up with a delicious recipe, you'll also be spending quality time, something we are all too busy to do sometimes, with our hectic schedules.

These recipes release a flood of memories of childhood and holidays and usually remind us of some of the closest and happiest times we spend with our families.

There is nothing richer than a good memory. Pass on the wealth.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Jacob after the angel
5. On High (Heb)
9. Alephbet member
13. Adam's homeland
14. Woman of ___
16. Wilder or Barry
17. Diller's hubby
18. Graven__
19. Mechanical designer (abbv.)
20. Tried and __
21. Nimoy casually
22. Observed Yom Kippur
24. Mitzvah, good __
26. Hackett or Rich
27. Teller and Land
28. Mishpuche (Eng)
31. Sage Akiva
33. __ Carte
34. Act the Yenta
36. Dorothy Parker specialities
40. Auschwitz and Dachau
42. Anti-Semitism fighters
43. Shvitz (Eng)
44. Jacob's twin
45. Up to Israel
47. __Yoelson, Al Jolson
48. Stooges
50. H-Bomb scientist
52. Mayer Company
55. Hamen or Amalek
56. Johnny Kling's plate
57. Abba Eban
59. Prohibit
60. Fiedler Boston Band
64. Own
65. Moses' bush
67. Mountain
68. Ma'ariv times
69. Mountain
70. Circumcision
71. Acted the Usurer?
72. Jews (Yid)
73. Cholent

Down

1. Etrog hand?
2. Shevat follower
3. Deli fare listing
4. Dead Sea Kibbutz
5. Curse
6. Hebrew letter
7. Funt or Sherman
8. Register
9. "Rock of __"
10. Budinsky (Yid)
11. Gabriel or Uriel
12. Nebbishes?
15. Nod to Cain
23. Fruit drink
25. Tu B'Shevat plantings
26. Actor Crystal
28. Purim (Eng)
29. Oy Vey!
30. Cass Elliott
31. Singer Cantor
32. Aisle
35. Hebrew letter
37. Monty Hall specialty
38. Seder manner
39. Israeli flag emblem
41. Place
43. Name (Heb)
45. Ark's end
46. Kol Nidre chanters
49. Movie channel
51. Biblical outcasts
52. Bris officiate
53. Mount of Olives plenty
54. Expert
56. Well of Gideon's test
58. Job's trouble
59. Netenyahu nickname
61. Levaye notice
62. Chopped liver?
63. Killed biblically
66. Pay without the dot

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Edgar Bronfman to spare no effort in tracking down confiscated Jewish wealth in Europe. **Page 3**

Steven Spielberg's Holocaust Foundation head won't be satisfied until the last survivors tell their story. **Page 22**

On Campus

Anonymous donor gives $45,000 to support Yiddish Studies Program at U of T. **Page 25**

International

Quantum leap forward in Russian/Israeli relations. *Analysis.* **Page 39**

Arts

Jewish Singles search for love and happiness, and you can join them. *Eye on Arts* **Page 44**

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Shabbat Parah: Tzav
Candlelighting: 6:19
2 Adar 19, 5757
Havdalah: 7:24

PA involved in Hebron riots

Arafat gave tacit approval for attacks, says Israeli security

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — "Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat gave the green light to the radical organizations to carry out attacks," Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon said last week.

Furthermore, Ya'alon added, Palestinian Preventive Security (PPS) chief Jibril Rajoub organized the riots that took place in Hebron over the past few days.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak expanded on Ya'alon's theme, warning that, given the present state of tension, the potential exists for further deterioration following an understanding by Hamas and Islamic Jihad that there is a tacit agreement with the Palestinian Authority (PA) allowing them to carry out terror attacks. The two generals were speaking at a Jerusalem press conference.

Ya'alon said that, while it is difficult to prove that Arafat specifically told the radical Islamic organizations to carry out suicide attacks, he met with the leaders of these organizations upon his return from the United States and gave them to understand that this was his message.

As long as this situation persists, Ya'alon said, another attack can occur. "From our acquaintance with the Palestinian security apparatus, we know it is able to deal with the terrorist organizations, but for them to act there is a need for a clear order from Arafat that has not yet been given."

Ya'alon said that recently the heads of the Palestinian security apparatus had cut off contact with their counterparts in the General Security Service and reduced cooperation to a minimum. He also noted that, until March 21, there had been no suicide attacks for an entire year.

This is no coincidence, he said, but rather the result of action taken by Arafat and the heads of the PPS.

"Today there is no conflict between the PA and Hamas," said Ya'alon.

Continued on page 36

Michael, the husband of Anat Winter-Rosen, gives his wife's body a final touch as she is lowered into her grave last week. Anat, the mother of 6-month-old Shani who survived the cafe bombing, was one of three women killed in the blast.
[Reuter/RNS photo]

Jews must stand up for their rights

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A look of annoyance crossed Edgar Bronfman's face. "Jews don't make anti-Semitism," he said sharply. "Anti-Semites make anti-Semitism."

Exclusive Interview

Bronfman, the Montreal-born president of the New York-based World Jewish Congress, was reacting to a question posed during an interview prior to a speech he would deliver to the Canadian Club.

He had been asked whether the World Jewish Congress' widely-publicized campaign to recover confiscated Jewish funds and property from Swiss banks and European governments might not cause an anti-Jewish backlash.

"It's more important for Jews to stand up for their rights," he added. "If we want to earn the respect of the world, we must stand up and be counted."

In line with this thinking, Bronfman, a youthful 67, is writing what many consider the final chapter of the Holocaust. Through a combination of moral suasion and pressure, the World Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Restitution Organization,

Continued on page 23

INSIDE

The CJN looks at *The Toronto Star's* coverage of Israel.
Please see page 9.

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Orthodox group ruling is potentially explosive — please see page 37

The News in Brief

CANADA

Federal Enumeration

OTTAWA – From Thursday, April 10 to Wednesday, April 16, pairs of enumerators will be going door-to-door across 301 federal ridings in Canada to build a permanent register of qualified electors.

The register will contain each elector's name, mailing address, municipal address, electoral district, gender and date of birth.

Electors whose names or addresses are incorrect on the preliminary list or who are not on the list, will have four more days to have the information corrected or to be added.

ISRAEL

Bar-Ilan Mission

RAMAT GAN – Bar-Ilan University will hold a Jewish Identity Leadership Mission from June 15 to 25.

The 10-day excursion will be capped by a visit to Basel, Switzerland, the birthplace of Zionism.

NASA Joins Inquiry

JERUSALEM – National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scientists are set to use a "supercomputer" to simulate February's collision of two military helicopters in northern Israel.

The panel investigating the crash, in which 73 soldiers and crew were killed, had turned to NASA for assistance in determining its cause, Israeli media reported.

Rabbinic Torah Study

JERUSALEM – Registration has opened for the 11th annual Rabbinic Torah Study Seminar, to be held at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem from June 30 to July 10.

The seminar draws rabbis of all Jewish denominations from congregations around the world for 10 days of intensive study.

For more information call 201-894-0566.

WORLD

NIF Contributions Up

WASHINGTON – Contributions to the New Israel Fund in 1996 surpassed the previous year's effort by a wide margin.

The international philanthropy raised $12.9 million last year, 20 percent more than in 1995. Ninety percent of the funds were raised in the United States, with the balance coming from Canada, Western Europe and Israel.

JVC Summer Program

NEW YORK – This June a group of college students and recent graduates will spend six weeks in Israel and Honduras or Zimbabwe living in hands-on development projects, learning about international development and exploring their Jewish identities as part of JVC Summer, a new program of American Jewish World Service's Jewish Volunteer Corps.

For more information call 1-800-889-7146 or fax 212-736-3463.

Argentina Criticized

BUENOS AIRES – Argentine Jews last week commemorated the fifth anniversary of the March 17, 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy here with bitter criticism of the government for failing to capture those responsible for the attack.

Some 1,500 people gathered Monday morning across the street from the Argentine Supreme Court to criticize the government's inability to solve the car bombing, which left 29 dead and some 100 wounded.

Bnei Akiva Program

NEW YORK – Bnei Akiva of the United States and Canada will once again be holding its Hachshara program. Designed for students, the program combines kibbutz life with an intensive learning schedule.

For more information call 212-889-5260.

Library Convention

CLEVELAND – The 32nd annual convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries will take place here, June 22 to 25.

For more information call 216-464-4050, ext. 131.

CAJE Conference

PALO ALTO – The Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education will return to Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif., for its annual festival of Jewish teaching and learning from Aug. 17 to 21.

Trial Opens for Neo-Nazis

PARIS – Four French neo-Nazis went on trial last week after being accused of going on an anti-Semitic rampage in a Jewish cemetery in 1990.

Support for UJA

NEW YORK – The United Jewish Appeal has announced that all four major streams of Judaism – Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist – have issued statements expressing full support of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation annual campaign.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday March 24, 1972

EGYPT, U.S.S.R. IN DEBATE ON MIDEAST POLICY

Israel has observed a stiffening in both the Egyptian and Soviet attitudes towards peace, with the Russians now set on getting the Israelis out of the territories. They would prefer this to be by political means, but are not holding back the Egyptians if they decide they must resort to war.

There is, however, a bitter debate going on between Cairo and Moscow. The Egyptians are asking: "How is it that with the most powerful ally in the world and with your experts, advisers and equipment, we cannot beat the Israelis?" The Russians' reply is: "We have given you everything – more than we gave North Korea and Vietnam. Why could you not create a fighting army?"

CANADIAN OLIM OBJECT TO HOUSING COSTS

Two associations representing immigrants from North America and Britain to Israel have protested bitterly over the high cost of housing in Israel and demanded that the government do something about it without delay.

The convention of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel called on the government and the Jewish Agency to implement "a radical change" in the present housing policy.

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Bronfman maintains quest for stolen Jewish funds

'No one will profit from the Holocaust'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, says he will spare no effort to track down confiscated Jewish wealth in Europe.

"I'm very serious in saying that, as long as I draw breath, no one will profit from the Holocaust," he told the Canadian Club in a recent speech.

Bronfman, who is also president of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, has played a central role in persuading Swiss banks and various European governments to return money and property to their rightful private and communal owners.

Edgar Bronfman

"This is not about money but about justice," he declared.

Bronfman, who flew in from New York City for the event, took note of the fact that Swiss banks and the Swiss government have agreed to establish special short-term and long-term funds to assist victims of the Holocaust and other catastrophes.

But he acknowledged that the World Jewish Congress has yet to determine the fate of monies deposited by Jews in Swiss banks before World War II.

Bronfman expressed the hope that Switzerland will support historical commissions presently studying Switzerland's role during the war.

He said these panels will, among other things, determine the degree to which the war was prolonged by the export of Swiss strategic materials to Germany.

He said he was optimistic that $70 million (US) worth of stolen gold bullion, shipped from Nazi Germany to Switzerland during the war and now stored in bank vaults in the United States and Britain, will eventually be turned over to the World Jewish Restitution Organization and then distributed to needy survivors.

In an anecdotal vein, Bronfman recalled how he had enlisted the help of U.S. President Bill Clinton and his wife to exert pressure on the Swiss to be more forthcoming and generous with regard to unclaimed Jewish bank deposits in the country.

Twice previously, in the 1960s and 1970s, Swiss banks made payments to Jewish organizations acting on behalf of Jews murdered during the Holocaust. But these transfers were paltry, forcing the World Jewish Congress to act, he suggested.

In a 1995 meeting in Berne, a consortium of Swiss bankers offered the World Jewish Congress a lump sum of $32 million (US) to make amends for the past.

Bronfman said he rebuffed them, saying he had not come to discuss "money but process." These talks led to further negotiations and more positive results, he noted.

Bronfman said the World Restitution Organization is currently engaged in discussions with a whole host of countries ranging from France and Norway to the Czech Republic and Poland. Some of the negotiations have gone better than others, he conceded.

The World Jewish Congress, he disclosed, recently persuaded Germany to extend its reparation payments by $180 million annually to meet the needs of Jewish survivors in Eastern Europe.

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Taking a close look at a UN resolution

Whether or not one believes that the UN will become increasingly more relevant in a world devoid of the competitions of the Cold War, one must still bear in mind that most of the people of the underdeveloped, or, Third World have frequent and a direct contact in their daily lives with at least some department of the many-faceted UN bureaucracy. For most of the people of the earth then, the UN enjoys a measure of credibility. It carries a certain prestige other than, simply, the large "cereal box" by the East River in New York where diplomats bargain, posture and exploit their immunity from prosecution by not paying their parking tickets.

As *The CJN* pointed out last week, on the very day, March 13, that a Jordanian soldier massacred seven Israeli girls and wounded six more, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution by a vote of 130 in favor; two opposed (Israel and the United States), and two abstentions (Marshall Islands and Micronesia) which criticized Israel's decision to build a housing project on Har Choma.

Canada voted with the majority.

Across my desk last week, I received the March 12 draft of the text of that resolution. As far as I know, there were no changes between the draft version and the one which was voted upon the following day. Its contents, I believe, would be of interest to *CJN* readers. I shall therefore excerpt some of it.

There is, of course, a formula, a protocol, in writing UN resolutions. The nub of a resolution is at the end. But preceding that nub is always a preamble which provides the background, or describes the "atmosphere" as it were, which led up to the resolution in the first place.

But that atmosphere is always described according to the purposes of the sponsors of the resolution.

Thus for example, we read the following description in the preamble to the resolution. *(All commentary is mine and appears in Italics.)*

"Expressing deep concern at the decision of the Government of Israel to initiate new settlement activities in the Jebel Abu Ghneim area in East Jerusalem."

The underlining is part of the original text. Notice how the very terms of the debate, such as "new settlement activities," and especially "Jebel Abu Ghneim area in East Jerusalem," are taken from the Palestinian side. Referring to the project as a "new settlement" brings immediate negative associative connotations. There is no reference to the Hebrew name for the hill, Har Choma, as if it only has an Arab identity. Nor is there a reference to the fact that the vast majority of the land in question was expropriated from Jewish owners who had purchased it in the early 1970s.

"Stressing that such settlements are illegal and a major obstacle to peace."

It is by no means true that the building project, or as the UN referred to it, the "settlement" is illegal. Nor is it true that it is an obstacle to peace. But the points are included, mantra-like, to set the stage.

"Confirming that legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel which purport to alter the status of Jerusalem, including expropriation of land and properties thereon, are invalid and cannot change that status."

This provision is a direct challenge to the policies adopted by every Israeli government since 1967 regarding the indivisibility of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The four parts of the resolution are:

1. Calls upon the Israeli authorities to refrain from all actions or measures, including settlement activities, which alter the facts on the ground, pre-empting the final status negotiations, and have negative implications for the Middle East Peace Process;

2. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the Geneva Convention...which is applicable to all the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

3. Calls upon all parties to continue, in the interests of peace and security, their negotiations...;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Government of Israel the provisions of this resolution."

The entire purpose of this resolution was to discredit Israel's reliability as a peace partner, to paint it as actually a threat to peace and to undermine Israel's claim to an undivided Jerusalem.

And yet, Canada chose to support it.

After the vote, undoubtedly somewhat self-conscious at the terrible coincidence of the vote and the Naharayim massacre, Canada officially explained its vote in the following text:

"Canada is deeply saddened and shocked by the attack against innocent Israeli school children today in Jordan and we too extend our condolences to their families. Such deplorable acts of violence must not be allowed to derail the peace process. We believe that maintaining the current peace process is essential and hope the parties will resume negotiations shortly towards the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

"Canada has voted in favor of the resolution just adopted. We would note, however, that both parties involved in the peace agreements have obligations, and we would have preferred to see that reality reflected more fully in the resolution. As Canada noted in its 6 March statement before the Security Council, the construction of a lasting peace requires that all parties refrain from unilateral actions that would prejudice the outcome of final status negotiations. In this regard, it is Canada's view that the recent decision of the Government of Israel to proceed with the construction of an Israeli settlement in Har Choma—Jebel Abu Ghneim undermines the trust that is the very foundation of the peace process. Canada views settlement activity as a violation of international law and as harmful to the peace process."

But in the official record of the proceedings, when people will be interested to look up only the tally, the vote will show 130-2-2. And they will observe that Canada voted with the majority.

* * *

Purim Spiels

Our special Purim coverage in last week's issue was an overwhelming success. However, we did receive three calls and one letter of complaint. Most of our readers were able to see immediately that the briefs and the stories about the amalgamation of the shuls, the anti-assimilation tomato, the merger of Congress and B'nai Brith and Rabbi Obergegessen were Purim spiels. Next year we hope to repeat and to improve our Purim coverage. But we will try to show even more prominently which of the stories will be, simply, spiels.

MBD

Tom Ungar, a highly productive entrepreneur, is also committed to the Jewish community.

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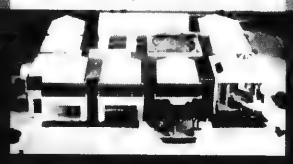

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Greater Toronto Area

Frustration evident at annual vigil for agunot

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Gone were the placards of previous years. Toronto's fourth annual vigil for agunot, with an audience of about 75 people seated in rows of chairs in a Lipa Green Building room, seemed subdued, by contrast.

But it soon became evident that frustrations were simmering and the desire to help women denied a Jewish divorce by their husbands has held strong.

Educator Marsha Razin opened the program, held on the eve of the Fast of Esther, with a fiery speech denouncing recalcitrant husbands and their enablers as defilers of God's name.

Razin, whose husband of almost 35 years was one of the half-dozen men in the audience, dates her interest in the issue to a chance meeting with an agunah 25 years ago. "In her suffering she took away my innocent confidence in the simplicity of a halachic lifestyle."

Candles were lit in solidarity with agunot by (from left) Corinne Hammerschlag, Women's League for Conservative Judaism; Gita Arnold, National Council of Jewish Women; Susan Michaels, Jewish Women's Federation; Vivien Sharon, Hadassah-WIZO; and Mitzi Dickstein, Jewish Women International. Not seen are Elaine Genesove of Emunah Women and Etty Danzig of Na'amat. [Frances Kraft photo]

Rabbi faces barrage of questions

Rabbi Mark Dratch of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, the only rabbi to have attended the Toronto vigils, was effectively prevented from finishing his speech by a barrage of questions reflecting frustration but not hostility. Audience members wondered aloud to which of his colleagues they would be able to turn after he leaves Toronto this summer to take up a new pulpit in Connecticut.

Defending his Beth Din (rabbinic court) colleagues as men of integrity, dedication and sincerity, Rabbi Dratch noted that Toronto's Vaad Harabonim has issued at least one public notice denying a recalcitrant husband honor in the community.

"You know what happened to him?" an audience member whispered bitterly. "He didn't get an aliyah. Tsk. Tsk."

Rabbi Dratch cautioned that change will not come about quickly. He urged people not to take "a critical approach" to the rabbinate. "All you'll succeed in doing is creating greater divisiveness. There has to be greater dialogue, greater sensitivity to the Halachah."

Women who are denied a *get* (Jewish divorce) are not permitted to remarry according to Jewish law. Should they bear children in a subsequent relationship without obtaining a *get*, the children, while halachically Jewish, are considered mamzerim and are permitted to marry only a restricted category of other Jews.

Men can avail themselves of halachic loopholes if their wives don't (or can't) agree to accept a get, although Rabbi Dratch noted they apply only in rare circumstances.

He disagreed with the oft-quoted aphorism, attributed by Razin to Orthodox activist/rebbitzen Blu Greenberg, that "if there's a rabbinic will, there's a halachic way."

"A woman needs to come out of the *get* process viewed as a single woman by the entire Jewish community," said Rabbi Dratch. "If part of the community says they don't accept [a particular rabbi's] *get*, I don't think it would be responsible to suggest [that route] if segments of the community will not accept her as a divorced woman."

To lessen the possibility that a woman will become an agunah, Rabbi Dratch recommends use of a prenuptial agreement. Versions of two such documents endorsed by the Rabbinical Council of America have been offered at Shaarei Shomayim for the past two years. (The documents are not universally accepted, however, he admitted.)

Under the terms of the Canadianized prenuptial agreement, based on a document written 700 years ago, the husband is obligated to pay his wife $200 per day (indexed to the Consumer Price Index) from the time they begin to live apart until their *get* is final.

"Every day he refuses to give the *get*, it's another $200, and it can add up rather quickly." The conditions are considered "incentive" rather than "coercion," explained Rabbi Dratch. The latter can render a *get* void.

He called on parents and grandparents to let engaged couples know about such documents "to create a mood in which blackmail for a *get* and withholding a *get* is just not acceptable."

The vigil was co-chaired by Esther Rodzynek and Ophira Sone of the Toronto chapter of the International Coalition for Agunah Rights (ICAR). The nine constituent member groups of ICAR were joined this year by new member the Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

Agunah vigils were also held in Calgary, Winnipeg and Montreal.

Peace with Syria said unlikely soon

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is difficult to be optimistic in the short term about peace between Israel and Syria, John McNee, Canada's ambassador to Syria, said recently.

Syria is insisting on withdrawal by Israel of "every inch" of the Golan and southern Lebanon for any peace deal, and their policy is firm, McNee told the Israel affairs committee of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC).

"There will be no peace in the Middle East without Syria," he said.

Syria's President Hafez al-Assad is against any separate peace between Israel and Lebanon, he said.

McNee faced some tough questions about whether Israel could safely give up the Golan, whether Canada was acting to prevent terrorists from Syria slipping through the immigration net and why Canadian Jews are being denied admission to Syria.

In reply, McNee said the Golan is not as important to Israel's security as it was 30 years ago, that the Canadian Embassy is trying to prevent terrorists from reaching Canada and that few Syrian visitors to Canada apply for refugee status here.

On the issue of Ontario region president Moshe Ronen and former CJC president Irving Abella both being denied entry to Syria, McNee said he is hopeful that in the long run, Syria will develop a more tolerant attitude to Canadian Jews.

In support, he cited the fact that he was the first Canadian diplomat with a record of service in Israel ever accepted by Syria, and that Canada's ambassador to Israel, a Jew, was invited to a conference in Damascus.

Both Israel and Syria are waiting for the United States to make some decisions on Middle East peace issues. But the Canadian ambassador said it was important to get peace negotiations going again, "because when there are no negotiations, things get worse."

Syria realizes, he said, that it can have normal relations with United States only if there is peace with Israel.

In McNee's opinion, a peace deal fell through when the late Yitzhak Rabin was in power, because "Israel tried to get too much too fast" and Assad thought he had more time to negotiate since he did not foresee that Shimon Peres would lose the election.

Another factor, he said, is that Syria has been "too quick to judge the intentions" of the new government.

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Netanyahu following public opinion, says journalist

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Observers of the Israeli political scene should not be surprised by Benjamin Netanyahu's apparent shifts from traditional Likud policy nor by occasional bumps in the road towards peace, the annual meeting of Canadian Friends of Peace Now (CFPN) was told last week.

The Israeli prime minister is an astute politician with his finger on the pulse of the nation and his policies reflect Israeli public opinion, said Patrick Martin, foreign editor of the *Globe and Mail*.

"Netanyahu represents accurately the wishes of the Israeli population... What really has happened was that the people of Israel in the majority came to recognize the PLO, the agenda of the PLO and a peace process that envelops Syria," he said.

Speaking to about 75 people at the Lodzer Centre in North York, Martin said the key to changing Israeli foreign policy is by changing Israeli public opinion. Quoting former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger, Martin said Israel does not have a foreign policy, it has only domestic politics. Pressure from the United States and critical UN resolutions will not sway Israel's foreign policy, he said.

Arab leaders have come to understand that fact. That accounts in large measure for King Hussein's recent gesture of prostrating himself before the families of the seven schoolgirls killed by a Jordanian soldier. A canny politician, King Hussein is now the most popular political figure in Israel, he noted.

Broad political support for Har Choma development

Even Yasser Arafat has adopted that way of thinking. That's why Palestinian protests over the Har Choma development have been peaceful, Martin continued.

Recounting Netanyahu's recent political decisions that attracted condemnation from around the world, Martin noted they had broad domestic support. The opening of the second doorway to the tunnel adjacent to the Temple Mount was a popular decision in Israel despite the casualties that resulted after the Arab protests, he said.

The decision to withdraw from much of Hebron was also supported by the majority of Israelis, who don't want 400 settlers in the centre of the city or even 4,000 in nearby Kiryat Arba to stand in the way of their dream of peace in the Middle East, he said.

Patrick Martin

Netanyahu, suffering from domestic scandals, agreed to the Har Choma development because he knew it too had "broad popular support." As a result, he received the backing of the Knesset right wing and of the more hawkish members of Labor.

Martin pointed out the Har Choma development, slated for land that was historically part of the municipality of Bethlehem, was originally planned by the previous Labor government. In January, Labor threatened a no confidence motion in the Knesset if Netanyahu didn't go ahead with it.

In giving the green light to Har Choma, Netanyahu also recognized that "the fight is on, the debate is really beginning" over the future of Jerusalem. It also explains why he proposed last week to jump to final status talks, knowing he had a broad domestic consensus to keep Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital.

Netanyahu and Likud have come a long way in recent years, accepting the Oslo peace process with its acceptance of land for peace and withdrawal from territory in Judea and Samaria, he noted. Though contrary to historic Likud policy, it reflected the sea change in attitudes among the Israeli populace, he suggested.

Martin levelled a muted criticism of Peace Now as well, saying that even if it doesn't like all of Likud's policies, "don't blame Netanyahu. He's just the messenger."

Earlier, Simon Rosenblum, co-president of CFPN, acknowledged that Netanyahu had moved "farther than we thought," though it appears he thinks he can cut a deal by giving up only half the West Bank. CFPN believes "peace can't be purchased at such a bargain basement price," he said.

Instead, he pointed to a possible final settlement discussed by the previous Labor government that would see Israel retain about 10 percent of the territory, which is home to 65 percent of the settlers.

"That's a snapshot of what it would take to get a just and lasting peace," Rosenblum said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Child survivors gather for 'emotion-laden' conference

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Child survivors of the Holocaust — "evicted" from their childhoods — often live with the feeling of "impending doom" for Jews, a local expert told a conference here last week.

Andre Stein, author of a book on children who were hidden during the Holocaust and himself a child survivor, told a day-long conference on Holocaust-related trauma that many children who survived World War II live with repressed pain.

"They hurt in silence," Stein, a University of Toronto professor and psychotherapist, told a workshop on the impact of the Holocaust on survivor generations. The session was part of the three-day annual meeting in Toronto of the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

The emotion-laden workshop, attended by about 50 mental health care workers, local survivors and members of the second and even third generations, explored how the Holocaust has affected subsequent generations.

But it lingered on the question of child survivors, those who were about 20 in 1945, because, as Stein noted in his presentation, "they had no childhoods."

Child survivors "grew up too quickly, and often had to endure the trauma of their elders." Thus, many children of child survivors "became parents to their parents."

Even as adults, child survivors often harbor feelings of abandonment, especially if one or both parents died in the war, he said. And they often fear that harm to Jews is just around the corner.

The conference was chaired by Eva Metzger Brown, a psychotherapist at the University of Massachusetts, and herself a child survivor.

Brown, whose own practice deals with abrupt loss, such as death and divorce, said all Holocaust survivors were traumatized to some degree.

She and Stein listed the various emotional traits which have been passed down from survivors to their children, and in some cases, even to grandchildren: fear of authority and separation, overprotectiveness and guilt for having survived. Members of the second and third generations have been found to internalize fear and anger and to avoid dealing with adversity, Stein said.

It's important, Brown noted, for survivor families to "break through the silence" that often envelopes them.

On the other hand, the workshop was told, research has shown that children and grandchildren of survivors are high-functioning, largely because of parents' pressure to achieve and succeed.

Many children of survivors, Brown pointed out, "are heavily involved in tikkun olam (the repair of the world), working in areas like health care, anti-racism and poverty.

While child survivors' stories of loss are "different," the experiences of the second and third generations are "important and essential," Brown said, "and they must be heard."

A PASSION FOR PASSOVER

The Parents' Association of Associated Hebrew Schools is presenting A Passion for Passover featuring Greta Rosen of Chillis 'n Meringue on Wednesday, April 2, at the Kamin Education Centre, 300 Atkinson Ave. at 7 p.m. The program will include cooking demonstrations on what to prepare for Passover, sharing of recipes, samples and door prizes. Seen here (from left) is Greta Rosen, Stephanie Kepecs and Ellen Markin.

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THE JEWS ARE BUILDING HOMES IN JERUSALEM.
SHOCKING!
GASP!
GOOD LORD!

Hypocrite's lament

It is disheartening to read of Palestinian celebrations over the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv last week in which three Israeli women were killed and scores of individuals were hurt. To be sure, only a minority of Palestinians appear to greet as "good news" the craven tactics of terror. Nevertheless, it is a sullen and ominous testament to the abject failure of Palestinian leadership, and in particular the leadership of Yasser Arafat, that any Palestinians should sing praises for the killing and attempted killing of Jews.

Arafat attempted to cast responsibility for the murders upon the government of Israel, characterizing the bomb's blast as the inevitable eruption from the build-up of volcano-like pressure in the preceding two weeks. But, in doing so, he was behaving deplorably and hypocritically.

We deplore his attempt to absolve the murderer, and those who sent him, of the consequences of their grisly act. We deplore too his pious, self-serving, but deceitful lament of heightened tension when he, more than anyone, was the fomenter of that tension. He complained loudly and vituperatively to any western media outlet that would provide a video camera about Israeli decisions to which he had already provided his written consent.

For example, he complained about Israel's decision to withdraw from "only" nine percent of West Bank territory, even though the Hebron agreement confers upon Israel alone the right to decide the extent of the IDF withdrawal. He also complained about Har Choma, even though he knows there is no prohibition whatsoever in the Oslo agreements against Israeli construction in Jerusalem during the "interim" status period. Most menacingly of all, he released Hamas leaders unto their hateful flock even though he knew, or should have known, that their aim would be incitement to murder more Jews.

And indeed, more Jews have been murdered.

Without the confidence of the people of Israel, there will be no peace with the Palestinian people. And yet, how can Israelis repose any confidence in a man who spurns written agreements and is either unable or unwilling to eliminate terror against them? Thus, Arafat's lament that the peace process is in danger is a hypocrite's lament. If anyone kills the peace process, it will be him.

Har Choma is not Calvary

While foreign cameras clicked and recorded their images for imminent transmission to the far corners of the world, a cross was implanted into the earth of Har Choma last week with an appropriately suffering Palestinian tied to its beams. The image of this modern crucified "martyr" was startling and alarming. And it was certainly no coincidence that the play was enacted while the Archbishop of Canterbury, along with 38 other leading bishops and archbishops of the Church of England, were visiting Jerusalem.

The attempt to associate in the western mind the image of the crucifixion of Christ with the "crucifixion" of the Palestinians was beneath contempt.

For two millennia, the Passion at Calvary was the filter paper through which Jewish blood spilled onto the pages of world history. To invoke that image is nothing less than a brazen, cheap, but insidious propaganda ploy.

Har Choma is not Calvary. It is part of modern Jerusalem.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"The confidence of the government with which we want to negotiate regarding the settlement of Jewish masses on a large scale can be gained by frank language and upright dealing."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 28, 1763 Aaron Hart became the first Jew in Canada to receive a government appointment. He became the postmaster of Three Rivers, Quebec. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

What is meant by 'non-Jewish Jew'?

The "non-Jewish Jew" concept that so irked Dr. Georges F. Novak (*Objects to use of "non-Jewish" Jew*, letter to the editor, Feb. 27), nowadays forms a standard scholarly tool for measuring the distance separating a person of (formally defined) Jewish origin from the sum total of his group's premises shared by the majority of its members (the larger the distance, the more "non-Jewish" is the particular Jew in question). The concept was first coined by Isaac Deutcher who used it to describe Jewish socialists who chose utopian (socialist) principles over the values of their own group and has been used, directly or by implication, by scholars such as Ivan Kalmar (*The Trotskys, Freuds, and Woody Allens*), Barry Rubin (*Assimilation and its Discontents*), and Sander Gilman *(Jewish Self-Hatred)*, to name but a few.

Equally important, the concept applies no value preference to persons who rank either "high" or "low" on this measure of estrangement from Judaic tradition, as it only seeks to locate the position of various groups on that scale for comparison purposes of the social-scientific variety. In World War II, for example, Nazi atrocities included, without discrimination, Jews stretching across the entire identification spectrum with no exceptions made for either strongly or weakly identified Jews.

Furthermore, everyone knows that a converted Jew who practised Catholicism may have suffered as a Jew in the hands of the Nazis (as did Novak and his family) in equal or greater measure to a Jew born "formally" as such. Novak erred when he likened the application of the "non-Jewish Jew" concept to a denial of his own share of suffering during World War II. Nor did my profiling of elements of history and demography of the Czechoslovak Jewish community in reference to the larger question of Jewish survival have anything to do with "calling" Novak a "non-Jew of the Jewish variety." (The merits of my analysis must stand or fall in disassociation from Novak's or, for that matter, any other single person's individual biography.)

Dr. Yaacov Glickman
Toronto

The Jewish stand on poverty

I was deeply touched by two of the articles (*CJN*, Feb. 27), which seemed profoundly connected.One was on "child poverty is a moral issue" by Gordon Wolfe and the other was "from the editor's desk."

First I read the words, "When man grasps that unity pervades all of Creation, and that he is connected through true unity to all that has been created, then will he love his fellow man...." Then I read about the 1.3 million Canadian children living in poverty, hungry for what the rest of us take for granted. If as a Jew I believe in the first words, then I can only feel shame about the second.

How can we possibly be "connected through true unity," when we allow our children to go hungry?

Whether we are affiliated or secular Jews, we are people who hold dear universal morals. It is time to demonstrate that we will not stand by, knowing that "poor children go to school without breakfast and to bed without supper."

Sandy Stern
Toronto

Har Choma housing bedevils peace

Your March 13 editorial, "One voice: Jerusalem" suggests that the vast majority of Israelis support the Netanyahu government's decision to build the controversial Jewish housing project in Har Choma. In fact, according to recent opinion polls reported in *Yediot Aharonot* (2-25-97) and *Ha'aretz* (3-5-97), a majority of Israelis favor either postponing or not building these housing units.

Going ahead with this construction on the southeastern edge of Jerusalem is obviously throwing a major monkey wrench into the peace process and fails to recognize that, within the context of Jerusalem remaining the undivided capital of Israel, Palestinians in East Jerusalem will need some linkage to the emerging Palestinian state. While waging the battle for Jerusalem, both sides are engaged in unhelpful practices counter to the spirit of Oslo.

Dr. Frank Guttman
Simon Rosenblum
National Co-Presidents
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Restrictions on Brit Milah

With reference to the letter (*CJN*, March 13), regarding the Orthodox view of brit milah, the esteemed Rabbi Moshe Stern neglects to mention that the mohels he recommends will only perform a brit milah on a child if the mother has been converted by an Orthodox rabbi.

Allan P. Noss
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The coverage of Israel in The Toronto Star

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Why, it is often asked, does Israel — the size of New Jersey and with a population roughly that of greater Philadelphia — generate the kind of breathless headlines and ample reporting one finds in the general Western media almost every day? Why aren't other countries under the same intense scrutiny? Why not China, with its one billion people? Or the United States? Does the amount of coverage of dot-on-the-map Israel in and of itself indicate a bias?

The answers are myriad and complex, and have been discussed extensively by such U.S. commentators as Thomas L. Friedman and Charles Krauthammer. Both have suggested a number of reasons why Western media seem obsessed with Israel: its strategic location and countervailing role as the region's sole democracy; its historic and religious significance for three of the world's great faiths; and the very nature of the press. (Krauthammer goes so far as to suggest that the "conscious deployment" of a double standard directed at Israel is not a higher standard — it is a discriminatory standard.)

This article will examine the extent of coverage of Israel in Canada's largest daily newspaper, the Toronto *Star*. It is not a content analysis of the *Star*'s reporting from or about Israel, but an attempt to explore why the paper devotes as much space to Israel as it does.

Understanding the *Star*'s stance on Israel requires some background in how journalists think and work in general. It also helps to understand how Israel often can't help but attract all this attention.

"Jews are news." It's an axiom of journalism, although you're not likely to actually hear it in any newsroom. Many journalists are naturally drawn to stories that involve Jews, because they're often dramatic and make for good copy.

Journalists are also a suspicious lot, and are attracted to wars, conflict and mayhem like bees to honey. Simply put, bad news sells. A U.S. radio correspondent once pointed out that much of a foreign reporter's work is crisis coverage, and Israel has known little else but crisis since its founding. As well, reporters assigned to a single place tend to pursue stories as a pack, for fear of being "scooped."

As a democracy with its own lively press, Israel does not turn away reporters. According to a 1989 study by the Hebrew University, Israel ranks eighth in the world in accrediting full-time foreign correspondents, with about 200. However, Israel does have the world's largest foreign press corps on a per capita basis.

Israel also offers journalists the essentials they would lack in Arab countries: relative safety, access to officials, government press releases issued in English and the freedom to report on a hot story with impunity.

Reporters cover Israel because they can. They do not cover Algeria, for example, because reporters there are routinely threatened with death.

That openness, coupled with the workings of the press, has translated thus: A *CJN* survey found that in 1996, a heavy news year in the Middle East, the Toronto *Star* devoted the following to Israel, Palestinians and/or the Arab/Israeli conflict:

• 22 editorials, a tie with those on the United States and/or U.S.-Canada relations. As most media consumers know, it is editorials which most accurately reflect a newspaper's philosophy. By comparison, the *Star* ran six editorials on other Mideast nations (including Iraq, Iran and Syria); 11 on African countries; nine on Russia and/or Chechnya; five on central and South America; and three on China. There were 49 other editorials on foreign countries, NATO and the United Nations, with several each on India, the conflict in Northern Ireland and the war in Bosnia. Of the *Star*'s 152 editorials on non-Canadian subjects, 15 percent mentioned Israel or Palestinians. By contrast, the *Globe and Mail* ran 181 editorials on foreign matters, 13 of which, or just over seven percent, dealt with Israel/Palestinians.

• 51 front-page stories, an average of one every 7.1 days.

• 125 stories by the *Star*'s Middle East bureau chief, Martin Regg Cohn, averaging one every three days. Of those, 30 were written from the Palestinian autonomous areas, the security zone in southern Lebanon, Egypt and Syria. The rest originated from the West Bank and various Israeli cities (mainly Jerusalem) and settlements.

• 146 wire service reports, ranging from page 1 stories to inch-long briefs on inside pages.

• 32 opinion pieces on the paper's "op-ed" page, written by foreign news analysts Stephen Handelman and Richard Gwyn, and former Middle East bureau chief Gordon Barthos. Some were by guest writers.

• 22 stories and features prominently displayed in the paper's weekend Context or Insight sections.

• eight stories written by *Star* staff other than Cohn, mainly about Israeli leaders' visits abroad.

Overkill? Or has the extent of the coverage been appropriate in a year that saw peace talks progress dramatically, as well as an Israeli election? *The CJN* attempted to get some answers from *Star* publisher John Honderich, who ultimately determines the paper's content, but he declined to be interviewed for this story.

Peter Goodspeed, the paper's foreign editor, explained the coverage this way: The conflict in the Middle East may be a regional one, he allowed, "but it's also a fascinating story. It's the story of mankind."

Apart from its deeply entrenched religious, historical and cultural importance, Goodspeed said, the region gets the coverage it does because readers seem to want it that way.

He admitted he's never seen the internal marketing surveys indicating what readers actually want, but he claimed that if anything, *Star* readers want *more* Mideast coverage, not less.

Why? "Because it's got all the elements of a major story and it affects an awful lot of people in this part of the world. There are a lot of people in Toronto who have family or connections with Israel or the Arab countries. It's a potential nuclear flashpoint. There are hundreds of economic reasons we should be interested. It ranks right up there as one of the major stories in the world."

So Israel has all the ingredients for a good story. But another reason for the *Star*'s abundant coverage, Goodspeed said, is that its Mideast bureau is located in Jerusalem. "That drives part of it. Our European bureau is in London, so we get an awful lot of British copy." As well, the *Star*'s six other foreign bureau reporters "have a much wider swath of the world to cover."

For Cohn, the territories, Gaza, Hebron and all the other hot spots are just minutes away. Couple that with the difficulty of travelling to Arab countries from Israel, and we see more coverage of Israel than, say, of Iran, Syria or Libya.

Goodspeed said he's "never had a complaint" about the extent of coverage. "It's probably been the other way — that people would rather we do these type of stories."

Of course, none of this explains why editors routinely choose to give Israel-related stories front-page play, when articles, for example, on continuing massacres in Algeria, where hundreds have been brutally murdered in the battle with Muslim fundamentalists, merit inch-long items in the world briefs section.

Goodspeed said there's "good reason" there's been so little coverage of the butchery in Algeria: the situation there is so dangerous that journalists, some of whom have been murdered, simply avoid it. Reporting about the country is usually done by telephone from Cairo and even Paris, resulting in very sketchy and scant coverage.

For Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region, the *Star* devotes an "inordinate" amount of attention to Israel.

Ronen is "convinced" the *Star*'s reporting on Israel and its placement of stories amount to "advocacy journalism," arising from what the paper views as Israeli intransigence. But what concerns him more is that the paper is using Israel to reinforce and advance its own concerns about human rights and civil liberties.

"We find that quite disconcerting," he said.

Simon Rosenblum, the Toronto-based national co-chair of Canadian Friends of Peace Now, concurs that the Middle East "clearly gets more ink that any other place in the world." On Israel, "the *Globe and Mail* has been tough but fair. While the *Star*'s intentions are honorable, I think it is not sufficiently mindful of how things might look from an Israeli point of view."

For Harry Wolfe, president of the central region of Likud Canada, an "irony" of the *Star*'s coverage came last month, when 73 Israeli soldiers died after two transport helicopters collided, and the story was pushed off page 1 by the verdict in O.J. Simpson's civil trial.

"G-d forbid if Israel had done something. That definitely would have been front-page news."

Paul Michaels, director of communications for the Canada-Israel Committee, has for years imparted to the *Star*'s senior editors and other media outlets the need to treat Israel with proportion, fairness and accuracy. The seeming disproportionate coverage at the *Star*, he says, is not unique to that paper, noting it also exists, to even greater degrees, in newspapers in Britain and the United States.

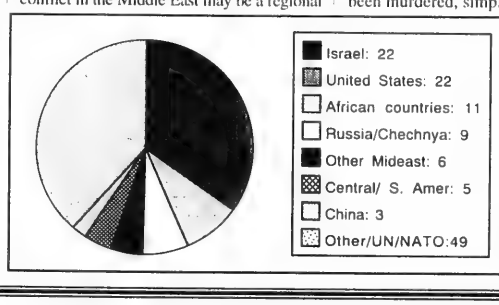
The *Star*, Michaels says, has long been concerned with human rights and has advocated the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Marry that with all the raw drama Israel produces and a general shift in the perception of Jews in Western media from stateless victims to empowered "victimizers," and reporters have an irresistible, seemingly bottomless story.

However, he goes on, the more serious problem in the general media is the tendency to focus on the negative. Bad news is considered "good news," that is, good for the bottom line.

Many longtime *Star* watchers point to a telling convocation address then-publisher Beland Honderich delivered at Carleton University in 1989, as conveying an insight into the paper's philosophy:

"No self-respecting newspaper deliberately distorts or slants the news to make it conform to its own point of view," Honderich said in accepting an honorary degree. "But you cannot publish a newspaper without making value judgments on what news you select to publish and how you present it in the paper. And these value judgments reflect a view of society — a point of view, if you will — that carries as much weight, if not more, than what is said on the editorial page."

The question, then, for Jewish readers is whether the way in which the *Star* chooses to cover Israel reveals a value judgment about the *Star* itself.



***Toronto Star* foreign editorials, by subject, in 1996.**

Opinions

Masada's mantra worth second look

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Looking through albums of trips to Israel, I came upon one picture of my three children among the stately ruins of Hazor. Other ruin-hopping has taken us from the tower of Masada, site of the Zealots last stand, to Tsipori in the Galilee, once the site of the court of Judah ha-Nasi (the Prince) and home to scholars of the mishnaic period.

These sites represent two different, indeed incompatible, attitudes towards Judaism, the Jewish State and the survival of the Jewish people.

Masada is well-known to even young school children. Retreating from the smoking ruins of Jerusalem, the Zealots led by Ben Yair, took refuge in the mountain fortress built by Herod. For three years they held out, fortified by the vast stores of food and water there and protected from the Romans camped below them by the inaccessibility of the craggy peak.

Eventually Masada fell, as Romans swarmed up the earthen ramp built by hapless Jewish slaves and broke into the fort. They found that the Zealots had taken their own lives rather than be captured. Josephus gives us a wonderful account of the speech made by Eleazar Ben Yair just before the mass suicide (based, we assume, on survivors' accounts and Josephus' own vivid imagination). Since then, Masada represents a heroic answer to the suppression of Jewish nationalism.

The fall of Masada has presented us with a heroic picture — but it is worth a second look. The Zealots had carried out a campaign of terror prior to the actual uprising, assassinating Jew as well as Roman. They fought among themselves even when Jerusalem was besieged by the Romans, and threatened with death anyone who tried to leave the city. Their cause, noble when put in terms of liberty, was one doomed from the start. Rome was not weak like the Greeks overcome earlier by the Maccabees; Rome was at the height of its military power and not ready to allow a border province to rebel. Ironically Jews in Rome itself lived unmolested during the destruction of Jerusalem.

However, while Jerusalem was being torched and thousands of fighters and civilians alike were being massacred or enslaved in the south, a very different ending was being written in Tsipori. The city, after skirmishes with, among others, Josephus and his army, made peace with the Romans and declined to be drawn into the last stages of the rebellion. It lived on to become the home of Judah ha-Nasi, credited with collecting the Mishnah into its written form, and with strong leadership vis-a-vis the Roman rulers after the failed rebellion of Bar Kochba.

These two stories exemplify two very different, and conflicting, views of the state of our people.

In fact, "Masada shall not fall again", is the cry of modern zealots.

Perceiving Israel and the Jewish people as surrounded by enemies, in a state of siege, they rally their troops, or rather the Israeli army, to perform feats of daring, to sacrifice themselves and their sons and daughters, to preserve the nation and the people. In its early years Israel was a fortress under siege, because it was indeed surrounded by enemies.

But today? Israel's army is overwhelmingly the strongest in the region (and beyond). Like it or not, and many do not, there is no Roman army at the gates. There are people on both sides hostile to peace, but at the same time forces of economic and real-politic are forcing both Israeli and Arab to accept compromise and coexistence.

Some would rather see Jerusalem in flames than make peace between Jew and Palestinian. I would denounce that choice, however, as short-sighted. Are we really willing to retreat to a mountain fastness, isolated and determined to die rather than compromise? After all, Rabbi Yohanan Ben Zakkai left the besieged Jerusalem and founded his rabbinic school in pagan Yavneh.

Can we imagine a Tsipori-like solution to today's impasse? Can we take a chance, believe that our culture and religion is strong enough to withstand outside forces, and that the new Jewish state is strong enough and internally sound enough to flourish in an era of peace?

Perhaps we doubt this possibility. Perhaps we are more comfortable with the old mantra of Masada. But that mantra is no longer a reflection of reality. The legacy of the Zealots was destruction and exile, and a good story. The legacy of the rabbis was a guide to our daily life choices, and to communal survival.

Which one really gave us the resources to live another 2,000 years? The Zealots of Masada or the rabbis of the Talmud?

Multiculturalism a source of pride

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

For many years, I have been a fan of A.M. Rosenthal who writes with verve and vigor for the *New York Times*. One article by him is called *E Pluribus And All That*. It deals with immigration and the reaction of the American people towards its continued usefulness, focusing especially on Hispanics.

He writes: "Those who know that immigrations strengthen America and made it, if not always a beacon to the world, at least a lamp, had a lot to be stressed about. A full-blown anti-immigrant campaign, born of mean-minded politics and suckled by sour intellectualism, was nastying up the country."

He continues to congratulate the American people who had the good sense of not listening to the anti-immigrant sentiment and calls it "a combination of virtuous self-interest and good luck.

"Enough Americans decided they did not want to close the doors...[and] cut immigration by 30 percent. That drives anti-immigrants to apoplexy, another good-news bulletin."

So far so good. Rosenthal is right on, and with some changes, his words could be transposed into the Canadian reality.

He then goes on to the related subject of multiculturalism. Rosenthal is not keen on it and feels that Hispanics are making a big mistake in supporting it for reasons they believe are important. To Rosenthal, the American ideal is, "E Pluribus Unum," making one out of many. It is an old image that Americans like to recall: America has become the envy of the world because immigrants want to integrate and be like other Americans. They wanted to emulate the all-American boy or girl living down the street.

Here's where the difference with Canada comes in. We never have spoken of an all-Canadian boy or girl. For Canada is a nation that from the beginning was composed of two quite dissimilar parts, the French and the English, who never would or could agree on a single Canadian idealized image. On the contrary, Canada was distinguished by the fact that here the idea was not to become indistinguishable from your neighbor in an all-Canadian guise, but to be yourself and to contribute to the national welfare without sacrificing your identity and background. Nationalism, it was anticipated, would come by itself.

The result was that Canadian nationalism has been very low key. In fact, that was one of the things that endeared itself to me when I first came, for I detested chauvinism, and it was absent here.

However, while we could stand a little more national pride, it will not be achieved by bashing multiculturalism. Rosenthal feels it is unsuited to the United States and that may be so; but it is very well suited to the character of Canada. Here, we pride ourselves on the fact that although we come from different backgrounds we join together under the umbrella of the nation, living our lives peaceably with one another. In that, we surely can set an example to the world. Multiculturalism has to do with pride of background, and Jews, more than anyone else, should be aware what that means. We contribute to Canada because we are who we are; and so do all who live here.

A voice filled with prophetic outrage

By Shel Krakofsky in London

When I first met Irving Layton at his home in the Notre Dame de Grâce neighborhood of Montreal, he gave me a test. He insisted we both speak Yiddish. Delighted that I could, he engaged me in lighthearted banter and chit chat, obviously pleased and laughing as we were engaged in his earliest language.

Born in Romania as Israel Lazarovitch, he has claimed, "The poet to be was born with the smell of baked challah in his nostrils" — and fully circumcised — a legend he likes to promote as a messianic sign of his destiny. He came to Canada around the age of one and doesn't know the exact day of his birth in 1912.

"I was born sometime in March, but when Stalin croaked on March 12, I claimed that as my birthday in order to link my birth with the death of that hateful tyrant." Some time this month, Irving Layton turned 85.

Nobel-nominated, Governor Generaled, Canada Ordered, he has been controversial as a poet and critic yet universally admired by the legions of students he taught at night school, Herzliah High School and several universities.

"No praise means more to me," he said. "Nothing good that has ever been written about me means more than to be told I was a good teacher."

But it is as a poet that he developed national and international attention as the most public and vocal voice from a nucleus of Montreal poets who, beginning in the 1940s, brought Canadian poetry out of 19th century. Layton blasted energy into archaic and decayed verse forms with a passionate voice filled with the outrage of the Prophets.

He was tormented with injustice and soothed by sexual passion, developing his own judicial version of *lex talionis* — an eye for a thigh. He courted women and the limelight, his well-publicized marriages and relationships becoming the stuff of tabloid gossip.

Despite growing up in an observant home, as an act of rebellion, he never had a bar mitzvah; nor was he a member of any congregation. His member was his congregation. Layton was celebrating and writing about sex long before sex was invented — during the 1960s as I recall.

Over lunch he boasted, "I know brochos," and recited in Hebrew the blessing over bread. We argued about the nature of the soul. For Layton it is about pleasure, passion, emotion and esthetics. When I mentioned that his version of the soul only dealt with this world, he acknowledged the neshamah, the soul that continues after death.

"I try not to think about it, but I recall when I first comprehended that version of the soul. I was six years old and my mother was cupping her hands over and blessing the Shabbos candles. I distinctly remember thinking of that Jewish flame as something eternal."

He reminisced on that occasion about his good friends David Lewis and A.M. Klein. "They never lost debates to anybody. David would devastate his opponents with a barrage of logic and Abe could pummel his adversaries with brilliant and merciless wit. They were smart enough never to take each other on in public."

He became wistful when he described the relationship between David and Sophie Lewis. "I never knew what love was until I met those two. I still haven't seen the kind of lasting love those two had."

A few years ago, I was part of a reading with Layton. He gave a superb performance, the voice sure, the cadences unmistakable, the emotion true. To enthusiastic applause he left the podium with the brio and walk of a much younger man. He took his seat, turned to me and asked, "Nu, so how did I do?"

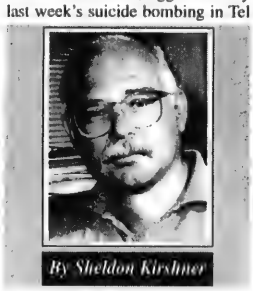
"You know what," I told him, "I think you have a future."

"My problem," he replied with a lovely and mischievous smile, "is that I have a past!"

Here's a l'chaim to you our brother Irving. Happy 85th. And in your own words, long may you pole-vault over your grave.

The Kirshner File

Israel's relations with the Palestinians deteriorate



By Sheldon Kirshner

The current tension besetting Israel's relations with the Palestinians, aggravated by last week's suicide bombing in Tel Aviv, is disquieting but hardly surprising.

Since Israel and the PLO signed the Declaration of Principles in September 1993, barely a month has passed without some kind of a tiff.

But the relationship, never an easy one, has deteriorated since Benjamin Netanyahu's election as prime minister.

When the Labor party was in power, there was certainly no shortage of quarrels between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority (PA) over the interpretation of the Oslo accords. But these disputes did not assume crisis proportions, as they have of late.

The main order of business at the outset of the peace process — the phased withdrawal of Israeli forces from parts of the Gaza Strip and from Palestinian towns on the West Bank — was a fairly straightforward affair. Final status issues, ranging from Jerusalem to the drawing of permanent borders, were still far off in the distance.

Both parties, too, were fully behind the Oslo peace process and were reasonably certain of the direction in which it was heading. As well, they had a measure of trust in each other's intentions.

In exchange for peaceful and stable relations with the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab world, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres were prepared to divest themselves of the moral, political and military burden of the occupation in the territories. To a lesser or greater degree, their objective was separation. And it was implicitly understood that the Palestinians would achieve sovereignty, in the form of an independent though demilitarized state, at the end of the negotiation period.

With the emergence of a Likud government, there was no such road map of what the future held in store. Netanyahu, though promising to proceed with Oslo, was viscerally lukewarm to it and adamantly against a Palestinian state, the Palestinians' overarching goal. And for a while, he refused to meet with Yasser Arafat, the chair of the PLO, the president of the PA, Israel's chief Palestinian interlocutor and a person whom he had demonized.

During the first three months of Netanyahu's administration, Israel and the Palestinians made no discernible progress in reaching an agreement on a partial Israeli redeployment from Hebron.

As a result, Palestinian frustrations intensified. But their grievances transcended Hebron. They felt stifled by the closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The blockade had been imposed by Peres after a wave of Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide bombings. And the Palestinians continued to accuse Israel of failing to honor Oslo provisions for a "safe passage" route linking the West Bank with Gaza and for the release of Palestinian prisoners. Israel, for its part, cited a litany of Palestinian violations of Oslo.

In late September 1996, following Israel's decision to open a second entrance to the Hasmonean archeological tunnel in East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza exploded in an unprecedented eruption of Palestinian violence, days of rage and gunfire which caused the deaths of 15 Israeli soldiers and 61 Palestinian civilians and policemen. The peace process was threatened, and President Bill Clinton invited Netanyahu, Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan to a summit in Washington. Subsequently, Israel and the PA returned to the negotiating table, presided over by U.S. mediator Dennis Ross. A successful outcome to the talks was initially stymied by a series of seemingly intractable disagreements. Netanyahu and Arafat traded charges that the other side was dragging its feet.

The mounting acrimony was exacerbated by Israel's announcement that special subsidies, frozen by the previous government, would be restored to Jewish settlements beyond the Green Line. But then, in a gesture to the Palestinians, Netanyahu eased the closure.

Finally, in January, Israel and the Palestinian Authority signed the long-delayed Hebron pact. "We have made peace with all the Israeli people," declared Arafat in a rare moment of euphoria. In February, Netanyahu and Arafat had what was called a "constructive" meeting on furthering the peace process. And shortly afterward, Netanyahu released from jail 30 Palestinian women who had been convicted of terrorism.

But Israel and the Palestinians were hardly out of the woods. Netanyahu offended Arafat by reiterating his opposition to a Palestinian state (although Netanyahu's communications advisor seemed receptive to one if certain conditions were met). Arafat irritated Netanyahu by continually delaying the unveiling of a new PLO national covenant (the old one called for Israel's destruction).

Further animosity flared when the Israeli army forced a group of Palestinians to vacate the so-called Yugoslavian Experimental Farm in the Jordan Valley, a tract of land claimed by Israel and the PA.

But the events which triggered the most serious crisis in Israel's mercurial relations with the Palestinians turn on East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel in 1967, and on the package of three planned Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank, due to be completed by the summer of 1998.

Israel's resolve to build the Har Choma neighborhood, together with its intention to close four Palestinian offices in eastern Jerusalem allegedly affiliated with the PA, have galvanized the Palestinians and apparently convinced them that Netanyahu is an untrustworthy partner whose objective is the sabotage of the already-battered peace process.

Under the Olso accords, Israel is free to exercise its claim to Jerusalem. But Israeli facts on the ground prejudice final status talks, which should have begun on March 15 and did not. And, as the United Nations noted in a recent resolution, the 1949 Geneva Convention forbids an occupying power from altering the demographics of the territory it holds.

Having annexed East Jerusalem, which the Palestinians want as their capital, Israel can argue that it is no longer occupied. But neither the Palestinians nor Israel's friends, including Canada and the United States, accept this line of reasoning.

Israel's policy of closing Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem directly connected with the PA is in keeping with Oslo and with its determination to control the entire city. But are the Palestinian offices in question in fact legally linked with the PA?

The Palestinians' rejection of Israel's offer to evacuate nine percent of the West Bank in the first phase surprised everyone outside Arafat's camp. Arafat, however, expected a much larger slice of territory, particularly in Area C, which, compared to Areas A and B, is exclusively in Israel's hands.

Under Oslo, Israeli redeployments are a function of unilateral Israeli decisions. But the Palestinians are upset with this arrangement, and this bitter dispute is also poisoning the atmosphere.

Last week's suicide bombing, the first in nearly 13 months and the 11th since 1994, is bound to arouse animosities as well. The bomber, who killed himself and three women in a cafe, struck just days after Netanyahu accused Arafat of giving Hamas the indirect "green light" to resume its murderous campaign against civilians in Israel.

Arafat, who condemned the blast, vehemently denied the accusation. But the die has been cast for a war of words between Israel and the Palestinians, if not an outright freeze in the peace process.

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והאם תינוקות זוכרים כאב?

שנים רבות טענו רבנים, מוהלים וסתם יהודים יקרים שברית המילה אינה כואבת. או למה התינוקות בכל זאת זועקים עד לב שמייסז טוב, כל אחד יודע שתינוקות בוכים על כל דבר, אבל רק למעט זמן. לפני שבועות מספר פרסמנו מחקר בעיתון הרפואי Lancet שלקח לנו שלוש שנים להשלים ובו הוכחנו שתינוקות שעוברים מילה זוכרים את הכאב בגיל שישה חודשים ומגיבים ביתר שאת לכאב של חיסון בהשוואה לתינוקות שלא עברו מילה. הילדים דרך אגב, לא היו יהודים, כי היה לנו חשוב שהברית תיעשה בגיל יומיים בבית החולים ושלא תהיה השפעה תרבותית או אחרת על תגובת הכאב. יתר על כן, תינוקות שקיבלו משחה מרדימה לפני המילה - סבלו פחות כאב בשעת המילה ומפחות תגובה לכאב בזמן החיסון. עד כאן - ידיעה רפואית. מכאן ואילך- תגובות הממסד היהודי: לבית החולים שלנו הגיעו קריאות טלפון שטענו שזו "עבודה אנטישמית". בראיון טלביזיה הופיע רב וטען שהתגובה נגרמה ע"י משהוא אחר ולא הכאב של המילה. הרב, דרך אגב, לא טרח אפילו לקרוא את המחקר כי הוא רואיין טרם שהמאמר פורסם ! יענו - "אל תבלבלו אותו עם עובדות". בישראל -דרך-אגב- פורסמה הידיעה בהרחבה על ידי כל העיתונים הגדולים תוך ציטוט הפירוש המדויק של הממצאים. מה אני אגיד לכם - יצא לי לראות צד מכוער של העם הנבחר. ואם מתעלמים ממה שקורה לתינוקות- הרי שאין צורך גם למצוא דרך לעשות משהוא בעניין. ושלא יספרו לכם שטיפת יין על הלשון של התינוק משככת כאבים. והאם שאלתם את עצמכם - מדוע רוב האימהות אינן מוכנות להשתתף בטקס הברית? תחשבו על זה.

תל אביב-סאן דיאגו:

שנת 1957. לקחו אותנו למוזיאון בתל-אביב. נהנינו מהאוטובוס ומהנסיעה לעיר, אבל המוזיאון עצמו היה משעמם, לא רלוונטי וגם לא ניסו להסביר בצורה עיניינים של ילדים. עשינו רעש ורוב הזמן היו המבוגרים עסוקים בלהתעצבן עלינו. אחרי עשרים דקות התחלנו לצאת משם וחיפשנו קיוסק.

שנת 1997. אני מטייל במוזיאון בסאן דיאגו באגף שמיועד למצרים העתיקה. מסתובבים שם כארבעים ילדים מכיתה הא או ו1. גם הם עושים רעש כהוגן, אבל מה, ביד יש להם שאלון עם משימות שונות והם צריכים לזהות סימנים בכתב החרטומים, ציורים וכתובות ולענות על שאלות. אחר-כך הם יושבים ליד תצוגה של מומיה ומדריך מדבר אליהם כמו לבני אדם ושואל אותם שאלות ומקבל תשובות. הם מתלהבים ואני מקנא בהם. אחר כך אני חושב שיש סיכוי שיווצרו אנשים טובים יותר עם מורים כאלה, ושאולי יש מקום לאופטימיות.

המלצה חמה:

"יהודה פוליקר בהופעה חיה בקיסריה" הוא תקליט חדש שימיס לכם את השלג והקרח מבפנים. יש שם את השירים היפים והמוכרים, ולצידם קטעים יווניים סוערים בשני בוזוקי - יהודה מגן עם חברו הטוב (גם הוא ממוצא יווני) חיים רומנו. בשנות השישים הביאו אריס סאן וחבריו את תרבות יוון, אבל היא היתה קשורה תמיד בטקסטים טפשיים וקצת פרחים. עכשיו גדל דור של מוסיקאים שנולדו בישראל להורים יוצאי יוון,-וזה כבר סיפור אחר. זוהי מוסיקה ישראלית עם בוזוקי, באותה מידה של לגיטימיות של שימוש באקורדיאון בשירים רוסיים. שיהיה לכם בכיף.

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Greater Toronto Area

Quotas rejected

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian government has decided not to impose a quota on the number of refugees admitted to Canada under private sponsorship, even though the idea was proposed by immigration officials.

The decision follows condemnation of the move by refugee activists including York University Prof. Irving Abella, former president of Canadian Jewish Congress.

At a recent book launch for *At the Border of Hope* by Catholic human rights activist Mary Jo Leddy, Abella criticized those who seek such action: "For too many Canadians, the country is beginning to look the United Nations, and they don't like to see so many brown, yellow and black faces."

Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard said she opposes a "numerical limitation" on the number of refugees admitted under government and private sponsorship as advocated by her own officials.

"We believe in targets, not quotas," she said.

"There is a hardening of the public heart toward refugees," said York University's Prof. Michael Creal, chair of the book launch at Holy Trinity Church. "The feeling is that refugees aren't really in need of that much help.

Abella described *At the Border of Hope*, which pleads the cause of refugees, a "momentous book by a remarkable, courageous woman."

"Why are we so hospitable to war criminals and not to their victims?" Abella asked.

"Why are we so deaf to the pleas of these victims?"

He said there are good people in the immigration department working at the Canadian border, and in Canadian embassies around the world, "trying to overcome the system which is totally out of control.

"The truth is difficult to face," he added. "Every opinion poll shows that most Canadians do not want any substantial, increase in immigration. "Canadian policies, reflecting these polls, are "racist and exclusionary."

The book launch was sponsored by Harper Collins Publishers on behalf of the Sanctuary Group and was followed by an interfaith luncheon, most of it cooked by refugees. It featured Eritrean, Sri Lankan, Ethiopian and East Africa dishes.

It also celebrated the publication two years ago of *A Call to Conscience* arranged by the Sanctuary Group; in it all the major faiths in Canada affirmed their promise to act on behalf of refugees.

ICRF to hold Le Bal Masque

TORONTO – The Israel Cancer Research Fund will hold its annual Le Bal Masque on Saturday, April 12, at 8 p.m. at the Arcadian Court, The Simpson Tower, 401 Bay St. at Queen.

The gala evening will feature a charity casino, silent auction, dancing and light entertainment.

Dress is funky black and white with black tie optional. Prizes will be awarded for the most original mask.

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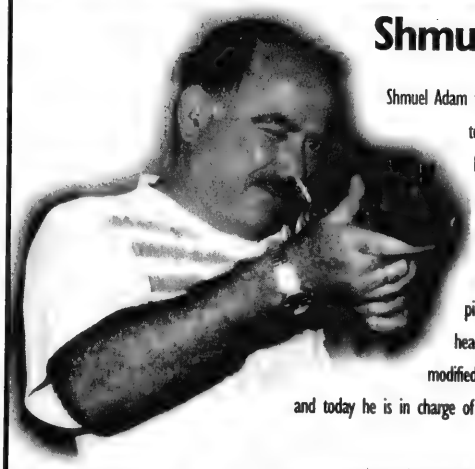

Shmuel Adam. Aiming For Success

Shmuel Adam was a leader in the Anti Terrorist Unit of the IDF. On March 11, 1978 he was summoned to fight 11 terrorists who had taken hostage of a bus carrying families on a day trip from Haifa to Jerusalem. The unit moved in, killing most of the terrorists, but in the fight, his arm was severed from his shoulder, his other hand totally crushed. After surgery, he began his rehabilitation at Beit Halochem.

Says Shmuel, 'Whatever I can do with my hand is thanks to the wonderful physiotherapists at Beit Halochem. But they showed me more ... the best rehabilitation was in my head, not in my hand'. To overcome his disability, he began inventing and building specially modified weapons. His injuries did not stop him ... he continued to work for the IDF until 1988, and today he is in charge of security at Israeli Hydro.

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Greater Toronto Area

Plan to save Branson focuses on ambulatory care

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The proposal to save part of Branson Hospital includes day surgery, an 18-hour urgent care centre with resuscitation equipment, doctors with emergency experience and a walk-in medical clinic.

"Day surgery represents 80 percent of the surgery we do now," said Branson president Jack Gallop. The proposal, which is being made in concert with North York General Hospital, will be made to the hospital commission before April 5.

"It makes sense to use Branson for this purpose," said Gallop.

About one-third to one-half of Branson's present facilities will be kept in use under this proposal, which is being supported by the Metro District Health Council (MTDH).

The council originally recommended that Branson be closed as an acute care centre, but at the same time proposed that the hospital become an ambulatory care centre.

The final decision on Branson will be made by June or July, said Lorne Zon, MTDH executive secretary.

Other possible uses for the building, including palliative care, respite care and senior citizens housing, will be explored at a later date before its closing in 1999, he said.

Branson is not appealing its closing as an acute care facility, in view of its new proposal for an ambulatory care centre, he added.

"There is no way we expect elderly citizens to come across Highway 401 to our place for primary care," said North York General Hospital president Murray Mackenzie. His hospital will support the Branson plan to provide ambulatory care close to the homes of people who need it.

The centre Branson proposes will not be restricted to seniors, Gallop said.

In a related development, Ontario Health Minister Jim Wilson has announced that York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, which is scheduled to get 10 percent of Branson's patients when it closes, will receive $4.5 million towards a $9-million long-term care facility that includes 60 beds and a seniors' residence.

CJC staffer sees Jews as one big family

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Jennifer Turack

TORONTO — To Jennifer Turack, director, community services and youth activities for Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, the Ontario Jewish community is just one big family.

For the past year, she has worked with 28 communities outside of the GTA in order to keep them connected and stem a feeling of isolation from other Jews in the province.

Turack, who graduated in Jewish Education and Jewish Studies from Gratz College in Philadelphia and has a certificate in communal work, says that her interest in formal and informal Jewish education as well as her desire to work with people of all ages "makes this the perfect job.

"I run adult classes, Jewish family education, high school programs and family get-togethers in such places as Sault Ste. Marie, Kingston, Windsor and Peterborough. My mandate is to keep Jews involved."

One of her favorite programs was one that linked Thunder Bay and Toronto. "Participants in each city watched a film by Simcha Jacabovitch and were then connected by loudspeaker for the question and answer period. People in outlying areas often read about these events, but obviously cannot attend. This way, they felt part of a community activity. It was a great success."

Programs link various communities

The high school outreach program, she says, is designed to introduce young people to other teens whom they would not normally meet. Students take a correspondence course for three years, meet several times during that time and complete the course with a five-week tour in Israel.

"We've found that students who have been part of the high school program in the past have remained affiliated because they had this positive experience as a youth."

Families also enjoy meeting other Jewish families in their area, says Turack, and often, just by providing them with a list of names, they can contact each other and meet.

"This is a job with a mission. We reach out to all the Jews in Ontario and I really feel that we are helping. I spend a lot of time travelling across the province and people I meet tell me that they appreciate what we are trying to do."

At a recent Oneg Shabbat she ran in Sault Ste. Marie, Turack says that people came from all over to attend.

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Greater Toronto Area

Sussman elected as JWI president

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Fern Sussman

TORONTO — If it is up to Fern Sussman, newly installed president of Jewish Women International of Toronto (JWI), her organization's name will be put on the map.

"One of my goals this year is to increase our public awareness. JWI is a service organization and I want everyone in Toronto to know what we do," Sussman said after JWI's recent 45th annual installation of officers.

Fundraising for the B'nai Brith Women Group House in Jerusalem for emotionally disturbed boys ages 13 to 18, as well as for its Children's Home, is a large part of the organization's mandate, says Sussman. But JWI also acts as an advocate on behalf of women on issues such as gun control, breast cancer, the get and domestic violence. JWI funds apartments in Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg that house battered women and their families.

Among Sussman's goals for her year of office are looking at new ways to increase revenue through fundraising, increasing membership and attracting women to do volunteer work.

"We realize that women today wear many hats and have little time to spare, but I think if we bring excitement and passion to the organization, we will give them a reason to come out. Volunteerism gives people a different feeling in their heart. They have more energy to cope with their own life if they know they are helping others in the community."

Sussman, whose grandfather was a founding member and president of the Ivansker Mutual Benefit Society, says that too many women do not realize the benefits derived from volunteering.

"Her organizational skills are enhanced, her public speaking is improved, she may develop sales skills — these are things that will stay with her for life. [In my more than 20 years with the organization], I learned leadership skills I would otherwise never have experienced. It brings out the best in all of us. Volunteerism works both ways. It improves the person and her community."

President-elect of JWI is Noreen Shelson, vice-presidents are Francine Fogel and Beverley Mandel and treasurer is Lolita Harel. Immediate past president is Barbara Swimmer.

Baycrest Challenge date set

TORONTO — The 17th annual Baycrest Challenge, a charity and road race at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, returns on Mother's Day, May 11, complete with a number of new events.

Challenge organizers expect close to 2,000 runners will get the racing season off to an early start by entering either the 5K or 10K runs, both 'A' accredited races sanctioned by the Ontario Roadrunners Association.

A new event this year is an officially-timed 10K Wheelchair Division that will provide a venue for serious wheelchair athletes. Recreational wheelers and scooters are invited to participate in the 5K Walk.

Derek Porter, Canada's Olympic silver medalist in rowing at the 1996 summer games in Atlanta, will be on hand to welcome participants at the 5K starting line.

The carnival has a whole new look, thanks to sponsorship from Shoppers Drug Mart. Just Desserts Restaurant and Sporting Life are among the new sponsors who have come on board to provide prizes for the athletes and pledge earners.

Inside those socks, Leonard Chazen, a 10K runner in the 1996 Baycrest Challenge, has his fingers crossed for this years Baycrest Challenge on May 11.

Pre-registration is available at several Bank of Montreal branches and at Sporting Life. For more information, call the Challenge Hotline at 416-256-2RUN.

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Banana Cake,
Cherry Dessert Cake,
Macaroons,
Seder Plate,
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MENU #2
Gefilte Fish & Horseradish,
Chicken Soup & Matzo Balls,
Roast Chicken,
Roast Brisket of Beef,
Apple Farfel Pudding,
Pan Roast Potatoes,
Carrots Tzimmes,
New Dills, Cole Slaw,
Lémon Roll,
Chocolate Cake,
Macaroons,
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadline is Monday, 10 days prior to publication date. i.e. Monday, March 31 is deadline for April 10 issue, and Monday, April 7 is deadline for April 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, March 30

WOMEN IN ISRAEL

At Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood general meeting with breakfast, **Sharon Weintraub** of New Israel Fund of Canada speaks on Women in Israel, 9:30 a.m., 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $2.

LECTURE-WORKSHOP

Yeshivat Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot Yeshiva Bnei Akiva Parents Association lecture — workshop, Communicating with Teens: Creating Effective Pathways, social worker **Allan Sheps**, 7:30 p.m., 159 Almore Ave.

LIVING WILLS

Temple Sinai three-part series, A Jewish Response to Bio-Medical Ethical Concerns, Part One, Living Wills — My Right to Live or Die, **Rabbi Lawrence M. Colton, Dr. Brian Egler,** and lawyer **Buzz Chertkoff**, 10 a.m. $3. 487-4161.

COMFORT OR CHANGE

Rabbi Benjamin Hecht discusses Comfort or Change at Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179 Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. **Sara** 966-1935.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members breakfast meeting, 9:30 a.m., Centennial Arena, Skaters Lounge.

Monday, March 31

CONCERT

The Jeanette Goldhar Memorial Concert with Trio Lyra: **Erica Goodman**, harp; **Mark Childs**, viola; **Suzanne Shulman,** flute; perform works by **Steinberg, Barnes, Glick, Bloch, Klein**, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $20/$15. 636-1880, ext. 231.

SISTERHOOD TEA MEETING

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Sisterhood tea meeting, guest speaker, **Dr. Arnie Deltoff**, chiropractor, 1:30 p.m., 147 Overbrook Pl.

FASHION SHOW

Jewish Women Leading the Way Spring '97 Fashion Show, fashion consultant **Marilyn**, 7 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. $18 and $36. Proceeds to Rabbi Hirsch Rabisky Congregation. 736-4134.

Tuesday, April 1

AMALGAMATION

David Lewis Stein, *Toronto Star* columnist, speaks on Amalgamation — Will It Be Good Or Bad For Toronto? at New Fraternal Jewish Association meeting, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

Na'amat Toronto's Club Dafna invites women, ages 35-45 to listen to **Dr. Shelley Zaidman** speak on Naturopathic Medicine — The Basics, followed by question and answer period. **Sharon** 784-6656 days, 905-889-9785 evenings.

Wednesday, April 2

MOVIE REVIEW

Temple Sinai Sisterhood meeting, election of new board and executive, and movie review by **Heather Castle** of the award-winning Israeli film *Under the Domin Tree*. 7:30 p.m.

A PASSION FOR PASSOVER

Associated Hebrew Schools Parents' Association presents A Passion for Passover cooking demonstration with **Greta Rosen**, boutiques, 7 p.m., Kamin Educational Centre, 300 Atkinson Ave. $18 in advance, $20 at door. RSVP **Shirley Klein** 905-738-6245.

PARTNERS IN JEWISH LIVING

Partners in Jewish Living presents Understanding the Pesach Haggadah — Making It Meaningful, 7:30 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. Converts to Judaism and their partners are welcome. **Rabbi Irvin Beigel** 782-1501. Sponsored by Rabbinical Assembly, Ontario region with funding from action committee for continuity of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

TRAVELS WITH TRUDEAU

Barnett Danson, former federal minister of national defence, discusses his Travels with Trudeau at Holy Blossom Lunch and Learn in Retirement, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1.

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

Thursday, April 3

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

One Hundred Years of Zionism lectures at Beth Tzedec Congregation continue with The American Influence on Zionism with **Prof. Michael Brown,** York University, 7:30 p.m.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Screening of Israeli television documentary, *Pillar of Fire* Part VI, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-5500 or Canadian Zionist Federation 633-3988.

OUT OF THE COLD

An appreciation to Holy Blossom Temple, Out of the Cold contributors, volunteers, 7:30-10 p.m. Light supper prepared and served by volunteers. RSVP 789-3291, ext. 508.

And What Else Is New

MORAN CHOIR

Moran Choir, Israeli youth choir on North American tour, performs Wednesday, April 9, 8 p.m., Congregation Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Special guest **Neshama Carlebach**, daughter of **Shlomo Carlebach.** Sponsored by Canada Israel Experience, March of the Living, Young Leadership Cabinet, UJA Federation, United Israel Appeal of Canada, in cooperation with the Consulate General of Israel. $15 per person, $12 students/seniors. 636-7655, ext. 237.

HEBREW LITERACY DAY

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Arza Canada Hebrew Literacy Day, Sunday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p. m. Learn to read Hebrew in one day. Locations throughout greater Toronto area. 905-764-1-DAY.

THIS COULD BE THE ONE

Jewish Theatre Projects in conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre present *This Could Be The One,* a play in progress about Jewish singles by **Jodi Miller,** directed by **Marjie Chud**, Saturday, March 29, 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 30, 1 p.m. at Leah Posluns Studio Theatre. $5 in advance, $7 at door. 905-882-9641.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Beginners, intermediate and advanced students Yiddish classes. New courses in History of the Yiddish Language and Yiddish Culture being introduced. **Sylvia Lustgarten,** Committee for Yiddish, 635-2883, ext. 155.

INTERFAITH DINNER

Annual Neighborhood Interfaith Dinner, supported by Protestant, Catholic and Jewish congregations in the area. Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue. Guest speaker **Rev. Roland De Corneille,** human rights activist. Topic, Canada: Duel or Dialogue, $30. Tickets, before noon April 8, Beth Tzedec 781-3511, Beth Sholom 783-6103, Holy Blossom 789-3291.

THEATRE OUTINGS

Kinneret Club, Na'amat, theatre outings — Shaw Festival, *The Chocolate Soldier,* May 8, and *Hobson's Choice*, May 28, $53 each, partial tax receipt; Orillia, musical Oliver, lunch at Harvest Table, short visit to Casino Rama, $50, partial tax receipt. Reserve. **Rita Tobias** 783-1656 or **Norma Zeldin** 633-8276.

FOOD DRIVE VOLUNTEERS

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, is looking for volunteers for the Passover food drive delivery, Sunday, April 13, 9 a.m., Council House. 633-5100.

DINNER DRAW

A dinner draw in support of Jerusalem College of Technology, Tuesday, April 8, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner following. $150. Grand prize $5,000. 787-7565.

KOSHER PASSOVER MEALS

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living offers kosher Passover meals to residents/patients in care facilities and to the general public. Under supervision of Orthodox Division, Kashruth Committee, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. $7.25 each meal. Order by April 10. **Sonia Krass**, 225-2112.

DOS YIDDISH LIED

Dos Yiddish Lied: A Recital of Yiddish Folk and Art Songs, a spring Passover celebration featuring **Cantor Louis Danto**, Sunday, April 6, 3 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. $15, seniors/students $10. 789-3291, ext. 224.

MACCABI TRYOUTS

Ontario regional tryouts for Maccabi men's basketball, April 12 and 13, 9 a.m. to noon and 4-6 p.m. each day, Bathurst Jewish Centre. $35 fee includes four-year Maccabi membership. Ontario men's basketball chair **Marvin Pearl** 633-9401.

FURNITURE BANK

Donate your used furniture to the Community Furniture Bank, operated by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, to be made available to needy immigrant families. 630-6481, ext. 51.

ORAYNU

Oneg Shabbat Friday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Don Mills Foundation, 1 Overland Dr. Non-members $8. RSVP 364-7002.

Tzedakah program: Help pack food for Toronto Pesach Food Drive, Sunday, April 6, 1-3 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. RSVP by Sunday, March 30, to **Linda Au**, 733-4884.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., summer courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, Tuesday mornings, May 27-Aug. 26, (beginners); Wednesday mornings May 28-Aug. 27 (intermediate); Thursday evenings, May 29-Aug. 28 (all levels). Beginners' instructor **Joseph Klinger**. Register now. 787-0197.

THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

A lecture, Counting Down to the Next Millennium with **Prof. Velvel Green,** plus art of the Jewish soul exhibit, the work of **Michael Muchnik**, Sunday, April 6, 8 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. $10. RSVP 905-731-7000.

PESACH PREPARATIONS

Mizrachi Bayit pre-Pesach program with **Rabbi Chayim Sacknowitz** speaking on the Haggadah, followed by question and answer period on laws of Pesach, Sunday, April 6, 8:15 p.m., 296 Wilson Ave., upstairs. $5.

PASSOVER MITZVAH

Community Integration Program, a joint program of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and Bathurst Jewish Centre, needs Canadian families to host recently arrived families from the former Soviet Union for either the first seder, Monday, April 21, or second seder, Tuesday, April 22. Seder Hotline 636-1880, ext. 261.

STRATFORD BOUND

Chai Shalom theatre outing to Stratford to see *Camelot*, Tuesday, May 27. $50. Bus leaves Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue 9 a.m. **Teme Wasserman** 905-770-0355.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group 55 plus breakfast Sunday, April 6, 9:30 a.m. Current events presentation by **Doug Haddow**. $5. Breakfast only with RSVP by April 1. **Cherry Rubin** 221-3433, ext. 300.

LZA Seniors Club Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre, and **Bernard Betel Centre** week at the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills July 15-21. Kosher meals, daytime activities, entertainment. **Teme** 636-1880 or **Barbara** 225-2112.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Atlantic City, Cape Cod March 31-April 4; Buffalo April 3; Avon Cosmetics demonstration May 1, 10 a.m., free samples; Spring Fair May 4; Thornhill Square May 5; Israel experience tour May 7-20; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-18; Casino Rama May 21, 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: musical *Dames at Sea*, Buffalo, June 1; *Camelot*, Stratford, Sept. 17. In the planning, musical *Barnum* at ArtPark. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). April 3 is a video, *Diva Las Vegas* with **Bette Midler**. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Sunrise Group trip to Casino Niagara plus Buffalo shopping April 14. $20. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, April 1, 1:30-3 p.m. **Ty Pereira** from Talking Book World discusses the use of talking books.

Uzi Grunvald of Lenscrafters comes to adjust your glasses free of charge, Tuesday, April 1, 12:15 p.m.

North York Board of Education and the Centre courses begin the week of April 7 and run to June 28: Soft Crafts, Painting with Watercolors, Soapstone Sculpture, Pottery (beginners and advanced), Ballroom Dancing, Intermediate Bridge, Discussion Group (Jewish Literature and Film in the 20th Century). Hebrew Language, Bible. **Norma Steiner**

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. April 2 is an Israeli movie. **Anna.**

Movie, *The Music Man*, Sunday, March 30, 2:15 p.m.

Sunday dance March 30, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday social April 2 features songs from across the world with **Svetlana Zabrovsky**, 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services courses begin the week of April 7: Ballroom, Needle Crafts, Bridge (beginners, intermediate), Tai Chi (all levels), Yoga, Line Dancing. Courses sponsored by North York Board of Education and the BJC. **Yvonne,** ext. 259.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club Purim party, entertainment by singer **Michael Khinkis**, Thursday, March 27, 2 p.m. Tickets at JCC front desk. **Judy.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

Justice Rosalie Abella

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division, honor 1997 Woman of Achievement, **Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella,** a justice of the Court of Appeal for Ontario since 1992 after having served several years as a judge in Ontario Provincial Court, Family Division. The event takes place Tuesday, April 1, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation. $20 in advance, $25 at door. RSVP to ORT 787-0297. Additional information, **Rose Shapiro**, Bonds, 789-3351.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

[From left] Marc, Michael and Jordan Benjamin examine the commemorative plate marking the 75th anniversary of Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel..

Benjamin's Park marks its 75th anniversary

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For centuries, it has been traditional for burial societies to have their annual dinner on zayin Adar, the seventh of Adar, the anniversary of both Moses' birth and death.

Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel is no exception. But this year's dinner had an extra aspect, as it also commemorated the organization's 75th anniversary. Nearly 150 people attended — the chapel's own full and part-time staff, as well as rabbis, cantors, and cemetery and synagogue organization representatives.

The fourth generation of the Benjamin family is now in the business, as represented by Marc and Jordan, who acted as masters of ceremonies for the event. (their father Michael is still at the helm).

All the guests received a commemorative plate, an annual Benjamin's tradition, as well as a medallion, a copy of a Bar Kochba coin inscribed with the words "Freedom for Jerusalem."

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, spiritual leader of Beth Tzedec Congregation, said that it is believed that just as the spirit of Moses immediately passed to his successor, Joshua, so too his soul is reborn in the soul of every tzaddik, and every Torah scholar.

He also noted that the Torah says that Moses died with no human support. "But he was not alone — G-d attended him. That is why we honor the chevra kadisha on this day — it signifies that service to the dead is divine.

"This affirms the significance of your work and our commitment to carry on the teachings of Moses and of the Torah that sustained him and sustains us, even beyond the bridge of death."

Rabbi Michael Dolgin, currently assistant rabbi at Temple Sinai, who will assume the post of senior rabbi this summer, said that when Abraham died, "his two sons, Isaac and Ishmael, who previously had not seen eye to eye, buried him together. The Torah recognizes the healing power of religious rituals."

He thanked Michael Benjamin for "allowing the Reform community to take its full part in these rituals, by forming its own chevra kadisha. It is a privilege to live in a community where there is the opportunity to do more mitzvot."

Stephen Speisman, director of the Ontario Jewish Archives, described the Toronto of 1922, when Benjamins was founded, as a community that was establishing itself in the Kensington Market area, and was establishing institutions, such as the Old Folks' Home, Mount Sinai Hospital, the Henry St. shul, the Standard Theatre and the Toronto office of JIAS. While Jews were beginning to enter politics, he said, "you had to be a member of the Orange Lodge to get anywhere [in civic life], and they still rolled up the sidewalks on Sundays."

Rabbi Erwin Schild said that when he started in the Toronto rabbinate 50 years ago, "things were not auspicious. Assimilation was not only rife, but was accepted as inevitable and natural. There was not a single Jewish day school, and kashruth was a subject for quarrels and hostility.

"It was a time of spiritual drought. Benjamins on Spadina Ave. was an oasis of tradition and dignity."

He praised the Benjamin family for "always refusing to give in to the temptation to provide for the lowest common denominator."

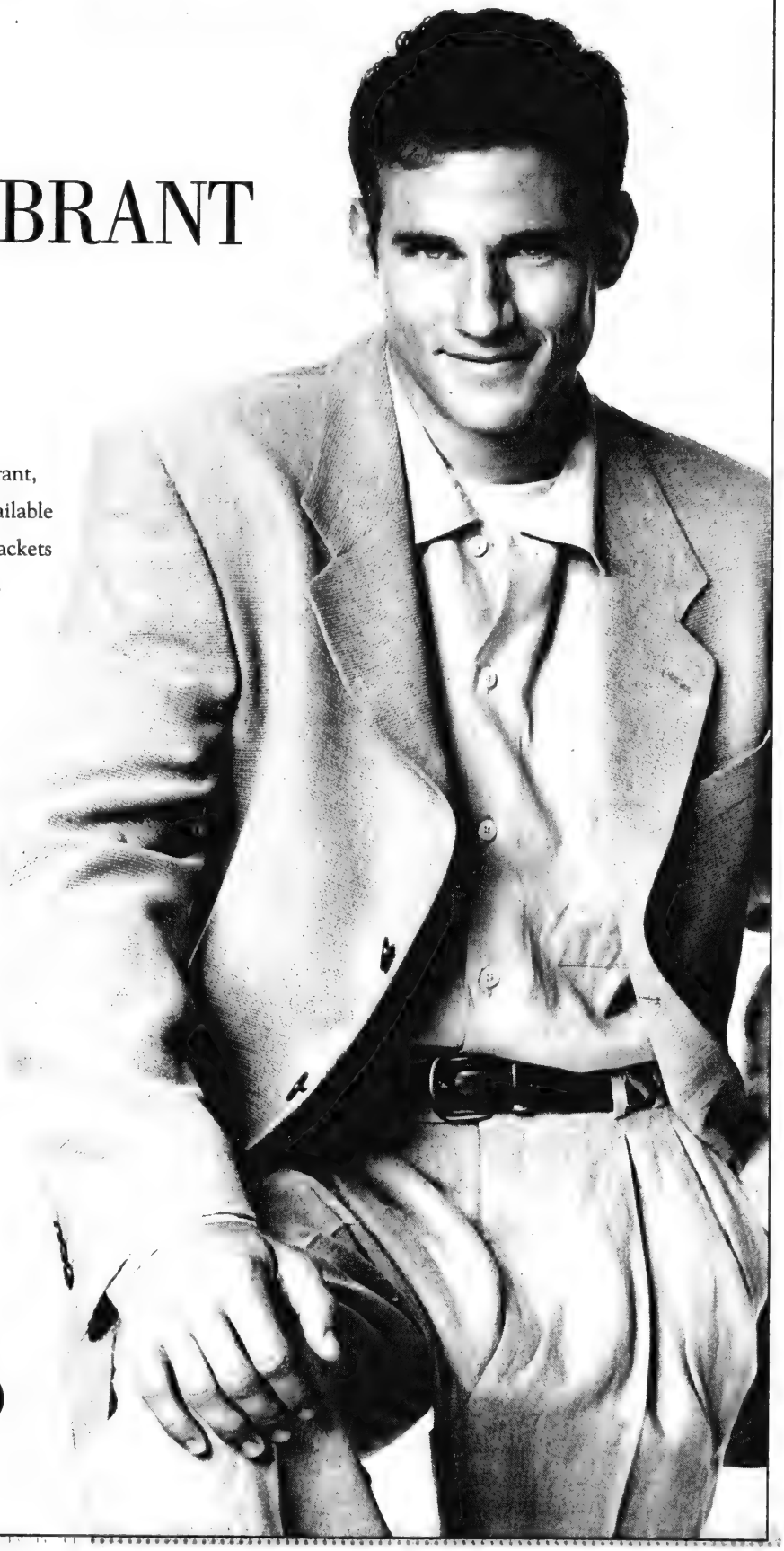
Michael Benjamin, who called it a privilege to be "part of the tradition [of chevra kadisha] that goes from father to son, and mother to daughter," said that the chapel "has helped the community live with the truth that all that lives must die. Strength and dignity and beauty are a great resource in dealing with that."

He proposed the formation of a new organization, the Toronto Chevra Kadisha, "to support, nurture and preserve the traditions" of chevra kadisha, to ensure there is adequate cemetery land, and to be involved in education, to ensure the transmission of the laws and customs of chevra kadisha to future generations."

Benjamin called for a series of meetings, newsletters "and future dinners."

"This is our legacy of our 75 years together, and our future for the next 75 years."

ARNOLD BRANT



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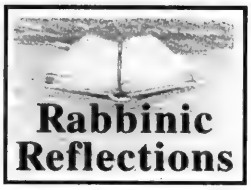

Rabbinic Reflections

Nothing beats good old fashioned Torah study

By RABBI AVRAHAM E. PLOTKIN

The times are truly a'changin'. Never before in the history of the world has there been so much information available to us. Never before has this information been so accessible. With a simple push of a button or click of a mouse we are showered with endless sources and Web sites. Entire tomes of knowledge are available to us through the Internet, CD-ROM and fax machines. These are definitely extraordinary times.

Thanks to modern technology, I am never short of an explanation for the parshah of the week, a d'var Torah, a quick sermon or an insight on Rambam. There is simply no shortage. It is all there, waiting for me and prepared on a golden platter.

Yet, despite these amazing developments, and all the good that comes with them, something inside me says that there is something inherently wrong with this new way of life. I can't pinpoint it exactly, but it smells of superficiality. We are spending more time on developing methods of accessing information and sharing information, while very little time is actually spent on digesting and internalizing that information.

At the conclusion of the book of Leviticus, it says: If in my statutes you will walk, on which Rashi comments *"Shetiheyu ameilim baTorah,"* that you must "toil" in the study of Torah. True Torah study is achieved only when toiling and sweating in Torah.

Lately, whenever I point out an obscure Torah interpretation or source to my colleagues, instead of responding as they normally would, they will respond "I have it" or "I don't have it," referring to their computer, of course. Suddenly Torah has become a material possession, like a car or a house, when it should be internalized.

I remember my grandmother telling me when I was a child that after the Communist revolution in Russia, she and her husband, my grandfather, were penniless. Every material possession they had was either left behind or confiscated. My grandmother, understandably, was very distressed. My grandfather, who was a rabbi, seeing her condition, would comfort her by explaining that the enemies of the Jewish people could only confiscate his material possessions, but they could never take away the Torah he had studied. It is with him forever.

I wonder what my grandfather would have said about computers? Just imagine how vulnerable our Torah is today. All it takes is one computer virus and all our Torah knowledge is wiped out. One power shortage without a backup and what are we left with?

I am reminded of the story of the Wizard of Oz. In the story, the so-called wizard would hide behind a facade of fancy machinery and high technology, projecting an image of an immortal wizard with vast powers, until one day, a little dog pulled the curtain and exposed the mortal wizard for what he truly was.

Aren't we all becoming a bit like the Wizard of Oz, hiding behind a facade of computers and Web sites?"

Now, don't get me wrong. I am not discounting the tremendous opportunities that are available to us through the advancement of technology in terms of bringing the message of the Torah to the four corners of the Earth and beyond. But let us not forget that the ultimate purpose of Torah is to become one with it, to be affected by Torah, perfected by Torah and united with Torah.

In Tanya (Ch. 5), the classic book on chassidic philosophy, the difference between Torah study and observance of the mitzvot is explained at great length. Torah study, says the Alter Rebbe, author of Tanya, represents the most amazing unity with HaShem "and there is no other unity like it." This amazing level of unity with HaShem achieved through Torah study doesn't happen by surfin' the Net or cruisin' the information superhighway. It comes only through two words which have recently become taboo and politically incorrect — hard work.

Times may be a 'changin,' but nothing beats some good old-fashioned Torah study.

Rabbi Plotkin is the spiritual leader of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham.

See JN

THE NOISEMAKERS OF PURIM

[Photo by Tobi Asmoucha]

Jewish Life

Life's experiences captured in author's moving poetry

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***The Chocolate Coated Years* by Batya Fromm (Sarah Books, $12.95)**

The author of this engaging and affecting book of poetry left Winnipeg for Israel 40 years ago. There, on a farming moshav, she raised vegetables, exported hothouse roses, harvested grapes, reared three sons — and also found time to serve as an English teacher and librarian.

The poems deal deftly and gently, among other themes, with the author's experiences as mother and grandmother, the variegated nature of Israeli life, hospital care and routine, and the ever changing miracles of the Israeli landscape and the world of nature.

Made aliyah in 1957

In *Alarm*, she recalls the Gulf War, "A spasmodic alert:/ metallic waves of warning,/ bray the terrors/ of a renewed assault./ In our shuttered bedroom,/ close and closeted,/ we sit on our big bed/ and tug at the straps/ of our gas masks./ We are twin monsters now,/ under an evil spell,/ caged and sealed in with strips/ of ugly brown cellotape.

The Sagging Sixties is a time of physical deterioration that calls for playful lament. "Sing a song of Sixties,/ a pocket full of pills,/ four and twenty ailments,/ a fever and some chills./ Sing a song of Sixties/ and how the time did fly,/ "Golden Age' they call this?/ I never shall know why/ ...Sing a song of Sixties,/ you've managed to survive./ Try pinching your posterior/ to see if you're alive.

Ruanda on my Veranda mockingly asks, "Why do they keep bothering me/ about Ruanda?/ Why can't someone enjoy his food/ in peace and quiet/ without having to look at/ those emaciated bodies,/ day in and day out?./ It's enough to spoil/ a person's appetite.

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Kashrut on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Of all the traditions that have shaped the essence of being a Jew, few have had the impact of kashrut. So it's not surprising that the Jewish Highway is paved with articles that both try to explain the rationale behind this fundamental mitzvah and give practical guidance for its observance. Today I am going to take a look at general resources about kashrut on the Internet. (In my next column, I will focus specifically on food and Passover.)

Why keep kosher? That daunting question is addressed by several articulate writers. At the Orthodox Union (O-U) site **[http://www.ou.org/torah/kosher.html]** Rabbi Joseph Grunblatt poses the central question "Do you really think G-d cares what we eat?" His answer: "The G-d of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob does care about every individual...He is 'our Father in Heaven.' A father cares about the moral and spiritual development of his child but also takes care that the child is properly fed."

Dennis Prager has also written thought-provoking articles entitled Should a Modern Jew Keep Kosher? at **[gopher://shamash.org:70/11/places/boston/bakol/kosher/]**. Also see Judaism and the Art of Eating **[http://linex.com/~yrice/kosher.html]**.

If you want to share your current level of observance, you can participate in the kashrut survey at **[http://www.jcn18.com/Jewishfood/Koshpoll.htm]**. You can check off anything from "I think keeping kosher is negative" to "I keep kosher at home, but will eat anything in any restaurant" to "I trust no one else's Kashrut and eat only at home."

Deciding to keep kosher can be a challenge. In her thoughtful article "Easing into Kashrus," **[http://www.kashrus.org/kosher/easing.html]** Leah Lederman explains how her family started keeping kosher and details their step-by-step approach to this very important decision.

For a general overview of some of the frequently asked questions about kashrut, take a look at **[http://shamash.org/lists/scj-faq/HTML/faq/06-index.html]**. But if you really want to understand the nitty gritty of observing kashrut, then check out Steven Weintraub's Kashrut Class Lecture **[http://www.pswtech.com/~stevenw/jewish/kosher/all.html]**. Weintraub goes into detail about the laws of blood and slaughter and how to kasher utensils. He also explains different observances among Jews in such area as the use of grape products, rennet, gelatin, Chalav Yisrael and fish.

Speaking of fish, if you ever tire of lox, why not help yourself to a nice piece of Arctic char, mahimahis, mutton hamlet or would you believe porkfish? Don't worry, they're all kosher **[http://www.kashrus.org/kosher/fish.html]**. But I would stay away from those treif lomosuckers, lampreys and ratfishes.

Anyone who has ever strained their eyes trying to decipher the strange symbols or "hechshers" attesting to the kashrut of a product will be thankful for the listing of Reliable Kosher Supervision **[http://www.kashrus.org/kosher/symbol.html]** provided by Rabbi E. Eidlitz, author of Is it Kosher? You'll find fifty kashrut symbols from Canada, England, France, Israel and the United States.

Some of those supervisory organizations maintain their own Websites. The Kashrut Council of Toronto **[http://www.feduja.org/rellife/kashintr.stm]** has reprinted its entire kashrut directory on line. Also see the Orthodox Union **[http://www.ou.org/kosher/index.html]**, Kof-K Kosher Supervision **[http://www.kof-k.com/root.htm]** and the Kosher Overseers of America **[http://kosher.org/]**. Sometimes a product mistakenly carries a kosher symbol. At its interesting site, Kashrut.Com **[http://www.kashrut.com]** lists products with erroneous certification.

Just because a food is kosher doesn't mean it's good for you. There's a lot of junk out there with the finest kashrut supervision. In Ritually and Naturally Pure **[http://www.jcn18.com/Jewishfood/silver_1.htm]** Chayyim Pesach Silverman addresses this phenomenon and explains why he has chosen a Kosher/Organic lifestyle.

If you are still looking for more Kashrut links, you can find them at the Jewish Identity's Link Launcher **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/identity.html#kosher]**, the Jewish Communication Network's Food Section **[http://www.jcn18.com/Jewishfood/]** and at Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx120.htm]**.

Although the Jewish Highway is jammed with information about Kashrut, I must stress that you should always consult your own rabbi when you have specific questions. But it's good to know that in a pinch, you can always e-mail your kosher query to, who else, the Webbe Rebbe **[http://www.empirekosher.com/rabbi.htm]**.

* **

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Spielberg's Holocaust Foundation CEO seeking survivors' testimonies

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The new president and CEO of Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation is appealing to Holocaust survivors across Canada to come forward and have their testimonies filmed for posterity.

Michael Berenbaum says he won't be satisfied until the last survivor in Canada tells his or her story before a camera.

In the past, officials with the Los Angeles-based foundation have expressed disappointment with Canadian response to Spielberg's plan to record the testimonies of Holocaust survivors the world over.

The 1991 census found just over 27,000 survivors in Canada, with 12,600 in Toronto. An estimated 8,300 live in Montreal.

To date, the number of people who have been taped is: Toronto, almost 2,000; Montreal, about 250; Winnipeg, 100; Vancouver, 50; Ottawa, 40; and fewer than a dozen in Atlantic Canada.

Worldwide, over 28,000 survivors have been interviewed since 1994 and the project is continuing to see about 400 people a week. Interviews have been conducted in 37 countries and 27 languages.

"We're in a race against time," says Berenbaum, who was hired to head the foundation after spending nearly 20 years at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, where he served as project director and then as director of the research institute. "We want testimony before it's too late."

'We're in a race against time'

Last month, the project got a big boost thanks to the television broadcast of Spielberg's *Schindler's List*. Over 65 million people watched the film and the foundation was flooded with 4,000 calls that night and over 10,000 in the following days.

A Toronto office of the foundation opened in late 1994 and filming in Montreal got underway last year. Over 100 people have been trained as interviewers in Canada.

But "we're not satisfied with the number of Canadians who have come forward," Berenbaum said in an interview. "That's why we've extended the [Canadian] office's lease on life."

Interviews typically last about two hours. Spouses, children and grandchildren are encouraged to appear toward the end of the session.

"Every interview takes on its own character," Berenbaum says. "Some are breathtaking and some are frustrating. We have not had an interview from which we have not learned something."

The Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project began after Spielberg's 1994 Oscar-night pledge not to allow the Holocaust to become a historical footnote.

State-of-the-art cameras and sound equipment are used. The finished product is then sent to Los Angeles, where the tape is digitized and cross-referenced using key words and geographic place names, in order to allow researchers to access information using almost any variable.

Organizers want the project to become one of the world's foremost databases on the Holocaust.

Each survivor receives a VHS copy of the interview. Finished segments are also forwarded to five repositories: Yad Vashem in Jerusalem; the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington; the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles; the Fortunoff Video Archive at Yale University; and the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York.

Berenbaum said that the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, which is planning a wing dedicated to the Holocaust, has requested copies of interviews with Canadians.

"Our task is designed to tell survivors that they have the opportunity to bequeath to us, to history, to the world, their experience," Berenbaum says.For more information from anywhere in Canada, dial, toll free, 1-800-388-8045.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jews must stand up for their rights

'A murderer does not profit'

[Cont'd from page1]

of which he is also president, have embarked on a historic process designed to bring a measure of closure to the Holocaust.

"It's a moral *and* a financial issue," declared Bronfman, the chairman of the multi-billion dollar Seagram Company Limited. "There's a fundamental philosophy in Judaism that the murderer does not profit and inherit."

Bronfman's strategy has already paid dividends. Negotiations with more than a dozen European countries are well under way. Three major Swiss banks and several Swiss insurance companies have established a special $200 million (US) fund to alleviate the financial needs of Holocaust survivors. Pending approval by parliament and a nation-wide referendum, the Swiss government has promised to set up a $4.7 billion (US) fund to help the victims of the Holocaust and of poverty and of human rights violations.

But in Bronfman's view, much more remains to be done.

- What happened to the Swiss bank deposits of Jews who perished in the Holocaust? By all accounts, Swiss bankers may be sitting on upwards of $7 billion (US).
- To what extent did Swiss industry help Nazi Germany and thus prolong World War II? "We know Switzerland was very helpful in selling war material to Germany," he said, citing a U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff report to the State Department.

"How much blood is on Swiss hands? This has to be found out." Bronfman hopes that two fact-finding Swiss commissions will answer these and other questions.

Bronfman said that current talks between the World Jewish Restitution Organization and European countries such as Holland, Poland and France should take about five years to complete.

"Hopefully, as in the case of Switzerland, we won't have to use threats." (Hearing this, Bronfman's aide, Elan Steinberg, intervened, advising that the word "persuasion" should be substituted for "threats.")

Turning to another topic, Bronfman said that he is "satisfied" that Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews during the war and fell into Soviet hands in 1945, is in fact dead.

Informed that Canadian researcher David Matas has not received Russian cooperation in his effort to solve the mystery of Wallenberg's disappearance, Steinberg — the executive director of the World Jewish Congress — said: "We won't close the book [on Wallenberg] until we have proof he died."

May never know truth about Argentina bombing

Bronfman said Argentina is no closer today than it was a few years ago in apprehending the masterminds of the bombings that wrecked the Israeli embassy and the Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires in 1992 and 1994.

"The trail is very cold and we may not find the truth. There may be a coverup but not necessarily by the government." Bronfman said that Argentina's president, Carlos Saul Menem, "is serious about getting to the bottom of it."

Bronfman's theory is that the bombings were a protest over the improvement of Argentina's relationship with Israel. He said he does not know whether they were perpetrated by non-Argentinian Arabs or by local Argentinians.

According to Bronfman, Jean Marie Le Pen, the leader of the radical right-wing National party, poses a clear and present danger to France's Jewish community, though he does not believe he will be elected president in the next election.

Le Pen, he noted, is not only personally xenophobic and anti-Jewish, but exploits anti-Semitism for political purposes.

Canada, he said, is not unique in having compiled a less than admirable record in ferreting out and bringing to justice war criminals.

"It's a very difficult question. Is there a statute of limitations on this evil? I don't know. It would have been better if Canada had acted after the war. It's easy to say that Canada is no good and hasn't pursued these people. "

Bronfman acknowledged that he labors under "philosophical confusion" in deciding whether war criminals in Canada should be called to account or be left alone.

Germany, he observed, has acted credibly in trying to expose its postwar population to the Holocaust era. However, Jews still have monetary claims against Germany. "It's very important not to let the Germans off the hook."

Asked to comment on Benjamin Netanyahu's policies, Bronfman, a Labor party supporter, complimented the Israeli prime minister for having convinced three-quarters of Israel's population to back the Oslo peace accords. "It's a great achievement," he said, taking note of Netanyahu's far-right constituency.

As for the Palestinians' rejection of the first of three planned Israeli redeployments from the West Bank, Bronfman said Israel should not have negotiated the matter with the Palestine Authority, and would have been better off had it presented "the world with a fait accompli."

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On campus

Canadian, Russian academics meet at program

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Michael Brown visited Russia in 1984, the thought of returning to participate in a conference on Jewish Studies, as he did this year, would have been ludicrous.

"If you had imagined it then, you would have had to be a bit off the wall," concedes Brown, director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies.

Brown and Bernie Zelechow, a humanities professor and York's international project coordinator for its Centre for Jewish Studies and its division of humanities, were among some 300 academics and graduate students to attend this year's Sefer conference held at Moscow's Academy of Sciences. The majority were Russian, with a sprinkling of North Americans and Israelis.

Brown and Zelechow, who sit on Sefer's international advisory board, were the only Canadians.

Sefer was organized six years ago in Russia to address the dissemination of Jewish learning in the former Soviet Union.

The recent conference, Sefer's fourth, enabled international academics to share non-authoritarian teaching approaches with their Russian counterparts, said Zelechow.

Michael Brown

An academic exchange program between York's Centre for Jewish Studies and the history department at Rostov Pedagogical University in Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia was an outgrowth of last year's conference. Brown and Prof. Oleg Budnitskii of the Russian university were instrumental in setting it up.

Although Jewish studies per se does not exist in Rostov (there are, however, programs at Moscow and Leningrad universities), Budnitskii is trying very hard to bring Jewish content into Russian history courses, said Zelechow.

"I think his work has been heroic because he faces tremendous ambivalence if not overt anti-Semitism," added Zelechow, who travelled to Rostov with his colleague Martin Lockshin to inaugurate the program last year.

Both professors lectured in Rostov, Lockshin at the local synagogue, which Zelechow said was "well maintained and functioning."

The Canadians encountered no overt anti-Semitism, but met with profound ignorance about Judaism. "As a Jew and doing Jewish things, I felt I had to continually justify myself. People asked me, 'Why do you want to do this?'"

Federal government funding made possible both trips and was recently confirmed for a May lecture visit by Brown and Prof. Maynard Maidman. Budnitskii is to lecture at York next week.

Brown is optimistic about the future of Jewish studies in Russia. "They're operating without resources, [but] if they have people who are dedicated, hard-working and talented, they'll get it up and running in spite of the obstacles."

Two pilot projects are in the works at York to help them. One involves simultaneous classes — one in Moscow, one at York — that would be linked by computer modem. The experimental set-up is still being investigated. Pending

Bernie Zelechow

adequate funding and technology, it will also be used at Rostov and other provincial universities.

The second project involves making Judaic material available on CD-ROM for Russian campuses.

The York academics also hope to share their expertise in Jewish teacher training.

Steps have been taken toward facilitating a student exchange. The first student to participate (albeit not yet as part of a formal exchange program) is Budnitskii's son, Eugene Budnitsky, 18, who arrived here in January, having studied economics and English since 1995 at two universities in Rostov.

Here, he is studying economics, anthropology and humanities. He hopes to stay on to study Hebrew and possibly other Jewish studies courses next year.

As the first person in his family to go abroad (he spent two weeks as an exchange student in Britain at the age of 13, and a year in Vermilion, Ohio, in high school), Budnitsky has long dreamed of studying at a western university.

For a Canadian student to study in Rostov, facility in Russian would be important, noted Budnitsky.

"I think that would be the major barrier. I believe people are pretty much the same wherever they are."

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New campus guide a useful resource

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Students applying to university might want to consult the updated *Princeton Review Hillel Guide to Jewish Life on Campus*. The 1997 edition, like earlier ones, has contact names, addresses and phone numbers for Jewish student groups, information about kosher food, services and Jewish studies programs.

While the majority of universities listed are North American, campuses in Israel, Europe, Japan and other locales are also included.

Although the book is a useful resource, be aware that some of the information is outdated or incomplete — Toronto's Ryerson Polytechnic University, with an estimated 1,200 Jewish students, is not even listed, nor are most of the over 30 British Hillels.

To find out about unlisted Canadian universities, more information may be obtained by contacting your nearest campus liaison representative:

Rabbi Ken Kaufman, executive director, Hillel Vancouver 604-224-4748; Tom Rado, western region campus services coordinator, 306-343-7023; Jennifer Turack, director of community services and youth activities, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, 416-635-2883; Steve Spodek, acting executive director, Hillel of Montreal, 514-845-9171; or Yakov Feig, campus liaison, Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students' Federation, 902-422-7491.

On campus

Yiddish program gets $45,000 donation

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An anonymous donor has given $45,000 to keep the Yiddish Studies program at the University of Toronto going until 1998, providing the contribution is matched dollar for dollar by the public.

"Miracles do happen in Jewish life and this is one of them," said program supporter Bayla Chaikof. "Until a few days ago, we were very concerned that the program would shut down."

She gave the good news at a Leah Posluns Theatre gala presenting *Reflections of a Golden Peacock*, a one-man show by New York actor Avi Hoffman. Based on the life of famed Yiddish poet Itsik Manger, it was written by his mother, Miriam, a Yiddish teacher at Columbia University. His piano accompanist was Barry Alyn.

The U of T program enables many students to understand their Jewish roots and deals positively with the issue of Jewish continuity, Chaikof said.

The late Polish-born Manger led a complicated life (What Jewish poet doesn't? Manger himself would ask) and the Hoffmans faced a formidable task in recreating it dramatically.

The show had its ups and downs. It was most successful when, in commenting on the Holocaust, Manger asked God why he, a poet, was "left to wander among the remnants of my people?"

This reviewer was disappointed that nearly all the dialogue between Yiddish songs was in English. "I come to you as I am, a loser, a boozer," he says in a summing up of his hard life. How thrilling those words would have sounded in Yiddish!

It may be that Hoffman misread the audience's understanding of Yiddish (it is higher than in most U.S. cities), for he did the show in Montreal entirely in Yiddish. Those in the gala audience not familiar with Yiddish were delighted with his approach.

Consummate actor that he is, Hoffman mined the humor in Manger's work well, from King Achashverosh of the Megillah story standing in his gotkes (underwear), to the crushing disillusionment when his new bride, Malkele, takes off her golden curls to reveal a shaven head.

Manger did eventually get to the real Jerusalem. The play tells the story of his meeting a beautiful uniformed Israeli airwoman in Tel Aviv, a woman he had once seen on a Polish train wearing a cross. It was his humming of *Oyfn Veg Shteyt a Boym* (one of his most famous songs) that invoked her Jewish identity and led her to Israel.

Semi-formal held at McMaster U

By TRACY PILARSKI and SARA PRICE

HAMILTON — The McMaster Jewish Student's Association (JSA) recently hosted their annual semi-formal at the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) in Ancaster.

Some 80 Jewish students came from universities in Toronto, London, Guelph, Waterloo and Kitchener to dance to the music provided by the DJ.

The McMaster JSA executive decorated the Hamilton JCC and prepared the food. The desserts were made by local caterer Susan Walman.

Throughout the year, the JSA at MAC holds educational programs, Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations and social programs.

YORK STUDENTS IN ISRAEL

Seen above are some of the York University students currently studying in Israel at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, and the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies. Professor Martin Lockshin, from York's Centre for Jewish Studies, met with the students on a recent trip to Israel to hear about their experiences and to bring them up-to-date on developments at home. Students seen above are: Vanessa Ohayon, Limor Braunstein, Alyssa Schwartz, Adina Lubek, Evan Buntman, Lori Shapero, Michelle Bossin, Perlita Ettudgui, Michelle Boles, Samantha Greisman and Daniella Kiguel. [Douglas Guthrie photo]

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Features

Jewish victimization under Stalin remembered

By BARUCH COHEN

The files of the Stalinist era have not only disclosed a secret history of heroism and despair, they have also laid bare the inner lives of the literary informers who brought Isaac Babel, Osip Mandelstam, Boris Pasternak, Peretz Markish and many other great Jewish writers to their ruin.

Zakhor, the biblical command to remember, "has been a vital imperative for the Jewish people and one of the keys to its survival," writes Prof. Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi in his book *Zakhor: Jewish History and Jewish Memory* (1982).

The following is in memory of the Jewish victims of communism, the Soviet-style communism that affected Jews no less than its fascist counterpart (though it claimed fewer Jewish lives), deeply damaging the spirit of Jewry.

Works written by Nadezhda Mandelstam (*Hope Against Hope* and *Hope Abandoned*), Eugenia Ginzburg, Andrey Sinyavsky and Joseph Brodsky undermined the entire moral legitimacy of the Soviet regime. Memoirs like *The Long Return* by Esther Markish (wife of the poet Peretz Markish) and most recently, in 1990, Louis Rapoport's *Stalin's War Against the Jews, The Doctor's Plot and the Soviet Solution* shed light on the tragedy of Jewish artists, writers and poets and on the entire Jewish intelligentsia.

Jewish members of the Soviet Communist party like Lazar Kaganovitch, (Kaganovitch was considered a remarkable administrator and soon became known as the "Iron Commissar") accumulated increasing power. In Nikita Khruschev's estimation, "Kaganovitch had always been 'a detestable sycophant,' exposing enemies and having people arrested right and left."

Kaganovitch and Joseph Stalin both shared a deep-rooted hatred for intellectuals. Many of those so doomed had Jewish names. Kaganovitch particularly despised the educated Jews of his native Ukraine (after the abolition of czarist-era quotas, Jews constituted half the university students). In his zealous pursuit of the "people's enemies," Kaganovitch would be second only to the successive chiefs of the secret police during the terror years: Yagoda, N. Yezhov and Beria.

In the spirit of the 1939 Stalin-Hitler pact, all Soviet organs deliberately remained silent about the periodical slaughtering of the Jews by the National Congress of Poland. Jewish victims of mass execution were called "Poles" or "Ukrainians" in the Soviet press and radio reports. As Soviet historian Roy Medvedev wrote: "not once... was one lesson or one lecture devoted to anti-Semitism, its role in Nazi policy, or the Nazi murder of almost the entire Jewish population of Europe." Stalin, in step with the times, had destroyed what was left of organized Soviet Jewish life.

Many Jewish artists and writers accepted the need to serve the Soviet state during the war years. Their sad final fate is well known: Solomon Mikhoels, the creator of the Moscow Jewish Theatre where Marc Chagall had painted sets and murals; Peretz Markish, a brilliant poet; Itzhak Solomonovitch Feffer, the Yiddish poet." Mikhoels, Feffer, Markish and many other eminent Jewish intellectuals, members of the Anti-Fascist Committee sent to the United States during World War II for propaganda reasons, were all executed by Stalin.

The many great Soviet artists who lived in Stalin's shadow could never explain why he spared some of them: Ilya Ehrenburg, Boris Pasternak and Sergei Eisenstein, yet destroyed many others: Isaac Babel, Meyerhold Vsevolod Emilievitch, Mandelstam, Mikhoels, Markish, Pilniak, and Der Nister (Pinches Kahanovich) — all of them Jews.

The tragic story of Mikhoels, the king of the Jewish State Theatre, encapsulates the epic tragedy of Soviet Jewish artists, writers and intellectuals. Well-known writers and artists could vanish at any time, for no comprehensible reason.

Babel, a gentle man who wore very thick spectacles that magnified a pair of sad eyes, was generally regarded as one of the greatest Russian writers of all times. Babel, who insisted on writing about Jewish life, was far too individualistic to survive in Soviet society.

Feffer, a very active member of the Communist party, made his debut as a Yiddish poet in 1920 and shortly thereafter became prominent in Soviet-Yiddish literature. He harnessed himself to the party line and the majority of his poems are propaganda for the Communist party. Feffer "drank happiness from Stalin's Cup," a famous stanza in one of his well-known poems *Stalin.* He also wrote *Ich bin a Yid* (I am a Jew) during World War II when the party permitted such poems. His poem *Shadow of the Warsaw Ghetto (Shotens Von Varshauer Geto)* is a valuable contribution to the literature of the Holocaust.

However, as Esther Marakish tells us in her memoir *The Long Return*, Feffer was behind the arrest of Mikhoels and others from the Anti-Fascist Committee.

Tragically, the files of the Stalinist era tell us about the Machiavellian maneuvering in which Jewish literary personae became agents and informers against their Jewish comrades.

The well-known story of *The Doctor's Plot*, brilliantly told by Louis Rapoport, describes the evil plan arranged by Stalin and his collaborators after 1951, which could have contributed to a "final solution," a total destruction of Soviet Jewry.

Communism appealed to many intellectuals. Jewish artists, writers and scholars rose to the second highest positions in the Communist state after the ruling elite; and intellectuals were interested in as-

[cont'd. on page 27]

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Features

Anti-Semitic hysteria swept through Communist Russia in the early '50s

[cont'd. from page 26]

suming state power themselves. Certainly, many Jews believed that they saw a correspondence between the prophetic ideals of compassion and justice in their own tradition and the incorporation of those ideals into a political system. Jews who lent communism their moral support are neither to be solely blamed for, nor are they entirely innocent of, the human catastrophe it brought about.

In the early 1950s, anti-Semitic hysteria swept through Communist Russia — and indeed the entire Eastern European Communist bloc — with attacks on Jews printed in all the newspapers. In 1952, Stalin's political line was to purge the Jewish element from Soviet society. The show-trials of the 1950s unmasked disloyal Trotskyite "internationalists" (a synonym for Jews), and the ensuing purges eliminated Jews from elite circles. During World War II, three million Jews were abandoned to the Nazis, and after the war, an officially sanctioned campaign of persecution and murder against "rootless cosmopolitans" cleared Jews out of the higher professions and decimated the Russian cultural world.

We must never forget the terrible Jewish toll taken by Soviet and East-European communism. The tragedy of this page in Jewish history is that so many Jewish intellectuals were attracted to communism, and once caught in its web, some became tools and tragic executors of their own people.

Zakhor!

Baruch Cohen is a senior research associate of the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research.

Kolel plans Hebrew study day

TORONTO — On April 13, hundreds of people across Canada will learn to read Hebrew in just eight hours.

Scheduled in honor of Yom Ha'atzmaut — Israel Independence Day — National Hebrew Literacy Day costs $49 (Israel's age) and includes a light lunch, textbook and all materials. Classes are offered in six locations in the Greater Toronto Area, including downtown, North York, Thornhill and Hamilton.

Last year, over 400 people across Canada took the course. Offered this year, are two levels: absolute beginner for those who have never studied Hebrew and refresher for those who have either studied Hebrew but forgotten much of what they learned or know the basic Aleph Bet and would like to improve their reading.

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For more information, call Shirley Herman, special projects coordinator, National Hebrew Literacy Day, at 905-764-1329 or fax 905-709-1895.

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From coast to coast

Supreme Court to hear constitutional challenge

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Supreme Court of Canada will hear Robert Libman's constitutional challenge of the Quebec referendum law April 22. A final judgment on this case, launched five years ago, could have a major impact on how the next sovereignty referendum is organized.

Libman's lawyer Julius Grey will argue that the law violates the freedoms of expression and association because it forces anyone who wishes to participate in a referendum campaign, in any way that involves the expenditure of money, to receive approval from either the official Yes or No committees, which are headed, respectively, by the leaders of the Parti Québécois (PQ) and the Liberal party.

The objective of the law, adopted in 1978, is to ensure that overall spending limits are not exceeded.

This partisan approach can put at a disadvantage those individuals or groups that, for example, support the Yes side, but may have different reasons than those of the Liberals, Libman said. The political bedfellows can be even stranger when the referendum is not about sovereignty, as Libman found out in 1992.

Libman heads to court

It was the prospect of being in the same camp as the PQ and Jacques Parizeau in the national referendum on the Charlottetown constitutional accord that led Libman, then leader of the Equality party, to contest the law.

The party initially opposed Charlottetown because it felt it did not provide adequate protection of minority rights in Quebec. The PQ, which led the No committee, was against the accord for precisely the opposite reason – it did not give Quebec enough powers.

Nevertheless, the law required the Equality party to register with the No committee and receive approval for any activity favoring the No side that required direct or indirect funding.

"If we had wanted to rent a hall to hold a rally or publish an ad, we, in effect, needed the support of the PQ, even if we were spending our own money," Libman said.

The scenario never happened, however, because Equality changed its position and supported Charlottetown. But Libman said he was not much more comfortable in the camp of Liberal leader Robert Bourassa, whose nationalist arguments for the accord were not consistent with Equality's pro-Canada stance.

Libman's legal argument is that the rights of individuals outside the two main parties are infringed because the official Yes and No committees have the power to prohibit spending on campaign activities whose message does not coincide with their own.

Libman, now regional B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) director, said if he wins the case, the Quebec government could either amend the law to find some other way of controlling third-party spending or invoke the notwithstanding clause and ignore the high court.

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From coast to coast

Russians stonewall on Wallenberg

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — More than 50 years after the disappearance of Swedish war hero Raoul Wallenberg into Soviet "protective custody," Moscow is still stonewalling inquiries into his fate, says a Canadian researcher recently returned from a fact-finding mission.

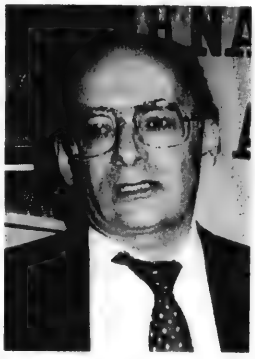
Winnipeg human rights lawyer David Matas says many officials in Russia still go to great lengths to block queries into the plight of Wallenberg, who is credited with having rescued as many as 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Holocaust.

Last September, Matas received a $5,000 grant from Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, enabling him to travel to Russia, Sweden, London, Riga and Washington to probe the fate of Wallenberg, one of the lasting mysteries of World War II.

The scion of a wealthy banking family, Wallenberg was dispatched from Sweden to Budapest by the U.S. War Refugee Board in 1944 to try and save as many Jews as possible from Nazi deportations. In the frantic months ahead, he issued up to 50,000 fake Swedish passports and spirited their bearers to safe house that flew the neutral Swedish flag.

Near the end of the war, he persuaded the Nazis to call off the razing of Budapest's Jewish ghetto with its 50,000 inhabitants.

Wallenberg was arrested by the invading Soviets in 1945 as an American spy. Beginning in 1957 and continuing to this day, Moscow has maintained that he died of a heart attack in prison in 1947, despite any supporting evidence and plenty of evidence to the contrary. There have also been at least a dozen credible witnesses who claimed to have had contact with



David Matas

Wallenberg in prison through the 1950s and '60s, and as late as 1989.

Wallenberg was made Canada's only honorary citizen in 1985.

Matas had been involved with the international 1990 team that probed Wallenberg's fate and whereabouts. The 10-member commission, which was headed by McGill University Prof. Irwin Cotler, hoped, ideally, to find a "smoking gun" — something that would finally reveal what became of Wallenberg.

Not only did Cotler not find his grail, he encountered what he called a massive coverup of the Wallenberg file by the KGB and an impenetrable wall of bureaucratic silence.

Matas calls his mission an "outgrowth" of Cotler's commission, and its outcome is chillingly similar: "In Russia, the Wallenberg case is a secret within a secret," Matas told *The CJN*. "A tremendous amount of effort has gone into covering it up."

Matas spent a week in Moscow poring over documents and trying to interview Russian officials. "Everybody who has ever had contact with the case has been intimidated into silence," he says. "We encountered bureaucratic roadblocks everywhere, especially at the lower levels, where secrecy is a carry-over from the old Soviet days."

Some files on Wallenberg were released in 1991, but Matas says the doors closed again soon after. For example, at Vladimir prison outside Moscow, where Wallenberg had been held, officials allowed members of a Swedish group to examine records but not to photocopy them.

Similar other attempts were also stymied, Matas says, because the Russians continue to keep prison files on Wallenberg at the old KGB archives, where the public has no access to them.

Two separate commissions continue to probe Wallenberg's fate: a Swedish working group headed by Sweden's ambassador to Latvia, and a Russian working group. Matas was able to secure interviews with every member of the Swedish group, but none with the Russian, which he says has done little else but throw up obstacles.

Matas now believes that the 1957 memo signed by Russia's then foreign minister Andrei Gromyko, declaring that Wallenberg had died of a heart attack a decade earlier, is "a total fabrication." He fears that a 1947 "liquidation" order against Wallenberg could mean the Swede was murdered and all traces of the crime removed.

Matas' frustration was not limited to Russia. In Washington, he found CIA documents with Wallenberg's name, but the relevant parts were blacked out.

In London, he unearthed listings of files on Wallenberg for 1946 and 1947, but the files themselves were missing.

Raoul Wallenberg

Matas hopes to release his report in May, after the two working groups release their findings.

Vancouver's Jewish life chronicled in exhibition

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — In honor of its 25th anniversary, the Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia sponsored an exhibit called Creating Community, chronicling the history of Jewish life in Vancouver.

With photographs, text and a short video presentation, the exhibit traces the various stages of development and different characteristics of the city's Jewish community.

The 13-minute video presentation, *More than Gold*, provides an introduction to Jewish life in Vancouver. The photographs with accompanying text then portray the changes in the Vancouver Jewish community over the years.

Particularly striking is the section of the exhibit which focuses on the various neighborhoods where Jews have resided in since first settling in Vancouver some 125 years ago.

According to exhibit chair Carol Fader, after its showing in Vancouver, the exhibit will be available to other Jewish communities across the country to enable them to learn about the history of Jewish life in Canada's third largest Jewish community.

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From coast to coast

'Distinct' status pushed

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion called on the Jewish community to help "explain to other Canadians" why Canada should recognize Quebec as distinct.

It should do so, Dion said, because the Jewish community knows the value of having several cherished identities: as Jews, Montrealers, Quebecers and Canadians.

"You don't want to choose between them," Dion said while delivering the luncheon speech to an all-day conference organized by Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region's (CJC-Q) young leadership committee (YLC) at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel.

"In Quebec, you have learned to live in harmony with the French community that is a tiny minority on this anglophone continent.

"You know how much you share with francophone Quebecers. But you must also say that to other Canadians."

During his speech before a receptive crowd of about 200, Dion delivered an ardent if by-now oft-stated argument for renewed federalism and a united Canada, singing its praises as more tolerant and open to minorities than other countries (including, he stressed, in Quebec) and noting that the conference theme of Unity in Diversity succinctly captured the essence of Canada's greatness.

Dion alluded dismissively to comments made by Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard about Canada not being a "true country" and said Canadians should not be "embarrassed" by their ethnic or cultural differences because they have worked to build a humane country of universal values that's the envy of the world.

On the issue of Quebec seceding, Dion said such an act would be illegal and would not be recognized under international or Canadian law.

In pointing to statistics that put Quebec on par with the rest of Canada in terms of its tolerance towards minority groups, Dion referred to the recent annual B'nai Brith audit that showed fewer anti-Semitic incidents in Quebec.

And despite ongoing stories about anti-Semitism within Quebec clerical and nationalist circles 50 years ago, Dion pointed to historic antecedents showing a "shared" history between Jews and French-Canadians.

CONTROVERSIAL PROPOSAL AIRED

U.S. private investigator Steven Rambam (right) joined Prof. Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee, in Ottawa last week to mark the 10th anniversary of the Deschenes Report on Nazi war criminals. They unveiled a new approach to bringing war criminals to justice by offering the chance of immunity for lesser criminals in exchange for evidence against more serious perpetrators.The United States has successfully "turned" war criminals against their former comrades and Congress would urge federal authorities to offer immunity for information that could be used against more serious offenders, Abella said. The proposal came under fire from B'nai Brith Canada, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation, with the three groups calling Congress' proposal morally repugnant. Abella, meanwhile, also called on Ottawa to provide a public accounting of the government's efforts in the 250 cases Deschenes turned over to the Justice Department 10 years ago. He noted that in that time, Canada registered only one successful deportation. [Reuters photo]

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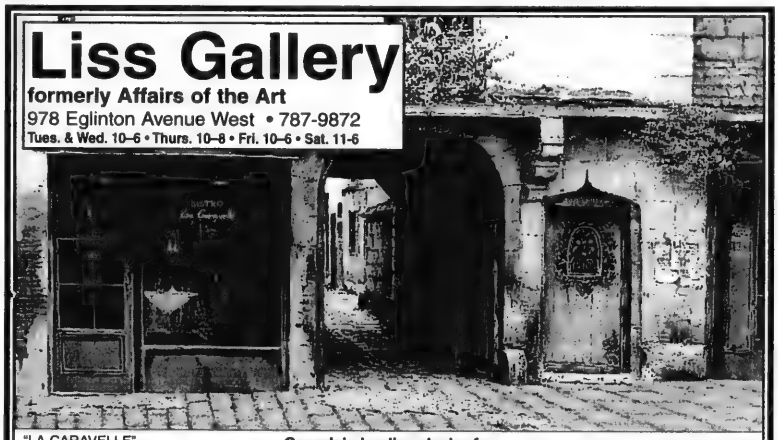

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From coast to coast

Language bill attacked

MONTREAL — D'Arcy McGee MNA Lawrence Bergman drew the umbrage of the government when he said in the National Assembly restoring the powerful Commission de la protection de la langue française will provoke "moral outrage" here and abroad.

Parti Québécois (PQ) house leader Pierre Belanger accused Bergman of using "violent language" that is prohibited by parliamentary regulation.

Belanger was apparently most perturbed by Bergman's claim that the PQ is "inciting" such publications as *La Tempete*, a tract put out by radical ex-FLQ member Raymond Villeneuve, which recently featured an article headlined "English, go home, take the 401" that urges making anglophones uncomfortable in Quebec.

Bill 40, now before the assembly, would amend the Charter of the French Language to recreate the so-called "language police" that have such powers as entering businesses and looking through their files to see if they are complying with the language laws.

Bergman charged that the government's intention is "to make life here as unpleasant as possible for the anglophone community.

"The people of Quebec — francophones, anglophones, allophones, Quebec-born and those who have chosen this wonderful land — are ashamed of this bill and the harm and damage that you are causing to the anglophone community and all Quebecers."

He continued that the bill restricts individual liberties and will "severely penalize" small- and medium-sized businesses, even force them out of business.

He accused the government of trying to encourage "feelings of despair and exclusion" among anglophones and of "creating divisions and provoking intolerance."

International Affairs Minister Sylvain Simard also obliquely chastised Bergman referring to the Liberals' having made room for "extremists" and "extreme and panicky speeches."

Bergman later said he would not be dissuaded from speaking "the truth" publicly.

DISABLED VETERAN GETS HELP

Ralph Snow, (second from left) president of Beit Halochem Canada, presents a plaque to Jonathan Laski of Thornhill. After his bar mitzvah, Laski made a donation from his gifts requesting that it be used towards the airfare for a disabled veteran to visit Toronto. With Jonathan are his parents, Sol and Ann, who hosted a veteran in their home last summer.

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From coast to coast

Jewish births up in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A study of Jewish demographic trends in Winnipeg indicates a continuing decline in the population in the 1980s, particularly among young adults.

At the same time, though, the number of children has been increasing at a faster rate than in any other Jewish community in Canada.

The 168-page report titled Unity and Continuity: Critical Issues Facing the Winnipeg Jewish Community was prepared by researchers James Torczyner and Shari Brotman of the McGill Consortium for Ethnicity and Strategic Social Planning. They did the study in conjunction with the Council of Jewish Federations-Canada, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and Statistics Canada. The findings were based on a comparison of the last three censuses.

As of 1991, according to census figures based on questions of religious and/or ethnic origin, Winnipeg had a Jewish population of about 15,000, an 18 percent decline from 1971. The one bright spot is that the number of children under 14 has increased by 3.7 percent since 1981. The figure for Canada as a whole in that period was 2.5 percent.

Evelyn Katz, the demographic statistician for Winnipeg's Jewish community, says that the numbers in the report gibe with hers in many respects — she was consulted by the researchers — but she questions how accurately the numbers have been interpreted.

"The 1991 census is a snapshot in time," she says. "Those are the given facts on the day the survey is done. Within a year, it is out of date: You can subsume certain patterns, but you can't take the numbers as factual in 1997."

One has to have familiarity with a community in order to properly interpret data about it, Katz observes. "You can't draw conclusions about Winnipeg from Montreal," she says.

For example, the census numbers indicate that a large percentage of Jewish widows in Winnipeg live below the poverty line. That is not an accurate picture, Katz says.

"A lot of people will only declare their pension income on the census," she says. "They won't list their other financial resources or what help they may be receiving from their families."

She agrees that Winnipeg has a high proportion of seniors in the Jewish community. People are living longer, and beyond a certain age, they are not likely to move away.

She predicts, however, that the ratio is about to change. Many Jewish seniors are in their 80s and 90s.

At the same time, a growing number of younger people who had left are now moving back married with children. The community has also made a concerted effort to persuade Jewish families from Argentina to settle here and has welcomed 25 new Jewish families from the former Soviet Union.

"We need to continue to attract more young families and we need more children," Katz says. "Our birthrate is still not high enough to replace the number of seniors who are dying. We have to continue our community outreach programs to Argentina and elsewhere. Winnipeg is a great place to raise a family and the economy continues to improve."

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Le Grand Retour, an international Jewish gathering featuring entertainment and cultural events, is set for May 22 to 29 in Marrakech. Sponsors are the World Assembly of Moroccan Jews and the American Sephardi Federation. Seen at a launch at Toronto's Le Royal Casablanca restaurant are (from left) Simon Keslassy, representing Moroccan ambassador Tajjedine Baddou; Maurice Amar, owner of the restaurant; Benjamin Amar, president of New York-based Jetaway Tours; and Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul-general in Toronto. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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From coast to coast

B.C. Klezmer band prepares for Ashkenaz

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — On a recent cold, wet Saturday night, Macedonian Mazel-Tov, the Vancouver band chosen to represent the city at Toronto's annual Ashkenaz Festival of New Jewish Music, warmed the hearts of nearly 300 enthusiastic patrons at the JCC's Norman Rothstein Theatre here.

Performing an eclectic repertoire that includes klezmer, jazz, bebop and hip-hop, the band, which is led by Vancouver-born Michael Braverman on clarinet and sax, Israeli-born Moishe Reinert on accordion and Croatian-born Sylvia Zaradic on vocals, took the audience on a musical odyssey through Europe and the Middle East. They demonstrated why the band was worthy of being awarded a Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent on Record (Factor) grant that will enable the group to record their first CD, *A Song for Peace*.

The band, which also features Ron Thompson on guitar, Danny Parker on bass and Joel Fountain on drums, began the concert with some traditional klezmer music and then performed a jazzed up version of *Bashana Ha'baah*, an Israeli folk classic. The rest of the concert included songs culled from across Europe and Israel; stops in Bulgaria, Macedonia, Hungary, and Romania; a Croatian song called *Carnations*; and a Bulgarian Top 40 rap called *Viseli Zborni* that had the audience singing and clapping along.

Bird's Bulgar, an original tune that will be included in the band's upcoming CD, demonstrated the band's affinity with the late alto sax player Charley Parker and also its ability to fuse klezmer with bebop and jazz. Most of the band members are trained jazz musicians.

Zaradic sang in Croatian, Yiddish, Bulgarian, and Hebrew.

Complementing her vocals were Braverman's clarinet and saxophone (Braverman, who formed the band last summer, is also the band's arranger and composer) and the passionate accordion playing of Reinert.

He explained the origin and meaning of many of the songs that were performed throughout the course of the evening. He also said the band's name, Macedonian-Mazel-Tov indicated that they play Jewish music and acknowledges the Gypsy, Hungarian, Romanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian influences in Jewish music.

In keeping with its role as ambassadors for Jewish music, the band is helping to organize a Yiddish cabaret in Vancouver.

Chumash reveals family history

By LISA KELLER
Special to The CJN

CALGARY— A stranger's curiosity helped Murrey Dubinsky become closer to his father's memory.

"I'm quite overwhelmed by her efforts and of all the others who helped to find me," Dubinsky said from his Calgary home, referring to Winnipegger Molly Morris, who just couldn't stop wondering about a discovery she made in the spring of 1996.

Morris, office manager for the Law Society of Manitoba, had been doing some dusty work. She was sorting through the society's historical records which were boxed and forgotten about years ago. Her task was to get the records in order for microfilming. Instead, she found herself paging through an old Chumash which she found nestled, out of time and place, in a box of roll-books.

"What really caught my attention was the date," said Morris, who attempted to translate the handwritten Yiddish notes within the book's leaves.

She discovered the book had been published in 1887 in Kiev. The personal notes related to family names and birthdates. She also saw a stamp which indicated the book had been used in a 1919 hearing before the Law Society.

Most importantly, the documents detailing that hearing were tucked into the front of the Chumash.

The old legal papers related an incident in the life of one Boris Dubinsky. He was a 16-year-old boy who'd bluffed his way into law school in 1916. At that time, the law school required students to be at least 17 years of age.

During the hearing, the family Chumash was used to prove Dubinski's tender years. His own father's writing recorded his date of birth as 1900. Dubinsky was ejected from the school, and there ended the records.

"The pull for me at that point was that I'm an Orthodox Jew," Morris recalled. "Something had to be done..I felt the Chumash had to be handled with a great deal of respect."

A search of local phonebooks led to a dead-end. That's when Morris decided to enlist the aid of Bonnie Tregobov of the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada. Based in Winnipeg, the Historical Society maintains a unique computerized database which is unrivaled for its size in Canada.

"We have over 60,000 entries put together...from all local Yiddish and English newspapers from 1911 to present. As long as it had a Jewish and a Western Canadian connection, it went into the database," Tregobov said.

"I just entered the name Dubinsky, and there it was!"

Successful lawyer

"It," was reference after reference to Boris Dubinsky, a man who, according to the articles, was a successful lawyer, bencher, and eventually, President of the Law Society of Saskatchewan.

It seems Dubinsky was not to be deterred. After his ignominious rejection by Manitoba, he moved west, finished his studies, and never looked back. He practised until 1982, dying just two years later at the age of 84.

The articles also referred to a son Murrey. But there was no mention of his profession or where he lived.

"After that, it was absolute chance to see if Murrey had decided to practise law," Morris laughed. A cross-country check revealed one Murrey Dubinsky, indeed practised law in Calgary. An officer of the Law Society phoned him, asked if his father's name was Boris, and told him about the prayer book.

"I had a number of reactions," Murrey Dubinsky said. "The first was amazement. The second was being totally overwhelmed that this ancient family Chumash was in existence."

The best part, Dubinsky said, was finally being able to fill in the blank in the family's history.

Dubinsky said for him, the story only reinforced his father's complete love of the law.

After moving to Saskatchewan, Boris Dubinsky completed his studies and articled with David Kliman, a prominent Regina lawyer. In 1926 he wrote the Saskatchewan Law Society exams and won the gold medal. His son still cherishes it.

As for the Chumash, the Law Society couriered it to Dubinsky, who found it in "amazing condition. Its sojourn in the basement of the Law Society did it no harm at all."

Dubinsky's mother, Boris Dubinsky's widow, who is 93 and living in Calgary, and Murrey's three children and two grandchildren have also expressed amazement at the book's return and interest in it for what it contains.

But the holy book would never have found its way home if not for the curiosity of a stranger. Of that, Dubinsky says: "The fact that Molly is an Orthodox Jew was so important because someone else may not have recognized the significance of the book."

"To have it in my possession is totally amazing."

'Hate groups' at Dawson College

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Dawson College CEGEP is seeking to come to terms with the issue of alleged "hate groups" on campus following two incidents that sparked friction and angry verbal exchanges between Jewish and black students.

The incidents occurred during February's Black History Month in Montreal, when local representatives from the Nation of Islam (NOI) were invited onto the Dawson campus by two clubs, Dawson's African Student Association (DASA) and the African Background and Caribbean United Students (ABACUS) organization.

In one incident, Hillel students notified Dawson's security department and were then directed to the Student Services department when they saw members of NOI, which Hillel considers a "hate group" for the alleged racist and anti-Semitic comments of some of its leaders, distributing pamphlets in the school's Lower Atrium.

Angry verbal exchanges broke out between Hillel, DASA, and ABACUS members and Student Services director Michelle Serano-Claborough ordered the NOI off campus.

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Territories closed after Tel Aviv bombing

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV — The suicide bomber who detonated a three-kilogram bomb packed with nails and pieces of metal in Tel Aviv last Friday was Moussa Ranimat, 28, of Kafr Tsurif near Hebron. His orange identity card was found on the terrace of the wrecked Apropo cafe.

A closure was imposed on the territories immediately following the attack, and the investigation of the case was transferred from the Tel Aviv police to the General Security Service (GSS). The home of Ranimat, a member of Hamas for the past two years, was sealed. Hamas claimed responsibility for the blast, in a phone call to Channel 1.

GSS chief Ami Ayalon met with Palestinian Authority (PA) security heads and demanded they immediately rearrest some 150 security prisoners released by the PA over the past two weeks.

Three women were killed in the explosion on the cafe terrace, 48 people were wounded, most of them suffering moderate to light wounds, and 19 victims were still hospitalized Saturday.

Anat Winter-Rosen, 32, a Herzliya lawyer and the mother of Shani, a 6-month-old girl who was also wounded in the blast, died from her wounds at Ichilov Hospital.

Dr. Michal Avrahami, 32, of Tel Aviv, a Wolfson Hospital radiologist who was expecting her first child, died shortly after being taken to hospital. Her husband and mother-in law were recovering at Ichilov from moderate wounds.

The third victim was Yael Gilad, 32, of Neveh Monosson.

Investigators said Ranimat had worked in two Rishon Lezion restaurants. The owners of one, Formaggio, were arrested and questioned. Ranimat had been investigated recently for suspected membership in Hamas.

The bag he carried containing the bomb was apparently given to him on the way to the packed Apropo cafe, sources said; he did not bring it from his village. Usually suicide bombers chosen by terror organizations are single, but Ranimat, the father of four, did not fit the profile. He had a permit to work in Israel.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who arrived at the scene of the blast at the busy intersection of Ben-Gurion and Adam Hacohen streets, blasted Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for giving the green light to terror organizations and for failing to prevent attacks.

"He does not have to give the go-ahead to terror organizations," said Kahalani. "It is sufficient that he just winks at them."

He was insistent that the Har Choma building project will continue.

With files from Jerusalem Post Staff.

A policewoman carries 6-month-old Shani from the bombed-out cafe. Shani's mother was killed in the blast. [Reuters/RNS photo]

Six-month-old girl unclaimed after attack

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV — Perhaps the most unforgettable image of last Friday's suicide bombing was that of the 6-month-old baby girl in clown costume being carried away from the scene by a distraught policewoman.

Nobody had come to claim the baby, the radio reported all afternoon, repeating a police statement that "a possible link between the infant and one of the women who died in the attack was being examined."

The statue, *Reuma, 1995,* however, stood strong and defiant amidst the wreckage, broken glass and upturned tables at the front of the Apropo cafe.

The bronze statue of the headless nude woman on the terrace of the preserved Bauhaus building housing the cafe was the only object left intact, as police, the General Security Service, sappers looking for more bombs, forensic squads and the chevra kadisha sifted through the carnage, checking the documents and personal possessions scattered around the area. A bowl of salad still stood on one of the tables.

Unlike the suicide bombings last year, police and civilians seemed calmer to the sight of the carnage.

In the same spirit, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo announced that Purim events would go on. And like Reuma, those hardy residents of Tel Aviv not immediately affected by the terrorist's bomb defiantly stood up to the attempt to disrupt everyday life, and announced that Purim would continue as usual.

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Peace talks tied to actions of PA

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israel's continuation of the peace process with the Palestinian Authority (PA) is conditional upon Chairman Yasser Arafat proving he is acting effectively to stop terrorism and fulfilling all the PA's commitments towards Israel, it was decided by the inner cabinet at a recent four-hour meeting.

This means that the first pullback from the West Bank, due to have started about two weeks ago, will not be carried out at this stage. Nor will other planned moves take place, including operating the Palestinian airport in Dahania and the Gaza port, releasing Palestinian prisoners and opening the "safe passage" between the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

A statement released after the meeting said: "The government of Israel demands from the Palestinian Authority that it uphold its commitments to fight terror and violence, as a necessary step, to furthering the political process."

However, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said he is not suspending talks with the PA. "Well, I'm not suspending talks because our people are meeting with their people, but the first item on the agenda is the fulfillment of the Palestinian obligation to fight terrorism. They have to start complying with that or else we can't move," Netanyahu told CNN.

The inner cabinet, which met in the Prime Minister's Office, was briefed that the PA had given terrorist organizations to understand that they have the "go-ahead" signal to carry out terrorist attacks. This understanding still stands and has not been changed, Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh reported after the meeting.

The government is demanding that the PA keep the commitment it undertook only two months ago to fight against terrorism, as a condition for the continuation of the peace process.

These commitments include strengthening security cooperation with Israel, preventing incitement and hostile propaganda against Israel, fighting systematically and effectively against terror organizations and their infrastructure, arresting and trying terrorists, handling requests for extraditing suspects and collecting illegal firearms.

Several ministers at the meeting demanded imposing sanctions on Arafat and declaring that the negotiations with the Palestinians are "frozen" until Arafat arrests 150 Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists. But most ministers maintained a more moderate stand, reluctant to sever all ties with the PA.

PA involved in attacks

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The evaluation of Military Intelligence, he continued, is that the political deadlock has caused Arafat to feel threatened in his plans to achieve a Palestinian state with its capital in eastern Jerusalem. To break out of the deadlock, he has changed tactics to violent confrontation.

Ya'alon added that, in the most recent conflicts between rioters and IDF troops, Arafat's own Fatah took the lead in organizing confrontations. Shahak said the PA could halt the street violence, but the Palestinian interest is to bring about bloodshed and further escalation.

"It is unthinkable that, in order to overcome [negotiating] difficulties, the Palestinians would employ terrorism as an instrument to solve these problems," Shahak said.

The chief of staff acknowledged that Israel has less means than in the past with which to prevent and combat terrorism as a part of the political process. "The PA has a bigger responsibility. We're not speaking here of the question whether they have the ability to prevent terrorism, but the will to do so," Shahak said.

So far he does not see a need for the IDF to enter areas under Palestinian control. "This would be an admission of failure in the attempts to resolve disputes by means of a dialogue between the sides," said Shahak. "I want to hope that we do not reach such a situation, for this would have far-reaching implications."

Meanwhile, clashes erupted in Hebron for a third day last Sunday, as the Palestinian police defended its record in bringing them under control and blamed Israel for causing them in the first place.

The clashes were far smaller than the riots of last Friday and Saturday, and the Palestinian police was seen to impose order more quickly. The IDF removed the curfew it imposed on the area of the city where Israel retains control.

In Gaza, meanwhile, doubts emerged over Palestinian security reports that Ibrahim Makadmeh, a militant Hamas leader who spoke out in favor of suicide attacks at a Khan Yunis rally last week, had been arrested together with 30 other militants. He was being investigated, said some security sources; while others said he was not arrested, but not at home either.

Palestinian Authority Attorney General Khalid Qidrah said there is a warrant out for Makadmeh's arrest for incitement, Itim reported.

Ya'alon accused Rajoub and Fatah activists under him of leading the earlier riots in Hebron. Rajoub himself met with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani and reasserted that the police had done everything it could, despite Israel's "crazy policies."

"We will make every effort to end violence, which firstly harms Palestinian interests," Rajoub said at a televised press conference with Kahalani.

Kahalani noted the two internal security chiefs hardly knew each other until last Sunday. Their meeting lasted 75 minutes, "because it is important to get to know each other," Kahalani said. "We are eager to establish a channel of communications, so we have established a direct line between our offices."

Kahalani said he would introduce Rajoub to the new Judea and Samaria police commanders.

There was little Palestinian reaction to government indications that it was suspending political talks with the PA until the security situation improves.

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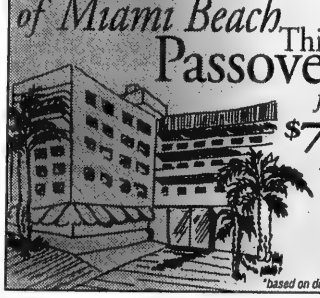

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Israel & the Jewish World

Orthodox group to issue 'explosive declaration'

NEW YORK — The 600-member Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada (Agudath Harabonim) is about to release a formal ruling stating that the religious practices of the Conservative and Reform branches of Judaism are not Jewish under Jewish law.

The explosive declaration, which would deny the legitimacy of the religious doctrines of the groups that represent as many as 90 percent of North American Jews, is to be announced March 31 at a news conference in New York by the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

The Union, founded in 1902, is described in the Encyclopedia Judaica as "militantly Orthodox." It is separate from the more moderate Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, generally known as the Orthodox Union, whose rabbinical arm, the Rabbinical Council of America, has more than 1,000 members.

The ruling's aim is to persuade Conservative and Reform Jews to abandon their congregations and join Orthodox synagogues. It comes at a sensitive time, as the Conservative and Reform movements are fighting conversion legislation in Israel that would delegitimize conversions performed abroad by the movements' rabbis.

"Having caused havoc in the United States, leading generations of Jews toward assimilation and intermarriage [Reform and Conservative leaders] now attempt to export their alien ideology to Israel," the document states.

Should non-Orthodox conversions ultimately be accepted in Israel, the result, the rabbis fear, will be "a terrible confusion as to who is really Jewish," according to a press release issued on behalf of the organization.

Orthodox rabbis have long refused to recognize the religious authority of their Reform and Conservative counterparts. But the rabbinical union said its formal declaration will mark the first time an Orthodox rabbinical body has made such a declaration as a ruling in Jewish law.

The rabbinical union described its ruling in the news release as "a clarion call that, despite their brazen usurpation of the titles 'Judaism, Jewish heritage, Jewish tradition' and 'Jewish continuity,' Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all. They are outside of Torah and outside of Judaism."

When contacted by *The CJN*, Rabbi Hersh Ginsberg, director and acting chair of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, said the adherents of the Conservative and Reform movements are Jewish if born to a Jewish mother, but "their religion is not Judaism."

This is not a new concept, said Rabbi Moshe Stern, chair of Toronto's Vaad Harabonim, who is not a member of the New York-based organization and had not seen the ruling. "They [the non-Orthodox] themselves will admit that some of their concepts fall out of the realm of Torah and traditional Judaism."

Rabbi Stern said that any conversion is acceptable if it is "done according to Halachah," but questioned how "a person who espouses a philosophy that negates Halachah" could perform a halachically correct conversion.

Although Chief Rabbi Pinchas Hirschsprung of Montreal was named in the news release as one of several rabbis issuing statements of support for the ruling, he did not sign any such statement and is not getting involved in the issue, said his son on his behalf.

The ruling was termed "pathetic" by Reform Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple. "It should be treated with the contempt it deserves. It will make no difference to non-Orthodox Jews."

Conservative Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl agrees the ruling will have no impact. "Zip — and you can quote me," he said, adding in a more reflective vein, "It's a shame that there are Jews, and rabbis, who are unable to accept the historical reality of religious pluralism and the theological validity of a variety of Jewish religious expression.

"It would be far better if these rabbis were to say, 'We will work together with Reform and Conservative rabbis to develop common standards and procedures for conversion to ensure that there's a universal acceptance,' [rather than] making a unilateral declaration about what they believe is normative."

With files from Tom Tugend, Jerusalem Post Foreign Service and Frances Kraft, staff reporter.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

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Re:
1997 Annual Meeting

1 The 1997 Annual Meeting of the Jewish National Fund of Canada will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, at the Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel, 3500 Cessna Drive, Richmond, B.C., V7B 1C7, May 24, 1997 in the evening and May 25, 1997.

2 Proposed amended By Laws of the corporation will be reviewed and voted on for approval at the Annual meeting. A copy of these proposed By Laws is available from the National Office to any member of the corporation upon request prior to the meeting.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Palestinians riot near Israeli-controlled Hebron

Protesters hurl rocks at the IDF. RNS/Reuters

By JON IMMANUEL and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hundreds of Palestinians rushed the area between Palestinian and Israeli-controlled Hebron in three separate onslaughts last weekend, leaving dozens of Palestinians and several Israelis wounded.

But both sides kept to their respective zones, avoiding any direct contact that might have escalated the riots.

Hebron's Alya Hospital reported treating 92 people wounded in the clashes, including 10 who were in serious condition, suffering from bullet wounds.

An IDF spokesperson said soldiers fired some live bullets when "their lives were in danger." Twelve soldiers and border police and an Israeli boy were lightly wounded, the army said.

The IDF imposed a complete closure on the territories last Friday afternoon. Jewish residents in Hebron were free to to travel within the community, the IDF spokesperson said. The Machpela Cave was open Saturday for prayers, but because of the curfew imposed on the Palestinian sector, only Wakf (Muslim religious authority) leaders were permitted to pray there.

Clashes started when a large crowd surged towards Beit Hadassah, throwing hundreds of stones, said Hebron Jewish community spokesperson Noam Arnon.

During the first hours, IDF troops did not intervene, Arnon said, nor did the Palestinian police do anything to stop them.

When IDF soldiers began to push the rioters back, they were hit with rocks and firebombs. Settlers claimed that IDF troops fired tear gas and rubber bullets towards the rioters, but Palestinians threw rocks and tear gas canisters back towards the soldiers.

According to the IDF spokesperson, high ranking officers met with Palestinians, including Haj Ismail Jabr, the West Bank police commander, demanding that the Palestinian police prevent disturbances in the areas under their control.

Friday's clashes stopped soon after 2 p.m., when news of the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv apparently compelled the Palestinian police to control the rioters.

But Sunday, Palestinian police officers seemed to allow the stone throwers to continue for about two hours during each of two waves of rioting, before coming in force to move them from the scene. They intervened only when the rioters tried to engage Israeli troops more closely. The clashes were some 100 metres from Shuhada Street, close to where dozens of settlers live.

Behind the rioters were thousands of chanting supporters, shouting "Down with peace, up with Hamas," and "Allah is great." Twice they burned the Israeli flag to excited chanting before charging down the road toward Israeli positions.

Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub appeared periodically on Shallala Street during the rioting and then left without intervening.

"We have the determination and the ability to control the situation, but the tension is very great because of Netanyahu's crazy policy," Rajoub told reporters.

Regarding the settlers' complaints about the IDF response, the IDF spokesperson said that on Friday the army sent additional forces to Hebron and that the army had stressed to the Palestinians that they are responsible for maintaining the peace under their jurisdiction. The IDF, said the spokesperson, will continue to safeguard the Jewish community in Hebron.

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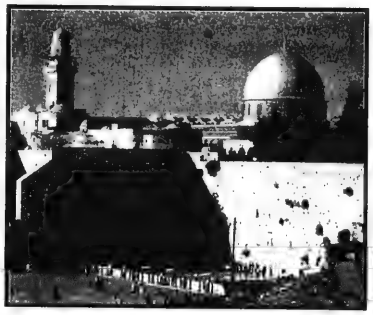

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The Week in Israel

March 17

• A group of 14 Israeli high school students studying Arabic and Islamic culture returned from a trip to Malaysia. The students had been invited there by the country's prime minister.

March 18

• Construction began on the Har Choma housing project.

• Israeli media reported that Jordanian riot police set up a roadblock to prevent sympathizers of the Jordanian soldier who killed seven Israeli schoolgirls from paying respects to his family. Jordan's opposition party urged the government to stop "condemning and criminalizing" the soldier.

• Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi was questioned for more than eight hours on the Bar-On affair.

March 19

• One Israeli soldier was killed and three others wounded when Hezbollah attacked their patrol in southern Lebanon.

• Yisrael Lederman was convicted of causing grave bodily harm and assaulting a civil servant for having thrown a cup of boiling tea in the face of Labor Knesset member Yael Dayan during a visit to Hebron last year.

March 20

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu proposed an accelerated schedule for the final status talks with the Palestinians to tackle, as soon as possible, the remaining difficult issues in the peace talks.

• IDF warplanes struck Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon.

• Palestinians protested construction on Har Choma, by marching on Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem and throwing stones and molotov cocktails at Israeli troops.

March 21

• President Ezer Weizman came out in support of the prime minister's proposal to accelerate final-status discussions with the Palestinian Authority.

• Five Jewish families moved into the City of David area in the neighborhood of Silwan. the families said they purchased the property legally from Arab owners. *With files from the JTA.*

Relations improve

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

If words mean anything, Israel and Russia have achieved a quantum leap in their evolving relationship.

Mideast Analysis

When Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu left Russia earlier this month, following a 48-hour trip to Moscow, he waxed enthusiastically about Israeli-Russian ties. Describing Russia as "a new-found friend," he proclaimed a "new era" in relations and declared that the "enmity and adversity" of the past had been replaced by a pattern of surging mutual contacts.

President Boris Yeltsin, who said he had accepted an invitation to go to Israel, struck a similar note. As he put it: "Our countries and their leaders have passed the stage of prejudice and are now energetically moving toward each other."

Netanyahu's visit took place as Israel and Russia were emerging from a period of tension and at a time when Moscow is seeking to expand its influence in the Middle East.

Israel's growing friendship with Russia soured last April during Operation Grapes of Wrath. Israel's massive bombardment of southern Lebanon was launched in response to Hezbollah attacks against civilian settlements in the Galilee.

As the fighting raged, Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov — a Jew — embarked on a tour of the region. While in Beirut, shortly before his arrival in Jerusalem, Primakov characterized Israel's actions as "terrorist" in nature.

In the wake of this incident, Russia expelled an Israeli diplomat in Moscow, calling him a Mossad spy. Meanwhile, the Russian government announced that the Jewish Agency, which has facilitated the emigration of hundreds of thousands of Jews from the former Soviet Union since 1989, would have to cease operations in Russia.

The mini crisis was defused several months later, when Moscow granted the Jewish Agency an official permit to operate throughout Russia indefinitely. And in the interval, another bilateral problem was amicably solved when Israel agreed that Russia was the rightful owner of an ensemble of properties — the Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, parts of the Russian Compound and a parking lot — in the western half of Jerusalem.

In January, the momentum continued when Natan Sharansky, Israel's trade minister and a former Refusenik, led a large delegation of officials and business leaders to Moscow. Upon leaving, he said that Israeli relations with Russia should be brought up "to a much higher level." This, he explained, would lead to a "more constructive" Russian role in the Middle East.

Since its co-sponsorship of the Madrid peace talks six years ago, Moscow has played a positive role in the Mideast. And of late, Russia has been seeking a stronger voice in the Oslo peace process, which is dominated by the United States.

In an effort to counter Washington's dominance in the region, as well as to increase its arms exports there, Russia has courted Syria and such pariah states as Iran, Iraq, Libya and Sudan.

Israel is particularly concerned by the sale of Russian nuclear technology to Iran, whose Islamic regime rejects Israel's very existence. Israel believes that Iran may use this technology for military purposes. But Yeltsin told Netanyahu that Russian nuclear cooperation with Iran remains on "a very rudimentary level," while Primakov denied that Russia is helping Iran to build ballistic missiles.

In addition to this contentious issue, Israel is troubled by reports that Russia intends to modernize Syria's arsenal. On another front, Netanyahu and Yeltsin agreed to disagree on Israel's much-maligned Har Choma housing project in Jerusalem.

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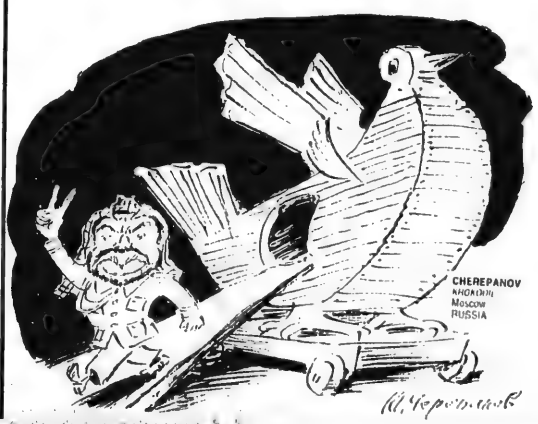

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Israel & the Jewish World

Britain's Chief Rabbi under attack from left and right

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Britain's Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks rarely saw eye-to-eye on religious matters with the late Rabbi Hugo Gryn of the UK's Reform movement, but Rabbi Sacks could hardly have foreseen the storm his decision to attend a memorial service for Rabbi Gryn would unleash among British Jewry.

The outcry surrounding the incident, which has Rabbi Sacks under attack from both the left and right flanks of British Jewry, is largely the result of the leaking of

Feature

a letter he wrote to a haredi leader in London explaining why he attended the ceremony. In the letter, he referred to Rabbi Gryn as "one of those who destroy the faith."

The letter was leaked to the *Jewish Chronicle* by "a right-wing Orthodox movement," according to a source close to the chief rabbi, a group whose members are "personally very envious" of the status of the chief rabbi. It appeared earlier this month, along with an article by Rabbi Sacks explaining the circumstances of his writing it.

Rabbi Sacks' comments naturally incensed the non-Orthodox community, who have blasted the chief rabbi, already under fire from haredi circles for attending the service in the first place. He did not attend Rabbi Gryn's funeral because it took place in a Reform synagogue.

Ironically, it was to explain his decision to go to the memorial service that Rabbi Sacks wrote the letter on Jan. 20, marked "not for publication," to rabbi and religious court judge (dayan) Hanokh Dov Padwa, head of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations' rabbinical court.

At the ceremony, Rabbi Sacks extolled Rabbi Gryn for his courage, adding: "This was a mentsh. In the deepest sense, this was a man. We were privileged to have him amongst us, and count him as a friend."

Rabbi Gryn was a Holocaust survivor who became a pillar of the post-war Reform Jewish community in Britain, and his popular BBC radio program, *The Moral Maze*, made him a well-known personality among Jews and non-Jews alike. Known as much for his humanism as his Judaism, he once spent a night in jail with the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., after marching with him in Selma, Ala.

However, in the letter to Padwa, Rabbi Sacks blasted Reform, Liberal and Masorti Judaism, saying that "they have no enemy or opponent equal to the chief rabbi." He also explained that he attended as "the representative of the whole Jewish community," noting that failing to do so would undermine the idea

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

that British Jews "know that there is a single religious representative of the Jewish community...in which the voice that is heard is the voice of Jacob, and that the Reform and Liberal movements do not have significant standing amongst us."

Despite Rabbi Sacks' efforts to clarify his letter, it may lead to what he feared most — an attempt by Liberal, Reform and Masorti Jews to appoint their own chief rabbi, whom Rabbi Sacks will have to contend with for recognition at official state functions, as well as at Jewish community ones.

'Impossible position'

The incident only highlights the increasing pressure on Rabbi Sacks from disparate sectors of the Jewish community.

Rabbi David Rosen, former chief rabbi of Ireland and currently Director of Interfaith Relations at the Anti-Defamation League office in Jerusalem, says the incident shows that "as in Israel, trying to mollify haredi interests won't serve the centrist leadership, only undermine it."

"Jonathan Sacks is in an almost impossible position," said Rabbi Michael Marmur, the English-born rabbi of the Ohel Avraham Synagogue at Haifa's Leo Baeck Education Centre. "On the one hand, he's a brilliant, educated, urbane, witty man. On the other, he is beholden to religious officials, many of whom regard any idea of outreach, particularly regarding Jews of other denominations, as anathema."

Rabbi Marmur said the episode showed the "ambiguity or impossibility of Rabbi Sacks' situation. He's tried to appease his more Orthodox constituency by explaining his appearance in terms of Rabbi Gryn's being an [Auschwitz] survivor, but not regarding his being a rabbi. He may have judged wrong on all counts...He's been too liberal for the hard-right Orthodox flank, but appears to a lot of the British public at large, and certainly to progressive Jews, as a wolf in sheep's clothing. He may have succeeded in alienating both his constituencies."

Rabbi Marmur believes the incident may lead non-Orthodox Jews, who were prepared to forgive Rabbi Sacks for not attending Rabbi Gryn's funeral, to lose their patience and question whether they can continue to accept him as chief rabbi of all British Jews. "By coming up against the figure of Hugo Gryn, he may have forced the issue," Rabbi Marmur said.

In a bid to heal the wounds caused by the incident, Rabbi Sacks pleaded in his article for "an end to public bickering." He called on Anglo-Jewish leaders and organizations to form a "coalition for peace in the community," which would subscribe to seven points, including: "We will state clearly that those who sow dissension and dishonor Jewish values do not represent the community."

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Haredim seek solutions for dealing with CP

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Rochele lies on a thick foam mattress surrounded by toys and waits for her turn with the physiotherapist. The only things that seem to move in this four-year-old with cerebral palsy (CP) are her eyes: her pupils dart constantly from one side to another, as if they were trying to escape from a body that doesn't work properly.

The child is one of 80, aged one to 13 who are being cared for at Tikvah Layeled, a CP rehabilitation and special-education centre in Jerusalem's Bayit Vegan quarter. It's the only such facility in the capital for children from the haredi community with CP – a community, which for years tended to virtually hide such children in closets for fear that their mere existence would harm their siblings' chances for a good match for marriage.

Today, the problems and needs of physically and even mentally disabled children in the haredi community have emerged from the closet, and families stricken by such disorders have set up voluntary organizations to meet their unique needs.

Fifteen years ago, it happened to Zvi Braitstein and his wife Sheindele. They had two healthy children, and then triplets were born: two healthy girls and one boy, Yoel, who was different. Zvi, a 13th-generation Jerusalemite, made his living producing leather housings for tefillin, and he had never even heard of cerebral palsy.

He soon learned that the condition strikes 0.7 percent of all babies, affects over 10,000 Israelis, and is caused by injury to the central nervous system during pregnancy, delivery or soon after. When Yoel's problem was finally diagnosed at the age of two, Zvi took him and the whole family to Brooklyn, where he was put in touch with another tefillin-maker who had a son with CP and who ran a rehabilitation institute for such children. "I met numerous Israeli families like ours who left the country to get help for their children in a religious atmosphere," recalls Zvi.

Cared for by nuns

Although Zvi found work in his vocation in New York, the Braitsteins wanted to return to Jerusalem, but they could do so only if they had a suitable place for treating Yoel. He was enrolled in the rehabilitative kindergarten directed by the late pediatric neurologist Prof. Naomi Amir, and he progressed neurologically. But the parents felt uncomfortable that their son, who is a bright boy, didn't get the type of religious training to which they were accustomed. "There are some 200 severely disabled Jewish children, some of them haredim, under care of nuns in Ein Kerem. Their parents may feel they have no alternative, but we wanted our son to live with us, and we needed help.

"We dreamed of setting up a CP clinic; we never dreamed of being able to develop the facilities we have today," continues Braitstein. Tikvah Layeled's main facility is Neveh Zvi, a five-storey rented apartment building at 16 Rehov Sha'are Torah in Jerusalem. CP youngsters — not only haredim but also from non-religious and modern Orthodox families — are bused in, and spend more than eight hours a day with a staff of teachers and physical and occupational therapists.

There are computers, special therapeutic equipment (including customized boots that hold the feet straight to stretch spastic hamstrings), electric wheelchairs and catered meals for the children, whose parents pay a nominal NIS 100 to NIS 150 a month for care. The rest is covered by contributions from the Jerusalem Municipality, the ministries of Education and Labor and Social Affairs, and by private donors.

One of the most moving experiences, recalls Braitstein, was going into the building recently and seeing the whole staff and children overcome with emotion.

Marvin Samuels, a New York philanthropist, serves as president of the organization, and Canadian businessman Albert Reichmann is a member of the board.

ates a broad volunteer program that directly helps parents function on a daily basis.

Braitstein, now the father of 13, living in the Ramot quarter of Jerusalem, worries about what will happen when the youngsters reach the age of 18. "We will add extra classrooms as they get older, but when they reach adulthood, someone else will have to establish a place for them."

As it is, Tikvah Layeled has a long waiting list, and could double or triple the number of youngsters if it had the facilities. It only now received a donation to install an elevator in the building; until it is built, parents and therapists have

In addition to Neveh Zvi, Tikvah Layeled also supports the local production of children's wheelchairs and therapeutic workstations for free distribution to hospitals, institutions and private families. It also brings foreign medical experts here for training local doctors in the most advanced methods and operations, sponsors symposiums, provides personal family counseling, organizes CP parent support groups and operto carry them up the stairs.

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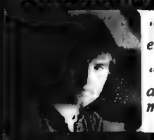
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Dr. Bruce Glazer has been elected president of the Association of Prosthodontics of Ontario. He is a member of the Beth Tzedec congregation and is married to Esther. They have four children attending university.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Editor's career in film began with a bar mitzvah gift

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — What started out as a childhood passion for Allan Novak has blossomed into a full-time career.

"Since I was 11, I have been obsessed with making movies and [creating] special effects. All I wanted for my bar mitzvah was a super-eight movie camera," says the 38-year-old editor of CBC's *The Newsroom*, a half-hour satire show about broadcast journalism written and directed by Ken Finkleman.

Novak, originally from Winnipeg, is a also a producer, writer and director. "As soon as I got that camera and began making comedy films in my basement, I knew I had found my calling. It is wonderful to have always been clear about what I wanted to do with my life. The thing I love to do is the thing I do best," he said in a recent telephone interview from his CBC office.

He broke into the industry, he said, after graduating from the film course at York University and he and a room-mate began producing comedy documentaries about house parties.

"I got my first directing job from those tapes. It was always out of passion that I have been successful," he said.

The Newsroom, which debuted last October and is showing its last new episodes until March 31, "is the best thing I've ever edited," says Novak. "I am very proud of it. [The show] is original and it has broken a lot of rules of situation comedies. It is fresh, satirical and real."

What is innovative about the show, he said, is that "while a lot of editing jobs merely require polishing, here, we rewrite in the editing room. Combining information in the editing process has infinite possibilities. We can run something backwards, add lines or drop scenes. I have been editing for 15 years and have never worked on a show where the footage has been so malleable. It turns [it] into something really special and the audience does not know what we've done. We have created ways of blending that really work."

Now that his work is complete on *The Newsroom*, Novak is producing, directing and editing a behind-the-scenes look at the series that should run in the fall. Also in the works is a show about the co-founders of Roots, the Canadian retailer and manufacturer.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Brother-sister classical music team a special treat

By MORDECHAI BEN-DAT
Editor

TORONTO — Very seldom at a duet performance of classical music does an audience see on stage obvious gestures of generosity and deference between performers.

But that was precisely what the audience witnessed between Gil and Orli Shaham last week at the George Weston Recital Hall of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

Gil Shaham, 26, has already established a following and an international renown as one of the world's most exciting, young violin virtuosos. He debuted at the age of 10 with the Jerusalem Symphony and the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra.

He has played with major symphony orchestras around the world including those in New York, Boston, Cleveland, Montreal, Berlin, Hamburg, Paris and Israel, to name only some.

He shared both spotlight and stage with his 21-year-old sister Orli at the piano last week in a four-piece program that began with Dvorak's *Sonatina in G for violin and piano, Op. 100*, ended with Dvorak's *Violin Sonata in F major, Op. 57*, and featured Beethoven's *Sonata No. 7 in C minor, Op. 30, No. 2* and Korngold's *Suite* from Shakespeare's *Much Ado about Nothing, Op. 11* in between.

Shaham dominated the stage, front and centre, vibrant and expressive, moving from time to time toward his co-performer and back toward the audience, a swaying mirror of the music's emotion.

The most evocative of the pieces was the first. It carried the listener across a range of emotions from the light, dancing pizzicato touches of the violin's bow to the stormy and more determined flourishes of the keyboard.

The Beethoven Sonata, the most serious and sonorous of the works, was also a showcase for the pleasant blending of musical voices.

Throughout the program, the violin phrasing was precise and expressive, a perfect entertainment for the marvellous acoustics of the chamber. At times, the inexperience of the pianist was evident in what this reviewer will call an excess of energy and enthusiasm. The sweep of the piano fortissimos overpowered the more delicate strains of the violin.

At the end of the evening, what the audience was left with was a sense of the effort and spirit that human beings must pour into a masterpiece, its mastery and the master. The young performers were called back by six curtain calls to perform two encores.

From where I sat, I could see Shaham's movements in the dreamy burnished reflection in the square, polished brass plate on the large double doors of the hall.

It was an appropriate symbol for the evening.

Ship of Fools has aged well

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Some movies age badly, mouldering into paragons of silly high camp. No such fate has befallen *Ship of Fools*, directed by Stanley Kramer in 1965, and scheduled to be aired on TVOntario on March 29 at 8 p.m.

Ship of Fools, adapted from Katherine Anne Porter's novel by Abby Mann, has navigated the inter-generational shoals skillfully, and remains as spellbinding as it was 32 years ago.

This literate, lavishly-appointed 150-minute slice-of-life film is as smooth as a tranquil pond, with beautifully-realized performances by a medley of European and American actors.

A German ocean liner sets off from a scruffy Mexican port, bound for Bremerhaven, Germany. It is 1933 and Adolf Hitler has just been appointed chancellor. Aboard the vessel is a mixed group of passengers, ranging from a coterie of Mexican sugar workers and a sleazy Spanish dance troupe to a simple American baseball player and an opinionated Nazi sympathizer.

In Kramer's hands, these diverse characters are putty, and he makes the best of the opportunity. *Ship of Fools* is thus a high-quality soap opera of sorts, a film which mercilessly exposes human foibles, foolishness, cruelties and vanities.

The narrator is a German dwarf (Michael Dunn) who acts as a compassionate observer of the pathos in his midst. He shares a supper table with a patriotic German Jew (Heinz Ruehmann) whose optimism about the future is pathetically misplaced. The latter tells a now-famous joke about Jews and bicycle riders which embodies his faith in humanity.

Jose Ferrer portrays an anti-Semitic German magazine publisher who sees in Hitler the dawn of a brighter era, while Oskar Werner plays the ship's melancholy doctor, a man who has a shipboard romance with Simone Signoret, a bedraggled drug addict.

The cast is rounded off by Vivien Leigh, a love-starved middle-aged coquette; George Segal, an artist with a social conscience; Elizabeth Ashley, his demanding girlfriend; and Lee Marvin, the ballplayer.

Ship of Fools, though, is not without its flaws. My major complaint is that it is padded; the editor should have been more ruthless in cutting away the fat from the bone. Be that as it may, *Ship of Fools* promises viewers an enjoyable voyage into turbulent waters.

In its wake, tune in to *Judgment at Nuremberg*, which Kramer directed four years earlier. Based on the 1946 war crimes trial of Nazi bigwigs, *Judgment at Nuremberg* is powered along by a stellar cast consisting of Spencer Tracy, Burt Lancaster, Maximilian Schell, Marlene Dietrich and Montgomery Clift. Abby Mann's screenplay crackles with energy.

Spotlight on counter-missionary

On March 26 at 7 p.m., Vision TV's *Skylight* series on proselytizing presents a segment about a Toronto Jew who embraced the Jews for Jesus movement, subsequently rejected it and founded Jews for Judaism.

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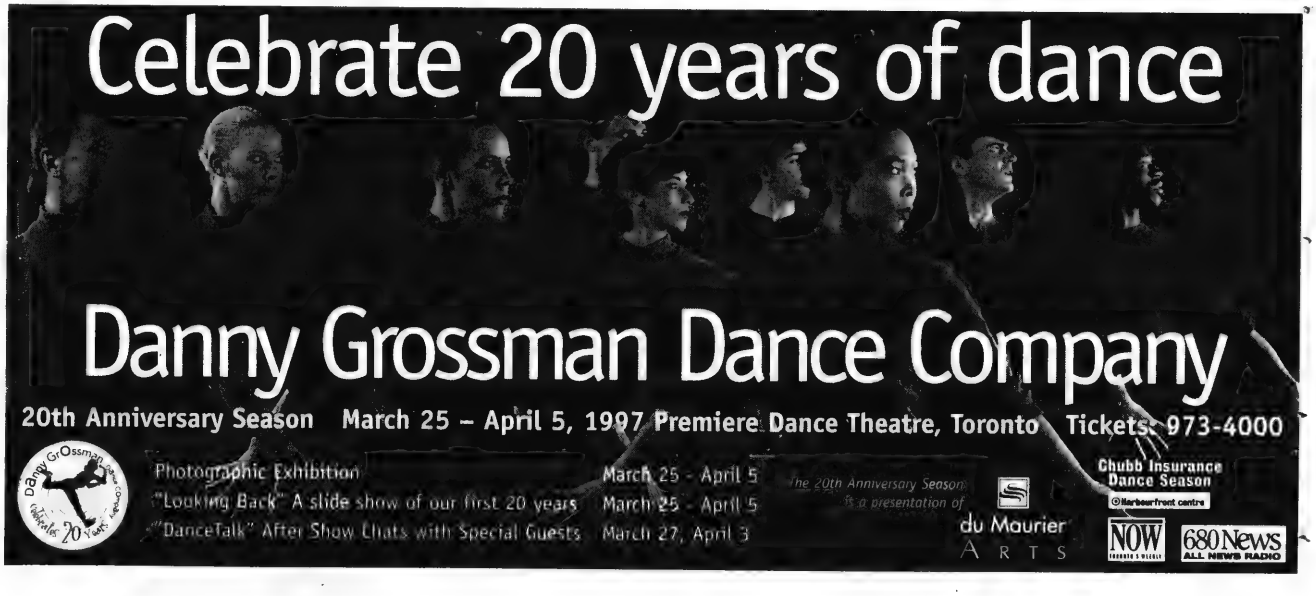
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

The original cast of *This Could Be The One!*

Theatre Notes

• *Arrhythmia & Blues*, a humorous play created by Catherine Hayos, Rena Polley and Howie Wiseman, is "a provocative tour of the human heart" set in a collapsing hospital system. Previews March 31 and runs April 1 to 20, 8 p.m. at the Theatre Centre, 1032 Queen St. W., Toronto. Tuesday to Thursday $14, Friday and Saturday $16, Sunday PWYC. 416-538-0988.

• Jewish Theatre Projects offers workshop performances of *This Could Be The One!* a play that explores the world of contemporary Jewish singles and the struggles they face in their search for love and happiness. Presented in conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre. March 29, 8:30 p.m. and March 30, 1 p.m. Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, North York. $5 in advance, $7 at the door.

Tickets available at the Jewish Singles Registry, 55 Eglinton Ave. E. #405, or by calling 905-882-9641.

• Livent Inc. is readying a production of *Candide*, directed by **Harold Prince** and starring **Andrea Martin**, for an April 29 opening at the Gershwin Theatre, New York. Previews begin April 19.

• Purim Spiel: What *really* happened the night Esther met the king? Find out with ventriloquist/performer **Judy Shier** and her two puppets. At the Free Times Cafe 320 College St., Toronto, March 30 noon and 1:30 p.m. For reservations call 416-967-1078.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• **Dos Yiddish Lied:** A Recital of Yiddish Folk and Art Songs featuring Cantor Louis Danto, at the Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto, April 6, 3 p.m. Adults $15. 416-789-3291.

Galas & Benefits

• The Annual PEN Benefit, John Bassett Theatre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. West, May 4. Silent auction and cocktail reception at 7 p.m., entertainment at 8:30 p.m. Funds support the activities of PEN Canada. $45. 416-872-1212 or 800-461-3333.

Jewish Museums

• Shaarei Shomayim's series of museum visits continues with a visit to the Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum, Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Toronto, April 8, 8 p.m. The museum houses the famous Cecil Roth collection of Judaica, including the Worms Machzor, a rare Hebrew manuscript of the Middle Ages, and almost 100 antique ketubbot. Individual programs, $8. Carol, 416-789-3213.

In The Spotlight

In Israel recently, I dropped into the offices of the *Jerusalem Report* and was surprised to meet 19-year-old **Matti Friedman**, who is not only a fellow Torontonian but also a fellow graduate of my alma mater, W. L. MacKenzie C.I. in north Toronto.

Turns out Matti has been hired in an intern position lasting until June. He's been reporting and writing for the magazine that he justly says offers "the best English-language reporting that comes out of Israel."

His family is planning to come to Israel in June for a residency of at least a year. By then, however, Matti expects to go into the army, since he's made aliyah and plans to live in Israel permanently.

Readers of *The CJN* may remember that Matti was the focus of an article a couple of years back. He won a Bronfman Youth Fellowship to attend a summer program in Israel after the 11th grade. His father, Ralph Friedman, teaches philosophy at the University of Toronto.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

A VISIT TO TAYBET ZAMAN

The desert night was cool and pure as spring water. Under cover of darkness, the sky had dropped the misty veil it had worn at twilight, revealing a vast black ocean studded with thousands of stars.

The bus was swaddled in a blackness broken only by our own and oncoming headlights and the occasional clustered lights of villages floating in the hills. A road sign announced Petra, the only indication that the ancient fabled city with its myriad rock-carved temples and tombs lay in the vicinity.

Soon we reached our destination, Taybet Zaman, perhaps the most distinctive new resort in the region, built on the site of an abandoned 19th-century village.

The architecture is a pleasing mix of grand stone arches and vaults, whitewashed plaster walls, marble floors, solid woodwork and rough-hewn sand-colored brick.

To reach my room, I headed through a cobblestone courtyard and a maze of narrow streets and stairways. Pushing open the heavy wooden door, I entered a generously-proportioned chamber with a high vaulted ceiling and heated stone floor. The room was simply furnished and dominated by a graceful stone arch. A television and mini-bar were hidden in a niche behind a curtain. The effect was instantly relaxing.

At one with its natural surroundings, Taybet Zaman offers an array of non-intrusive modern conveniences as well as restaurants and cafes, handicraft shuk, pool and fitness facilities, and a Hammam or Turkish bath.

"We were occupied by the Turks for 500 years," said general manager Osama Dabbas, "and during that time we learned to appreciate two things — Turkish coffee and Turkish baths."

Built by a Jordanian company, Taybet Zaman is one of many new hotels that have opened or are under construction in Jordan since the country's mid-1995 peace treaty with Israel. Lured by impressive statistics, international hotel chains like Hilton, Hyatt, Marriott, Movenpick, Radisson-SAS and Sheraton are building here.

In 1995 foreign visitors to Jordan increased by 25 percent to one million, and the number of annual visitors to Petra — bolstered by a rush of Israelis across the newly opened Arava border crossing between Aqaba and Eilat — more than doubled to 337,000.

Trying to keep abreast of the boom, the Jordanians are hectically installing water, electricity and other essential infrastructures at tourist sites across the country.

Having introduced numerous liberalizing economic and political reforms in recent years, the government seems as firmly committed to them as it is to peace with Israel, which has become a central plank of its three-pronged program for prosperity.

"We felt that the Madrid conference laid down the principal that the Arab-Israeli problem will be solved by peaceful means," said Dr. Marwan Muasher, head of the Ministry of Information. "We advocate a model that involves a warm peace and good relations between Jordan and Israel."

These days, an increasing number of North American Jewish groups are venturing into Jordan. At Taybet Zaman, I encountered a group of 22 travelers from Beth Am, a Reform congregation from Los Altos Hills, Calif., as they were leaving for a half-day excursion to Petra.

"This is some of the most beautiful country on earth, and there's much here of Jewish interest, such as Aaron's tomb and the relics of the Moabites and other biblical peoples," said group leader Rabbi Richard Block.

"We're planning to have a morning service at Petra."

Sure enough, a couple of hours later, as I stood atop a colossal ancient monument at Petra and looked across at the mountain where the biblical Aaron was supposedly buried, the strains of a Hebrew prayer — and in particular, the words Ya'aseh Shalom, "He will make peace" — wafted through the clear desert air from a group of singers under canopy far below.

Bill Gladstone travelled to Jordan and Israel at the invitation of the tourism ministries of both countries. He flew Toronto to Amman via Royal Jordanian and returned from Tel Aviv via Air Canada.

Wait there's more... Travel, Arts & Business continues on Page 51.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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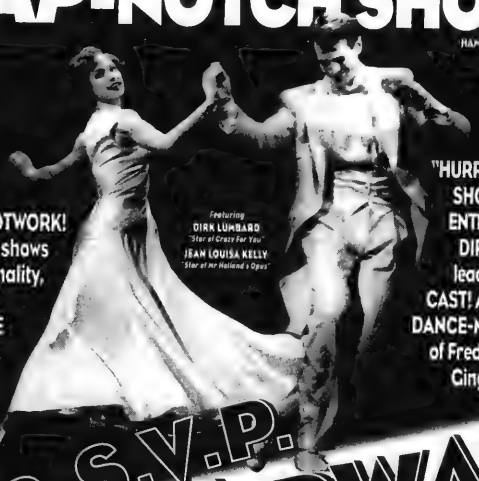
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4 bdrm., sep. liv. & din., fin. w/out bsmnt., steps to all!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

MILL ST.- BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!
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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

Bath. Manor, Sale by owner, gorgeous, spac. updated home, 6,000 s.f. of liv. space,5 bdrms., 3 bths., 2 1/2 bths. Brokers welcome, $469K. 398-1569.

6+ BDRMS - 2 ENSUITES

Bathurst Manor - renovated large home. Main flr. laundry & fam. rm. with fireplace & walkout, skylights, 5 baths, hardwood, professionally fin. bsmt with sauna, kitchen, 2 bdrms, 2-party-size rec rooms, wet bar. Dbl. garage, appl. & more. Walk to shuls & all amenities.
Asking **$398,000.**
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RYBAK REALTY LTD.
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DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
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Glencairn W. Subway Choice of 1-2-3 Bedrm. Fabulous View, Pool, Sauna, Parking! From $110,000 to $159,000

Bathurst/Glencairn $549,000 Fabulous Side Split, Shows to Perfection, Must be seen!

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath/Steeles, 3 bdrm. detached home, beaut. maint., fin. bsmt, new windows & driveway, much more. $229,9K, 905-764-6857.

E. of Bath./Atkinson, 4 bdrms., 2 1/2 bths, mn. flr. lndry.+ fam. rm, $359K. 905-771-7106.

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308', Arnold Ave., $675K, Private. 905-884-3847

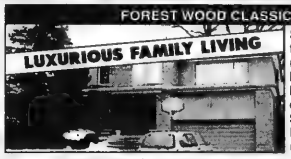
5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN

REALTY LIMITED

787-1712

FOREST WOOD CLASSIC



Spacious executive home, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, huge family room, library, attention to detail throughout, $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Close to subway. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $329,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING
Brand new executive home. 4 bedrooms, many upgrades, family room, close to subway. A MUST SEE at only $499,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN
Fabulous building lot. 70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home Fabulous location! Only $399,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

DANBY – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bedrooms, sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — FABULOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. rm., library, dream kit., shows to perfection! Only $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THORNHILL GEM – STEPS TO SYNAGOGUE

Bright & spacious, steps to synagogue, shows beautifully. Dream family room, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $349,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Custom built exec. home, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge fam. room with fireplace, library, 4 + 1 bdrms., loaded with upgrades, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE

51 foot frontage — rare opportunity! Mostly land value. Presently rented. Only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

GLEN PARK – REDUCED

Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

WILSON HEIGHTS / SHEPPARD – CUSTOM EXEC. HOME
2 years new, 4 + 1 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, finished bsmt., only $379,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR — LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!
Custom built spacious 4+1 bedroom, family room, fireplaces, approx. 4 years new, hardwood floors, skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Will be vacant! Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
North York & Thornhill
SPECIALIST

- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, balcony, lokr. 2 pkg. $229,900.
- 175 Ramblewood $299,900
- 124 Mcgillivray $239,900
- 460 Conley $359,900
- 9 Gorman Park $649,900

RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

BATHURST/FINCH - SAVOY Lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, East view, 2 w/o balc., prk., locker!

AVENUE RD./ RIDLEY Bright spac. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 5 appls., "best prk. spot"
PAULINE GOLD - 905-889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bath., 1400' sq. ft., 2 bdrm. + fam. rm., 2 baths, sol., secur., immed., all inclus., $1,450. 416-787-6886.

Bath. s. of 401, 2 bdrm. lux. condo., 2 baths, a/c, $1100/mo. May 1st. 638-9564 or 789-2733.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

3000 Bath./Lawrence - lux. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, brkfst. rm., sol., ensuite lndry., brdlm., gym, sauna, whirlpool, park, 24 hr. sec., utils. & pkg. incl., $1,777./mo. or Purchase at $239.5K. Please lve. msg. at 739-0105.

Bath./Clark, lux. s.e. corner condo., 2 underground pkg., lokr., secur., rec. facil. Call anytime, 905-881-8509.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

SJF, mid-twenties, n/smoker, seeks same to share large 2 bdrm. apt., Yonge/Eglinton. Vegetarian or kosher pref. 482-8905 or 784-9745.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Chabad Gate, furn. bsmt. apt. near shuls, pkg, n/smkr, inclus. $550./mo. 905-886-0153.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Full Summer Rental only, lux. prop. in prestigious area, 1 hr. from T.O. - Orillia area, 3 bdrm. lakefront cottage, fully furn., close to marina,wshr/dryr, 6 appls.,etc. Refs. must be supplied, serious inq. only. Call Mark 383-1666.

Orillia,3 bdr, lakefrnt,May 1st - July 12,grt. swimming,223-6824

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Muskoka cottages for rent this summer, fun family retreat, beach/play area, great for kids, sauna/more, scenic Sparrow Lake, 90 min. drive, reasonable rates: 905-731-0040.

Balfour Beach, Lake Simcoe, 40 mins. from T.O., 6 lge. bdrms., 2 full bths., fully furn., full kit., lndry., frplce. & deck, steps from great Day Camp. From July 27th. 416-601-5843.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Looking to rent mod. 3+ bdrms, on Lake Muskoka,for mo. of Aug. 636-9608.

123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT

Banff, Rocky Mtn. Resort, avail. May 18 - May 25/97(Victoria Long Wknd.),full bath, kit,TV, din rm,etc.905-882-9503

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, West Palm Beach, grnd. flr. condo., 2 bdrms., 2 bths, porch, overlks. stream, Oxford area, $36,900. U.S. Call 905-529-9110.

Lauderhill, lge. 1 bdrm. apt,1 1/2 baths, part. furn, encl. terrace, pkg, secur, close to all amen.954-739-0239, Mr.Brown.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Centre,bsmt,pkg, n/smkr, n/pets,$600.incl. 905-660-3886.

Bath./Clark, beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., sep. entr. & lndry., avail. Apr. 1. 905-761-0380.

Bath./Shepp.,1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. April 1st. 635-5031.

Shepp./Bath., 2 bdrm. apt. for rent above a store, very private, $900./mo. 638-2018.

Yonge/Shepp., lux. 2 bdrm.+ den, 1590' sq. ft. or 1 bdrm. + den, 1240' sq. ft. Call 226-5531

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

1 bdrm., (2 1/2 rms.), apt. in lovely residential area in **Jerusalem.** Reply to CJN Box 6898 or call Jeffrey at 011-972-2-624-5977 in Jerusalem.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished. Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED

Looking to rent apt. in Tel Aviv or suburb, 2-3 bdrms., for long duration. 416-730-1494.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Own Your Own Business! I'll show you how to operate your own successful business. As little as $25.00 gets you started. Call for complete details, no obligation. 416-336-0499.

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New Financial Services Co.opening branches in principal cities (*Canada & U.S.*). Will train, other language(s) helpful. No licensing, bonding or credit approval needed. 90-Day Trial Period. Staff of 6-7, each branch.

Send one page, memo style resumé of your past business experience, education, preferred location, etc. FAX: (416) 322-6371 *or* WRITE: MONEY MACHINE INC., 20 BAY STREET, NORTH TOWER, #1205, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5J 2N8.

ATT: **Mr. Geo. Pollack,** *President.*
All replies acknowledged; operations to commence APRIL-MAY/97

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

UPWARD DOOR SYSTEMS

Expanding manufacturer of commercial/industrial overhead doors is seeking additional personnel.

- Sales Representative with construction background & blueprint takeoff skills
- Service Dispatcher and Sales
- Administration/Financial Assistant

Please reply to:
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1094 Westport Crescent
Mississauga, Ontario
L5T 1G1

Fax: (905) 670-8453

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For more information please call:
Mr. George 416-635-6363
The Toronto Star

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

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238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Position avail. in Sept. for a Grade 6 Limudei Kodesh teacher in a "Tzioni Dati" school in T.O. Subjects incl: Chumash, Navi, Mishna, Gemara, Dinim & Safah. Candidates must be "Dover Ivrit" and able to teach in Ivrit. Send résumé to Principal, Netivot Hatorah Day School, 18 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C8 or send fax to: 905-771-1807.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Experienced Mgr. seeks work (1 day/wk.) with small bus. owner. Excell. organizational skills, refs avail,$12./hr.416-487-0986.

247 DAY CARE

Shepp./Bath., Mother of 2, offering Day Care in my home. A fun learning environ. 638-1866.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

Cleaning lady with exper. looking for a job. Call 285-8955.

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

European cleaning lady can clean your house/apt. 269-0365

European exper. lady looking for cleaning work, 532-4031.

Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. for Mon. & Wed. 416-231-3028 or 905-306-9026.

Filipino Nannies/Housekeepers,sponsor from Overseas, no fee to employer,OEA, 699-6931

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Looking for nannies from overseas for employment. Free of charge to employer 661-8385

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Maria's Gone Out On Her Own! Receive the **personal** touch! Live-in/live-out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, refs. **Call Maria's Domestics, 226-4325.**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS NEED A NANNY?
- **No Fee to Employer**
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
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- We have a 100% Approval rate!

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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?

CALL (416) 630-3773

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Need a Nanny/hskpr., live-out or in, warm, caring, reliable, n/smkr., for 2 kids, North York home,refs. req'd. 905-803-5929

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA available to take of elderly/companion/nanny. Live-out. Call 416-269-0726.

HCA seeks job working with elderly, live-out, refs. 653-2643.

Mature woman skilled in nursing care of convalescent &/or chronic care, exper. in Jewish environ.,excell. refs. 492-9112.

259 SENIORS

Reliable, caring driver & car avail. for seniors, reas., for appts., shopping, etc., min. 24 hr. notice. 416-782-1082.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together is the one-stop service that serves your needs. **Free** Consultation. 905-731-5204.

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appt's. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over 1300 registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.** 483-4151

Looking for a Spanish speaking Rabbi for wedding.969-8765

270 PERSONALS

Driver-companion wanted, n/smkr, male, to share cost & time driving to & from Florida, mid-April - mid-May, free Fla. accomm. Call 787-7308.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Prof., very attr., romantic, very youthful, early 40's single Mom who is health-conscious, enjoys sports, theatre, music, movies, walking & good conversation seeks tall, prof., emotionally healthy male under 45, with whom to share tomorrow. CJN Box 6904.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM, 36, slim, 6'0", kind, gentle, open & honest, into sports, comedy, dining out, etc. Seeks SJF, n/smkr,warm hearted, soft-spoken, sweet & petite for long-term relationship. Are you out there? Please incl. ph# & photo if poss. to CJN Box 6903.

Sleepless in Winnipeg. Warm, fun-loving, educ., tall, attr., 33 SJF, with a passion & zest for life, seeks sincere, open, educ. prof. SJM mensch, under 50 for long-term relationship. I'm willing to re-locate. Reply to: 4-433 River Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3L 2V1.

Woman of warmth, intelligence & spontanaity. Pretty, kind, fit, sensitive, 44, prof., well traveled, cultured, divorced, no dependents, seeks a suitable male with similar values & interests to cherish & share her life with. CJN Box 6902.

I have a beautiful brother, attr., gentle, 41, with a slight disability, who has dreams of meeting a caring,sensitive woman for long term relationship.691-6270

Tall, trim, attr. woman, post mid-life crisis, seeking estab., n/smking mensch who loves to laugh. Reply to CJN Box 6905.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted are valid for 30 days only (from issue date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.

330 OBITUARIES

GOLDBERG, Dr. John, On Wednesday, March 12, 1997, peacefully and surrounded by his loved ones. Beloved son of Mrs. Toby (Thelma) Goldberg, Loving husband of Ruth (Gwartzman). Adored father and father-in-law of Dr. Chaim Goldberg & Chavi, Maria Figdor and Shmuel, Cara Goldberg Marks (Los Angeles), Drs. Ronn and Sara Goldberg, Yechezkel (Scotty) Goldberg and Shifra (Jerusalem), and Dr. John's adored daughter Nesya. J.J. is loved and will always be remembered by his precious grandchildren. Beloved brother of irving and Sheldon Goldberg. **"Just as his seed lives on - so does he live on".**
Sincere appreciation and thanks to Dr. Brent Zanke and the nursing and medical teams of the 14th floor and Short Stay Unit of Princess Margaret Hospital. Their constant care and compassion will be forever cherished. In recognition of Dr. John Goldberg's life, donations may be made to The Dr. John Goldberg Cancer Care and Research Fund, c/o Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, 610 University Avenue, Toronto, M5G 2M9 or to The Dr. John Goldberg Memorial Fund, c/o Mizrachi, 296 Wilson Ave., North York, M3H 1F8.

330 OBITUARIES

SZWIMER, Miriam - on February 26, 1997, late of 34 Carscadden Ave.
COHEN, Rachel - on February 27, 1997, late of 4415 Bathurst St.
GUSTIN, Charlotte - on February 27, 1997, late of 69 Fairway Heights Dr.
GORBET, Sarah - on February 28, 1997, late of 485 15th Ave.
JORDAN, Toby - on February 28, 1997, late of 110 Bloor St. W., #1507.
MAGDER, Lillian - on February 28, 1997, late of 4001 Bayview Ave., #1105.
LUDWIG, Gertrude - on March 1, 1997, late of 66 Burncrest Dr.
MORRIS, Saul - on March 1, 1997, late of 135 Antibes Dr., #1506.
ZOLTYNSKI, Rita - on March 1, 1997, late of 155 Marlee Ave., #1611.
GOLDHAR, Jack - on March 2, 1997, late of 2075 Bayview Ave.
GREENBAUM, Fred - on March 2, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W., #1507.
ISENBERG, Sheila - on March 2, 1997, late of 76 Chumleigh Cres.
UNGER, Helen - on March 3, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St., #204.
BURSTYN, Esther - on March 4, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
SCHWARTZ, Harry - on March 5, 1997, late of 55 Skymark Dr., #1804.
WALDMAN, Goldie - on March 5, 1997, late of 95 Oxford St.
KAMIN, Pearl - on March 6, 1997, late of 1085 Steeles Ave. W.
SLOZBERG, Hy - on March 7, 1997, late of 82 Almore Ave.
KEZWER, Morris - on March 9, 1997, late of 21 Deevale Rd.
GOLDBLUM, Morris - on March 10, 1997, late of 240 Heath St. W., #102.
TENNEBAUM, Dr. Gary - on March 10, 1997, late of 56 Wimpole Dr.
DOCTOROW, Betty - on March 10, 1997, late of 240 Heath St. W., PH #1.
HELFAND, Clara - on February 28, 1997, late of 103 1/2 Grace St.
TURFRYER, Harry - on February 28, 1997, late of 775 Steeles Ave. W.
TEITEL, Julius - on March 1, 1997, late of 58 Goddard St.
MARKOVICS, Joseph - on March 2, 1997.
WAGSCHAL Maurice David - on March 2, 1997, late of 414 Rosemary Rd.
SMURSZ, Abraham - on March 4, 1997, late of 120 Shelborne Ave.
LEDERMAN, Sarah - on March 5, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.
BERLESCU, Ita - on March 6, 1997.
ELVEY, Brahm - on March 6, 1997.
GOROVITS, Zina - on March 7, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
KAWARSKY, Aileen - on March 7, 1997.
RACHAMIN, Yitzchak - on March 7, 1997, late of 124 Babcombe Dr.
KHILGUIAEVA, Svetlana - on March 8, 1997.
RICHARDS, Alfred - on March 8, 1997.
COHN, Gerd Jerry - on March 9, 1997.
ECKLER, Rae - on March 9, 1997.
STERN, Endre - on March 9, 1997, late of 155 Marlee Ave.
BENDERSKY, Stephen - on March 10, 1997.
DAVID, Goodman - on March 10, 1997.
LEIDER, Pearl - on March 10, 1997, late of 350 Walmer Rd.
AIKEN, Henry Herman - on March 11, 1997, late of 64 Driftwood Ave.
FRIEDMAN, Edith - on March 12, 1997.
GOLDBERG, John - on March 12, 1997, late of 15 Denmark Cres.
ZWEIG, Toba - on March 13, 1997.
DWORKIN, Sally - on March 15, 1997.
ZYLBERBERG, Michal - on March 15, 1997.
SHUSTERMAN, Bronya - on March 16, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MICHAEL NOVAK ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 6th, 11:00 a.m.

Roselawn Cemetery
Apter Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved

SARAH HARRIS ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 6th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst St. South of Steeles)
Clanton Park Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MAX SAFER ז"ל

father of Barbara Glatt, Roslyn Dunkelman, Ellen Elmaleh & Jay Safer

will take place

Sunday, March 30th at 2:00 p.m.

Dawes Road Cemetery
Stashover Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
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SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
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357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
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370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
395 ELECTRICAL
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
435 LIQUIDATION
436 LOCKSMITH
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
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478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
505 TYPING/WORD PROCESSING
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
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530 WINDOW CLEANING
550 WORKSHOPS

The Jewish World

French Jews condemn attack on mosque

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — France's Jewish community voiced its sympathy with local Muslims after a crude bomb ripped through a mosque in northeast Paris, slightly injuring its caretaker.

CRIF, France's umbrella group for secular Jewish organizations, said in a statement issued hours after last week's pre-dawn explosion in the Al-Dawsa Mosque that it "vigorously condemns" the attack and "expresses all of its sympathy to the Muslim community aggrieved by this cowardly act. CRIF hopes that the guilty [are found] as quickly as possible," the statement added.

The mosque's caretaker suffered minor hand injuries in the blast. Two other people were treated for shock.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

Police suspect that the bomb, a fire extinguisher stuffed with explosives, was planted either by French extremists or by Algerian Islamic fundamentalists.

It was the first attack at a Paris mosque since the 1995 shooting death of an imam, or Islamic cleric.

The shooting presaged a wave of bombings in France that year by Muslim extremists who accuse the French government of backing Algeria's military rulers.

Eight people died and nearly 200 were injured in the extremists' subsequent terror campaign.

More recently, a bomb planted in an underground train killed four people last December. The explosives were of the type used in the 1995 bombings.

The head of the Al-Dawsa Mosque, Kechat Larbi, is known as a liberal who has promoted relations with other religions.

Local residents said leaflets had been distributed in the neighborhood in the week before the attack demanding that he take a more traditional stance.

While suspecting Islamic extremists, police did not rule out the possibility that the bombing was the work of racists.

The extreme right-wing National Front staged several protests in recent months against plans to build an extension to the mosque.

The anti-immigrant party advocates expelling France's three million mostly North African immigrants and reserving jobs and welfare benefits for French nationals.

Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, who won 15 percent of the vote in France's 1995 presidential elections, has made anti-Semitic remarks in past speeches.

Three fascists jailed

By DEBORAH LEIPZIGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Three members of the fascist group Combat 18 were jailed last week for inciting racial hatred.

The three men pleaded guilty to charges of possessing "threatening, abusive or insulting material." The three had literature with precise instructions for making bombs.

They were ordered jailed for between 12 and 17 months.

Combat 18 states that its aims are to "ship all non-whites back to Africa, Asia, Arabia, alive or in body bags, the choice is theirs."

Another aim is "to execute all Jews who have actively helped to damage the white race and to put into camps the rest until we find a solution for the eternal Jew."

Combat 18 was involved in a campaign targeting high-profile sports and theater personalities for their friendships with Jews. Other targets had married partners of a different race.

Such campaigns have given Combat 18 a higher profile in the past few months.

According to Tony Lerman of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, Combat 18 has received a sudden "burst of publicity."

Lerman believes that Combat 18 is following a pattern similar to other groups in Europe. Because of the failure of the extreme right to influence governments, fascist groups are developing a more violent rhetoric in order to get their message across.

Several anti-fascist groups complained that the sentences were too lenient. Lerman maintains that the three arrests were significant.

"Police have been taking the matter seriously," he said. "It is a difficult balance because the police do not want to make martyrs out of them."

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Israeli juniors face anti-Semitic incidents at tourney

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For the second time in three months, anti-Semitic incidents swirled around an Israeli hockey team competing in an International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) tournament in Europe.

Israeli youngsters playing in an IIHF Pool D Under-18 tournament in Belgrade were taunted with epithets like "effing Jew" and one Israeli player was spit upon outside the dressing room during a game against the host Yugoslavs.

In addition, Yugoslav fans threw firecrackers and at least one chair at young hockey players from Iceland, Turkey and Spain who cheered for the Israelis. Police were called upon to break up that situation and several of the pro-Israel fans left the arena with a police escort.

After the game, the Israelis also received a security escort from the arena, said Paul Rosen, who escorted eight young players from Toronto to Belgrade for the tournament.

Israel's Under-18 team finished fourth at a recent IIHF tournament in Belgrade. Seen here, top row (from left), are: Jeff Budd, manager, Barry Goldberg, sports therapist, Victor Vatebski, Ilan Aliya, Dekel Blum, Paul Rosen, trainer, Max Birbraer, Gill Brenner, Simeon Yacobovitz, coach, Idan Aizenfish, Lev Kovner, Elan Zusman, Jonathan Goldberg, Brad Bloch, Jordan Kadlovsky and Larry Vyborg. Second row (from left): Kobe Zion, Sharon Peretz, Guy Peled, Bryant Frydberg, Nisan Boutboul, Erez Eizenman and Eitan Adler. Bottom row (from left): Sergei Ostrovski and Yossi Asraf.

Security officials expected there might be trouble at the tournament as a spillover from a recent Under-20 competition in Sofia, Bulgaria, Rosen said. At that event in late December, Yugoslav players used racial insults like "dirty Jew" and "We're going to finish what Hitler started." After Israeli protests to the referee and linesmen fell on deaf ears, the game ended with an on-ice brawl during which the Israelis beat up on their tormentors.

Unlike the situation in Sofia, the incidents in Belgrade originated with fans in the arena and not with the players on the ice, Rosen said.

"You could tell the Yugoslavs did not like Israel," he said. There was a bad feeling in the air. They were upset and we were in their backyard. They knew they could abuse us with impunity."

Riki Goldberg, whose son Jonathan was on the team, said despite the incidents, the situation in Belgrade was an improvement over events in Sofia. The Yugoslav players were better behaved than in Bulgaria and police acted quickly to calm the situation when fans threw firecrackers and a chair at those fans who cheered for Israel, she said.

Goldberg said she made her allegiances clear during the game by waving an Israeli flag and cheering on the team and all she experienced was dirty looks from nearby fans. She left the game early to accompany the two injured boys to hospital, she added.

The crowd seemed to intimidate the referee, Rosen said. After Israel jumped into a 2-0 first period lead, he called a penalty shot (which Rosen said was unwarranted) followed by five penalties in a 3½-minute span.

"It was unbelievable. At that point, all we wanted to do was to get out of the game and vie for the silver medal," he said.

Yugoslavia went on to win 14-2 and cut short Israel's gold medal hope. Going into that game, the boys in blue and white had defeated Turkey 13-0 and Iceland 9-5.

For Jonathan Goldberg, a right winger, the highlight of the game with Yugoslavia was the euphoria he felt after Israel jumped ahead 2-0 and followed that up with a save on the penalty shot. But "when you know the ref is favoring the other team so much, it's hard to get into the game," he said.

Bryant Frydberg, 17, a teammate of Goldberg's with the Thornhill Selects, said, "The refs were very prejudiced against us."

An assistant captain with the Israeli team, Frydberg said "They wouldn't talk to us at all. They said, 'no English.' Versus Yugoslavia, we were up 2-0 and you can't beat the home team in Yugoslavia...The refs were definitely against us."

Frydberg acknowledged, however, that the Yugoslavs were the best team in the tournament. They were all 17, very big and good stickhandlers and skaters, he said.

In their fourth game, Israel and Spain skated to a 3-3 tie, eliminating them from silver medal contention. That game was particularly disappointing for Frydberg, because Spain tied it on a shot he maintains rang off the crossbar, but it was called a goal by the referee and the goal judge.

In their last game against Bulgaria, the Israelis ran out of gas and lost 5-3. Rosen said the team lost two of its best players, Torontonian Erez Eizenman and Israeli Sharon Peret with injuries in the game against Yugoslavia. Neither injury was caused by a Yugoslav player, he said.

Playing with a short bench (although 20 players dressed, Israel relied heavily on two five-man units), with four 14-year-olds in the lineup and for the fifth time in six nights, the Israelis tired early and couldn't keep up with the opposition, Rosen said. They finished the tournament in fourth place out of six teams, behind Yugoslavia, Spain and Bulgaria.

Israel's goalie, Sergei Ostrovski, a Russian oleh, was named the tournament's best netminder, for the second year in a row.

Goldberg, a Grade 12 student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, had mixed feelings about the event. "It was a lot of fun, but it was disappointing. I think we were the second best team in the tournament and we came in fourth."

Despite the difficult game against Yugoslavia, the boys enjoyed much of their foreign adventure, Rosen said. In Belgrade, they visited the local Holocaust museum, went to the synagogue, met with members of the local community and with the Israeli ambassador.

On the way home, they stopped in Rome and visited the Vatican and the Colosseum.

In addition to Frydberg, Goldberg and Eizenman, other Canadian-Israelis who played in the tournament included Elan Zusman, Victor Vatebski, Gill Brenner, Brad Bloch and Jordan Kadlovsky.

Canadian Jeff Budd, who works as head of volunteers at the ice rink in Metulla, served as the team's manager while Russian oleh Simeon Yacobovitz was the coach.

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Rodman now big giver

By TODD WINER
Chicago Jewish News

CHICAGO — Embattled Chicago Bulls star Dennis Rodman has announced he will donate paycheques from 11 games to 11 different charities.

One of the lucky recipients is the Jewish United Fund (JUF) of Metropolitan Chicago, which can be expected to receive in excess of $50,000.

Rodman, best known for his tattoos, pierced body parts and multicolored hair, took the selected charities by surprise, telling the media before officially informing the organizations.

"It was a most welcome surprise," said Steven Nasatir, president of the JUF, the local Jewish federation. "In Jewish tradition, there is a significant emphasis on repentance."

Rodman was suspended by the NBA after kicking a courtside cameraman. He lost some $1.5 million in salary and incentives as a result of the 11-game suspension.

The Inside Back

TECHNICOLOR DREAMIN'

Members of the Charactors Theatre Troup (Travelling Division) in Thornhill bone up for their appearance in *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, which re-opened in Toronto two weeks ago. The division, made up of 23 children, was chosen to perform the "Entr'acte" and a movement improvisation in the show. Although star Donny Osmond is slated to leave the show after May 25, 1997, *Joseph* has been extended until August 3, 1997.

Holocaust play honors mums

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Mothers were honored in an unusual way in the new production of *My Mother's Courage*, about a woman who escaped the Holocaust.

The play put on by the Theatre Asylum group includes stories about their mothers by the cast, director and production team, in addition to some excellent, touching poetry and prose about the Holocaust.

The story of how her mother was born in Cherson, between Russia and Poland, in 1944, in wretched conditions in a house, because she was afraid to go to a hospital where no Jewish babies survived, was recounted by assistant director Romy Shiller.

Jennifer Herszman Capraru told of how her grandmother, Fajga Moskowitz, sent her daughter (the director's mother) to hide for four years in Belgian orphanages. "Now I've started using her name [Herszman] sometimes," she writes.

Actor Richard Partington said his mother saved him from drowning at Bournemouth, England, when he was four years old.

Her mother, who was living in England at the time, was married to a missionary. When he developed leprosy in India in 1943, she flew to his side, despite urgings from friends not to do so, writes actor Elizabeth Shepherder.

Actor Tom Barnett praises the courage of his mother in giving up a theatre career to raise a family of five children.

Suffering from a cancerous brain tumor, the mother of actor Lauren McKinley Renzetti fought death so courageously that she survived three days in a coma after life supports were removed. "Her grip on my father's hand never weakened until the very, very, very end."

Actor Margaret Lamarre wrote: "Today, with our freedom to choose, it is an act of courage to accept a pregnancy, not to mention, the process of labor and birth."

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
— PASSOVER —
CARROT APPLE KUGEL
WE SELL Inglis FOR LESS

4 cups very finely shredded carrots
1/4 cup sugar
1 tsp lemon juice
1/2 cup slivered almonds toasted
1 —1 1/2 cups finely shredded apples
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
1 tsp grated lemon peel
1/3 — 1/2 cup matzo meal (the amount depends on the liquid produced from the grated carrots and apples - the more liquid the more matzo meal you need.)

Topping: 1/4 cup toasted almonds

Combine all ingredients (except toasted almonds for topping) and mix until thoroughly moistened. If mixture appears too firm add a tablespoon or two of vegetable oil. Transfer mixture to a baking dish of your choice.

Make a topping: ground almonds, or brown sugar & cinnamon sprinkled on top.

Bake at 350°F for 20-30 minutes checking frequently. Remove from oven when it starts turning a light golden brown.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favourite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,
My father died two months ago. My mother is almost 84 years old and wants to continue living in her own home. My brothers and I are nervous about her living alone. We are planning to hire someone to live with her and we will insist that she accept our decision. Are we not justified? We love her very much.

MB

Dear MB,
It is important for you to discuss your wishes with your mother. If she is well enough to live on her own, she is well enough to determine her own living arrangements. Perhaps, if she knows you will rest easier if someone is with her, she might agree to try it. Then, she has the choice of satisfying you or maintaining her privacy. Be diplomatic.

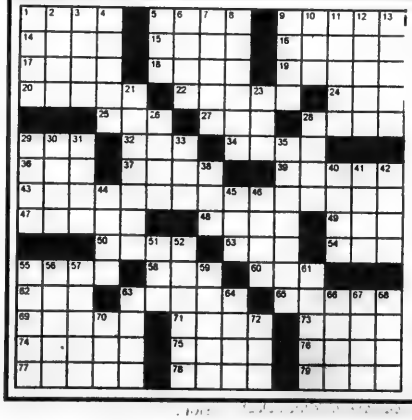
Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

The Canadian Jewish news

Our next community contest will be for Yom Ha'atzmaut. Stay tuned for details.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across
1. "Mr. __". Lorre film
5. Israeli silver medalist
9. New and Damascus
14. King of Israel
15. Actor Wilder
16. Make aliyah
17. Bellow or Raskin
18. Tsitsit site
19. Midler
20. Tu B' Shevat plantings
22. Danites or Edomites
24. That one
25. Usurious word
27. Moe Berg stat
28. Amy Alcott needs
29. Meshuggeneh (Eng)
32. Heard at a shiva
34. Apiece
36. Hamantasch?
37. Actor James
39. Shema starter (2wds)
43. Ron Blomberg (3wds)
47. Havdalah spices
48. Shatner to friends
49. Played Maude
50. Mayor Olmert
53. Bet (Eng)
54. B'nai B'rith Org.
55. Shamsky goal
58. Tisha B'av mood
60. Degania to Haifa
62. Son of Gad
63. Author Meyer
65. Mauri Rose need
69. "Chad__" song
71. Seth's boy
73. Shoe base
74. Abraham once
75. Resnik's Org.
76. Poet Lazarus
77. Hebrew letter
78. Noah's boy
79. Observe Shabbat

Down
1. Greatest
2. Son of Esau
3. Accurate
4. Chanukkah lamps
5. Stone or Bronze
6. Shiva clothes
7. Previn
8. Samson for Delilah
9. "Kotter" star
10. Exist
11. Give a tenth
12. Lauder
13. Micah and Isaiah
21. Harvest festival
23. Top for Gottex
26. Byzantine and Hellenistic
28. Those people
29. Biblical fishing gear
30. Reform Judaism Org.
31. Life or Knowledge
33. Slang affirmation
35. Shabbas stew?
38. Year or moon
40. Father (Heb.)
41. Moses' camouflage
42. Talmud. __ Law
44. Eddie Cantor position
45. Rickles specialty
46. Used a shofar
51. Employ
52. Prays
55. Bore biblically
56. Palestinians
57. Torah portion
59. Levi's sister
61. Solomon
63. Jacob after the angel
64. Schnozz (Eng)
66. Empire over Israel
67. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
68. Knesset position
70. Pointer (Heb)
72. Goldwyn to friends

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 45.)

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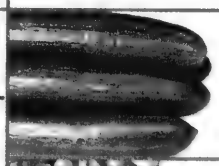

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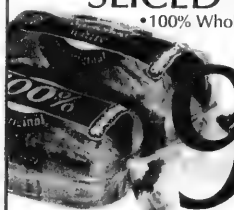

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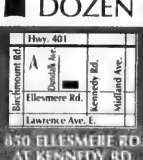

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foodfacts

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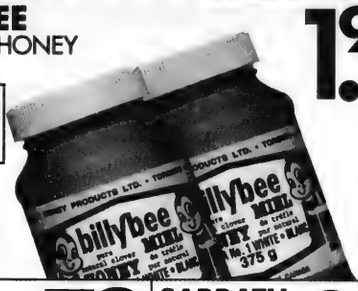

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Tensions high at demonstration outside Palestine House. *Page 3*

B'nai Brith Canada and Simon Wiesenthal Centre join forces to bring Nazis to justice. *Page 5*

Har Choma development may reinvigorate peace process, Israeli analyst says. *Page 6*

On Campus

Students and seniors benefit from intergenerational program. *Page 20*

Passover Food

Healthy eating means making informed food choices and keeping your nutritional goals in mind. *Page 27*

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Unrest destabilizes peace

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Israeli-Palestinian peace process appears to have sunk deeper into a morass.

Palestinian unrest has spread and Arab states have called for turning back the clock on relations with Israel.

As violent protests against Israel's construction of a new Jewish neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem entered their second week, clashes between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians erupted in most Palestinian population centres in the West Bank.

Tensions increased last Sunday after a Palestinian student was killed in the unrest and as Israeli security officials braced for the annual observance by Palestinians of Land Day, when protests are held against land expropriations and other Israeli policies.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, spoke of a "virtual collapse of the peace process" and called for a Palestinian commitment to curb violence and crack down on terror.

"We want to see a peace process where terrorism is simply put out of the picture," he said on CBS TV's *Face the Nation*.

Netanyahu made a similar demand on the Palestinians when he met last week with U.S. special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross, who also held a separate meeting with Palestinian Authority (PA) leader Yasser Arafat.

Ross returned to Washington to review the discussions with Clinton administration officials.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was expected to visit the region to present a new American initiative aimed at breathing life into the peace process.

The initiative is expected to include the following key points:

• Emphasis will be placed on the war against terror. The PA will be required to take real steps on the ground against terrorist organizations and to tighten security cooperation with Israel. The formation of an American-Israeli-Palestinian special forum on the war against terror is under consideration.

Continued on page 42

Israeli soldiers try to suppress Palestinian rioters last week. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Conversion bill causes stir

North American rabbis react

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Israeli cabinet's decision to bar the legal recognition of Conservative and Reform conversions performed in Israel has caused concern in Canada.

The Israeli cabinet has agreed to a legislative initiative that would require all conversions in Israel to be approved by the Orthodox rabbinical courts.

A direct appeal to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reconsider his "implicit support" of the move was made by Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple.

At the same time, the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism said it was opposed to a proposal by a Knesset member to keep the status quo.

Please see related story on page 41.

"The status quo is not the same as it was 50 years ago. There is less tolerance today by Orthodox Jewry in Israel towards other branches of Judaism," said executive director Rabbi Paul Golomb.

Opposition to the ban on non-Orthodox conversions was also expressed by Rabbi Jerome Epstein of New York, executive vice-president of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the association of Conservative congregations in North America.

"We say this is no solution," said Rabbi Einat Ramon of the Conservative/Masorti movement in Israel that opposes the proposal to temporarily restore the status quo, made by a Knesset member on behalf of the government coalition.

"It's just pushing the problem underneath the carpet," Rabbi Ramon said.

Continued on page 5

INSIDE

In preparation for Passover, see our special food section.
Please see page 26.

Arafat's political strategy — please see page 9

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

Doctorate For Hussein

JERUSALEM — Israel's Institute of Technology will award an honorary doctorate degree to King Hussein of Jordan "in recognition of his leadership, contributions and commitment to peace in the Middle East."

The degree will be presented in June. At the same time, the Technion will dedicate a laboratory and an academic chair in the field of water research in memory of the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

WORLD

Bombing Condemned

PARIS — France's Jewish community voiced its sympathy with local Muslims after a crude bomb ripped through a mosque in northeast Paris, slightly injuring its caretaker.

CRIF, France's umbrella group for secular Jewish organizations, said in a statement issued hours after the pre-dawn explosion in the Al-Dawsa Mosque that it "vigorously condemns" the attack and "expresses all of its sympathy to the Muslim community aggrieved by this cowardly act."

Nazi Judgment

CHICAGO — U.S. District Judge David Coar will decide this month whether Bronislaw Hajda, 73, of Schiller Park, Ill., lied to U.S. immigration officials about his alleged service in the Nazi SS during World War II.

If convicted, Hajda, a retired machinist, will lose his U.S. citizenship and could face deportation to his native Poland. Hajda immigrated to the United States in 1950 and became a citizen in 1955.

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Special Investigations suspects Hajda of serving as an armed guard at the Treblinka labor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland and participating in the one-day massacre of hundreds of Jews when the camp was liquidated July 23, 1944.

Reconstructionist Rabbis

DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla. — The annual conference of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association recently took place with the overall topic Rabbi as educator: envisioning Jewish education for the 21st century.

Sessions focused on creating and implementing personal visions for congregations to meet the changing needs of North American Jews.

Diaspora Students Sought

NEW YORK — Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and the World Union for Progressive Judaism have established the Beit Midrash/A Liberal Yeshiva in Jerusalem.

The program for recent college graduates will address concerns of the modern world, combining traditional Torah study with a liberal, egalitarian spirit.

For more information call 914-949-0312.

Yeltsin Praised

MOSCOW — Russian Jews are praising President Boris Yeltsin for giving Russia's stalled market reforms a decided boost with the appointment of several reform-minded liberals to key posts in his new government.

Yeltsin's decision to appoint Boris Nemtsov, who is Jewish, as first deputy prime minister is seen by many as the most notable change in the cabinet, one that may result in decisive steps to solve Russia's major social and economic ills.

Moscow Rejects Bill

MOSCOW — Russian Jewish leaders and anti-fascist activists are voicing deep concern over the lower house's opposition to a measure to bar fascist propaganda.

The bill was rejected by Communists and ultranationalists, who make up more than half of the Parliament's lower house, known as the Duma.

Some of the measure's opponents described the bill as "Zionist."

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday March 31, 1972

ISRAEL DENOUNCES UN'S CENSURE VOTE

Israel denounced as slanderous and invalid a resolution passed last week by the United Nations' Human Rights Commission charging the Jewish state with "war crimes and an affront to humanity" in its administration of the captured Arab territories.

The resolution also demanded that Israel restore what it called the human, religious and property rights of the residents of the territories and asserted that Israeli settlements in or annexations of the territories were forbidden.

ONTARIO WILL SUBSIDIZE BAYCREST'S RESIDENTS

Nearly 300 residents at Baycrest Home for the Aged in Toronto are going to receive substantial benefits under Ontario's extended medicare scheme, effective April 1. There are 374 beds at the home.

The government plans to pay $9 a day for all Baycrest residents who require a large enough degree of nursing care to qualify for the plan. The patient must pay additional charges above $9.

It is estimated the cost to the government will be approximately $2,500 a day.

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Relations deteriorate between Jewish, Arab student groups

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish students at the University of Toronto are becoming increasingly fed up with Arab student groups over what they see as a continued hard line towards Israel, lack of sensitivity to Jewish concerns and repeated rebuffs at efforts to foster better relations. Nevertheless, the Jewish Students Union (JSU) will continue to reach out to Arab students and attempt to "build a relationship," said JSU program director Lance Davis.

Scuffle at Palestine House

See page 7

A different approach was adopted by students from the Betar-Tagar movement, who last week picketed a speaking engagement featuring former U.S. Congressman Paul Findley, an outspoken critic of Israel.

The Jewish student group titled their protest "Palestinian terror bombing is a human rights violation" in response to Findley's topic of discussion, "Life after the Oslo Accords; are the rights of Palestinians being respected."

Pini Ravid, director of Betar-Tagar, which is affiliated with Likud Canada, said the protest was in response to the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv and was an attempt to shift the focus from Israel-bashing to the Palestinian perpetrators of atrocities.

While about a dozen Betar-Tagar students demonstrated peacefully outside the lecture theatre, 200 students gathered inside the Medical Science auditorium. The overwhelming majority identified with the Palestinian movement, many wearing kefiyehs and other Arab clothing, said Davis, who along with a few other JSU students, monitored the lecture. "It was a lot of anti-Zionist propaganda," he said. "It wasn't a conciliatory crowd. My feeling was that no one wanted to bend at all."

Although the protest was organized by a right wing student group, other students at the Jewish Students Union have recently expressed exasperation at what they consider provocative and insensitive Arab programming.

At a recent Arab Culture Week, a highly politicized display presented by a Palestinian student group at a prominent location attacked Israel. The text in part of the display stated "the SS were responsible for the majority of German war atrocities, comparable to those committed by the Zionists." The JSU, believing the display contained hate literature, complained to campus police, but no charges were laid

At a recent storytelling event which included storytellers from the Celtic, Jewish, Arab and native groups, only the Arab storyteller told a highly political story that explicitly attacked Israel.

And at least three times, Arab student groups have pulled out of joint Jewish/Arab programs at the last minute, forcing cancellation of the event, Davis said.

The result has been increasing frustration among Jewish students and a growing attitude against re-

[Cont'd. on page 17]

Students with the Betar-Tagar movement demonstrate against an "Israel-bashing" lecture last week at the University of Toronto.

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Greater Toronto Area

Our 'precious stones' are beyond price

At the end of this month, our children at college, university and other post-secondary school places of study will be in the middle of a torturous, two-week test of endurance called exams. Regardless of the school, the course of study or the year of study, the pressure on them will be severe. Exams, though unpleasant, sometimes extremely so, are an unavoidable part of the experience.

In the manner so customary to parents, we reach for a penetrating, if convenient piece of wisdom to share with our children. We tell them, unconvincingly, the experience of exams may indeed stand them in good stead in later years. The stress of exams, we advise rather implausibly and without looking directly into their anxious faces, is merely part of the stress of life. And in any event, they have no choice but to write them.

Even with exams, however, we know that this period in their young lives in the "open," intellectually challenging and socially engaging environment of college or university will be memorable.

Our children are charting their own personal "life" courses.

They are staking out the foundation of a career path, though that path will constantly evolve in the unfolding fullness of time.

They are forming new friendships and new relationships, many of them to last a lifetime.

They are accommodating new ideas and concepts.

They are confirming and affirming old ideas and concepts.

They are contending with people — students and professors — whose causes and slogans may be anathema if not even threatening.

They are refining the unfinished clay of themselves into the intellectual, cultural, social and spiritual shapes by which the world will know them and, more importantly, by which they, ultimately, will know themselves.

No matter how loving and supportive the parents' home, the post-secondary school period of our children's lives is critically important — like a kiln hardening into final form the confidences, the doubts, the discoveries and the many causes that contending forces have fashioned into self-asserting, individualistic, human shape.

As Jewish parents, we hope and pray that our children will cherish and adopt into their own lives, the values, customs and traditions of Judaism.

But what do we do — as individuals and as a community — to give our children, and thus us too, the best chance that they will in fact "cherish and adopt into their own lives, the values, customs and traditions of Judaism?"

At this critically important stage in their lives, do our children have the benefit on campus of positive Jewish influences, of inspiring Jewish role models, of meeting places where they can come together with their peers to discuss, argue, debate, or sing, or dance?

It is against this backdrop that I wish to excerpt for the reader portions of an article which recently appeared in the *Jewish Week*. It was written by Josh Rolnick. The author, self-described as a generation-Xer, was born in 1970. In the article, he attempts to explain why Israel does not mean the same to him as it does to his father.

I bring the excerpt as an illustration of how the college/university period in our children's lives is so instrumental in forming their adult futures, and, for the purpose of this column, their Jewish futures.

I do not comment on the substance of Rolnick's views of Israel. Nor do I equate one's "affiliation" to Israel with the extent of one's affiliation to their Judaism and to the Jewish people, although they are certainly interconnected.

I bring the excerpt to plead that Jewish parents must make available for our children every possible means at this searching time in their lives, to discover the splendor and the richness of our Jewish way of life and of our values.

"Many in my generation...view Israel through a very different lens.

"According to the Council of Jewish Federations' 1990 Jewish Population study...only 25 percent of Jews ages 25 to 34 say they are very or extremely attached to Israel compared to 44 percent of Jews ages 55 to 64. There are at least two important reasons why this is so.

"The first has to do with memory...Our feeling that Jews need their own state comes from our reading of history, not our footsteps through it. Without an impending threat to Jews, the imperative for Israel is less clear.

"The second reason for my generation's distance from Israel has to do with the rise of secularism.

"The average 20-something Jew today lacks a religious connection to Israel, and thus a natural link to Jerusalem's soil."

As Rolnick himself proves in reference to his attitude to Israel, the generation born after the Six Day War, especially in North America, has grown up with different formative influences and different experiences from ours, that have shaped their Jewish outlooks.

We cannot assume, and we must do more than merely hope, that our children will automatically grasp tightly to the ways of their forebears. We must take steps.

It is generally true to say, that we would spare no expense to protect, to take care of, to insure the well-being of our expensive jewels and precious stones.

How much more precious are our children to us than our most precious stone? How much more invaluable are they than the most expensive of all jewels?

But what steps do we take to to protect them, to take care of their Jewish development on campus, during this pivotal but highly "vulnerable" point in their young developing lives.

Despite the generosity of an increasingly taxed and perennially overburdened Jewish federation budget, and despite the loyalty, creativity and self-sacrifice of the small group of professionals running from one campus to the other as their counsellors, leaders, programmers and friends, the 15,000 Jewish college and university students in the Greater Toronto Area are woefully and precariously under-serviced.

In sad contrast, therefore, unlike the expenses we do not spare to insure our precious stones, we spare almost every expense, to "insure" the Jewish wellbeing of our children on campus.

In the next column, I will describe the nature and extent of current campus services available to college and university students, compare those services with similarly-sized communities of students, and explore the possibilities that must be taken, if we are not to risk "losing" them, our children, at this critical crossroads in their lives.

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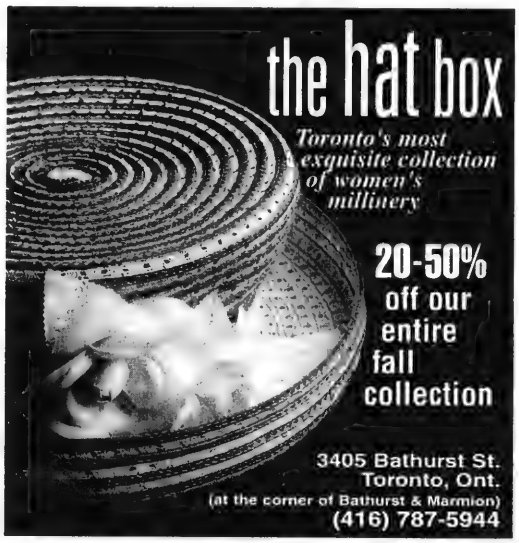
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Greater Toronto Area

New commission to lobby govt. on war criminals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre have joined forces to create a commission designed to keep the pressure on government to bring Nazi war criminals to justice.

Members of the commission, consisting of senior officials from the two organizations, met recently with Justice Minister Allan Rock to present him with a series of legal recommendations and to urge further action on the war crimes front before time runs out. The recommendations call for changes to the Criminal Code to make prosecutions easier, harmonization of the Immigration and Citizenship Acts to expedite proceedings against suspects and a call to investigate and prosecute members of a Waffen SS division who engaged in mass slaughter of Jews and Poles.

"Ten years after the release of the Deschenes Commission report [on Nazi war criminals], Canada's record in bringing to justice Nazi war criminals remains dismal," said Lyle Smordin, national president of B'nai Brith Canada. "With time quickly running out, it is imperative that the Jewish community work together to ensure that mass murderers are held accountable for their actions."

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Wiesenthal Centre, said 2,000 members of the SS division who were admitted into Canada in 1950 have been ignored by the government. "These 2,000 constitute the largest pool of hitherto uninvestigated alleged war criminals in Canada," he said.

The announcement came several weeks after CBS' *60 Minutes* and *Dateline NBC* aired reports that focused on alleged Nazis in Canada.

Lisa Armony, director of B'nai Brith's Institute for International Affairs, said the impetus for creation of the commission "started with the attention given the [issue] by the American media. We sensed a momentum, a pressure had been created.

"We felt it was time for a united effort on this issue," she said, adding that the Simon Wiesenthal Centre agreed to B'nai Brith's overtures to create the commission. It is composed of Jewish community leaders and legal and academic experts. Its mandate is to devise practical, effective measures to bring to justice Nazi war criminals.

In addition to meeting with Rock, the commission hopes to meet with Solicitor General Herb Gray and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard as well as members of the opposition, to create "support from across the political spectrum," Armony said.

In its recommendations, the commission called on the government:

- to explain publicly the moral and legal imperatives behind taking legal steps against war crimes suspects;
- to go beyond the12 cases authorities say they will have begun by the end of March and to continue prosecuting suspects "as long as there is useful investigative work to be done;"
- to increase resources allocated to the issue;
- to cross check Canadian pension lists and other lists with lists of suspects prepared by war crimes investigators in Germany, in the United States and with the United Nations;
- to amend Canadian citizenship and criminal law legislation to permit effective and quick legal remedies against suspects.

Conversion bill stir

[Cont'd from page 1]

The matter is high on the agenda of major fundraising groups meeting in New York. Some have expressed the view that the cabinet's move will hurt campaigns by the United Jewish Appeal.

"Israel is operating as if the Diaspora doesn't exist," said Rabbi Golomb.

Whether the amendment gets sent to the Knesset before the Parliament breaks next week for Passover depends on the outcome of a flurry of negotiations taking place between politicians and Reform and Conservative representatives.

"The Orthodox community is united as never before on the issue advocating the passing of the conversion law by the Knesset," said Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union, in New York.

Non-Orthodox conversions of Diaspora Jews performed outside Israel are now legally recognized in Israel. Netanyahu has pledged not to change their status.

The legislative action reinforcing exclusive Orthodox control over conversions was demanded by the haredi parties as a condition of their joining the coalition of the Netanyahu government.

Reform and Conservative conversions have been performed in Israel for years, but have not been legally recognized. The Supreme Court said in 1995 that there was no legal reason for barring that recognition for civil purposes.

That ruling increased the determination of the Orthodox parties to pass legislation eliminating such recognition.

But the Orthodox coalition partners voted against the proposal put forward by the cabinet last week, because they see it as too narrow. They want a law that also bans conversions performed abroad of Israelis who prepare for their conversions in Israel.

Rabbi Marmur sent a plea to cabinet member Natan Sharansky to speak out against the ban on Conservative and Reform conversions.

Since Sharansky represents Russian immigrants, many of whom are "halachically disabled," he should be standing up for their rights, Rabbi Marmur said.

All Reform congregations in Canada were asked to send protests to the Israeli government as soon as word of the ban reached here, said Rabbi Golomb.

With files from the JTA.

CJC region set to hold plenary

TORONTO — Programs on international and national issues ranging from Swiss banks, Nazi war criminals in Canada and the current political situation in Israel, to Ontario concerns such as school funding, small communities and Jews on campus have been announced for the 29th plenary of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

Plenary chair Marlene Sklar and program chair Cary Green said Ontario Jews attending the plenary, which is held every three years, will be able to deliberate on many of the community's pressing concerns.

The plenary will also feature a lunch session with an Israel affairs briefing from David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen's mid-term report and greetings from CJC national president Goldie Hershon.

The plenary begins the evening of April 5 and continues April 6, at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St.

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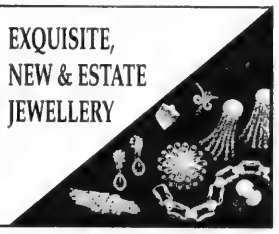

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Greater Toronto Area

Silver lining seen in Har Choma controversy

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's widely criticized decision to build Har Choma, a neighborhood in East Jerusalem, may ironically reinvigorate the peace process, a leading Israeli analyst suggests.

Characterizing the tension over Har Choma as another crisis on the long road toward peace rather than one which threatens its very foundations, Zeev Maoz said its effects may be two-fold.

To compensate the Palestinians for Har Choma, Israel may take no further unilateral steps in Jerusalem. As well, Israel's second major withdrawal from the West Bank, slated for the autumn, may be more generous than the first planned redeployment (which was scheduled to have been carried out several weeks ago, but which has since been postponed).

Maoz, head of the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, suggested that these possible scenarios could be devices for pumping new life into the peace process. He made his comments a day before the latest Hamas suicide bombing in Israel on March 21.

Here to attend a conference sponsored by the International Studies Association, Maoz said that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should have consulted the Palestinian Authority and Jordan before unilaterally deciding to proceed with Har Choma. But Maoz also took the Palestinians to task for "mishandling the Jerusalem issue."

Maoz, in an interview, called Har Choma a violation in spirit of the Oslo accords. "It contaminates the political climate, causes unnecessary tension and does not lead to mutual trust. But it should be understood that Netanyahu is operating under domestic constraints."

In principle, he added, "Israel should decide for itself whether it wants to build in East Jerusalem."

Yet Israel and the Palestinians will find it increasingly difficult to address other momentous issues if they put too much emphasis on Jerusalem.

It is in Israel's interest to leave Jerusalem to final status talks, he said.

Maoz, who succeeded the late general Aharon Yariv as head of the Jaffee Centre in 1994, said that Netanyahu may well end up relinquishing between 50 percent and 90 percent of the West Bank when Israel completes the last of its three redeployments in the summer of 1998.

Maoz, the former chair of Haifa University's political science department, observed that the withdrawals will lay the groundwork for the emergence of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He said the majority of Israelis regard such a state as a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Turning to Israel's stalled negotiations with Syria, Maoz warned that the Syrians could initiate hostilities in the not too distant future if the present impasse remains unbroken.

Syria would launch a war to break the current political logjam and to revive the peace process, he explained, noting the parallels between today and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

"Syria's aim would be to shake Israel's hold on the Golan Heights. It's a highly unlikely scenario, but I'm afraid the Syrians are growing desperate as time goes on and nothing happens on the Golan front."

In his view, "a war with Syria would not be a war of national consensus." As he put it: "A growing number of Israelis are convinced that Netanyahu is not doing enough to revive the peace process with Syria."

A condition for a resumption of Israel's bilateral negotiations with Syria would be an explicit statement by Netanyahu that he recognizes the land-for-peace formula with respect to the Golan, he said.

Syria's leader, Hafez al-Assad, wants to be certain that such talks do not break down and, in fact, lead to concrete results.

"Anyone who's looked at Syria's position knows there can't be an agreement without a complete [Israeli] withdrawal," he said.

He believes that Assad would probably agree to leave certain disagreements, notably the depth of a pullback, to international arbitration.

"Netanyahu understands he can't have a settlement without a full withdrawal. But if he thinks he can get away with a no-war, no-peace situation, he may be content with the status quo."

Maoz disagrees with observers who argue that Assad is merely interested in the process rather than the outcome of negotiations. Assad, he said, has made a "strategic decision" to make peace with Israel, provided the terms are to his satisfaction.

Wading into the debate on Israel's military presence in southern Lebanon, Maoz cautioned Israel against a unilateral pullout without a prior agreement with Syria regarding the Golan.

He warned that Jordan may cool off its relations with Israel in the absence of what he described as "a peace dividend." So far, none has materialized. King Hussein balances the peace treaty with domestic opposition to it.

According to Maoz, Israel's relationship with Egypt is dependent on the state of Israel's ties with Syria and the Palestinians. In the short run, Israel's "cold peace" with Egypt will continue, but will gradually thaw as the peace process warms up and "we learn to understand each other's sensitivities."

In the meantime, Maoz takes solace from a recent development. "There is a growing awareness among Egyptian intellectuals of the need for dialogue with Israelis."

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Scuffle breaks out at Palestine House demonstration

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

MISSISSAUGA — Police were called to defuse tensions during a protest demonstration outside Palestine House on March 21, the day of the Tel Aviv cafe bombing in which three women were killed. No charges were laid, but demonstrators were made to leave the building's parking lot, which is private property.

The hastily organized delegation of about a dozen protesters from Tagar (the student branch of Herut-Likud) and other right-wing Zionist organizations was met with verbal abuse, claimed Pini Ravid, Toronto-based Betar-Tagar shaliach.

According to Ravid, the protesters (none of whom were from Mississauga) were accosted by two men from Palestine House who "screamed" at them, called them names and told them to "go back to Israel." He added that "30 to 40 Arabs came from the back door with sticks in their hands" before the police arrived.

The protesters carried Israeli flags and signs bearing slogans such as "Israel Builds, the Palestinians Kill" and "Palestinian Authority and Hamas: Can You Tell the Difference?"

The demonstration was over within half an hour, after police had been summoned by both sides.

"We basically came to a peaceful demonstration," maintains Ravid. "We just came to make a point."

Rashad Saleh, chairman of Palestine House, claimed he initially tried to reason with protesters, asking them to move off the parking lot onto the sidewalk or the street. He admitted pushing an elderly protester "all the way to the street" but denied allegations he had hurt the man.

"There was a shoving incident," confirmed Constable George Koekkoek of Peel Regional Police's Erin Mills Station. Koekkoek, who responded to the call and wrote the police report, said there "was no complaint of anybody being hurt that I recall." He said Saleh "was using as much force as necessary to get them off his property.

The two-storey building on Erindale Station Road is owned entirely by Palestine House, he said.

A protester who wished to remain anonymous said he witnessed the altercation. The older demonstrator was punched in the chest, he said. "We were both pushed into the roadway where traffic was."

He participated because he "felt very strongly that Israel building homes, even on land under dispute, doesn't warrant children and women being blown up."

Saleh, who has cordial relations with a number of Jewish groups, pointed out that he doesn't demonstrate in front of the Jewish Community Centre. He suggested an Ottawa embassy would be a more appropriate spot for a protest. "If they want to express their views, send me a message and I'll be glad to relay it," he told The CJN.

Larry Zeifman, co-chair of One Israel (the Canadian representative of the settlement movement), defended the idea of a protest. Although he himself was not at the demonstration, his group was involved in initiating the idea.

"It was very appropriate that the Toronto community demonstrate against terror," he said, adding that a demonstration would reach a wider audience than a private meeting.

"Yes we could have talked to them....It didn't mean [protesters] had to be met with bats or assault. For people who claim to be our peace partners, it's outrageous."

Palestine House "represents the Palestinian interests in Toronto," said Ravid. "There is a Palestinian flag. Obviously it's the right place to go."

Saleh said Palestine House, which offers English as a Second Language classes among other activities, "has nothing to do with what's going on in the Middle East."

That same day, Saleh was signatory to a press release condemning the Tel Aviv bombing and offering condolences to the families of the victims. In it he sharply criticized Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's "macho approach and arrogance [which] will bring the Israelis and the Palestinians nothing but further violence and suffering. Land confiscation, bulldozers and constructing new homes at the expense of the Palestinians will definitely result in the rise of desperation, aggression and terrorism.

"Collective punishment is not the answer to what happened today. Level headedness, restraint, respect and understanding will surely uproot terrorism and its perpetrators," he concluded.

The response to Tagar's demonstration "didn't show condemnation at all," said Ravid.

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Metaphysical fulcrum

With each additional invective he casts against Israel, Yasser Arafat injures his own people more and more. The farther away he pushes himself from the negotiating table, the greater the distance he puts between his people's wretched reality and their nationalistic aspirations.

But he persists. He fans war-like flames. And he incites hate-filled violence. Last weekend, for example, at a meeting of the Arab League, Arafat accused Israel of "waging war against a defenceless people." Earlier, he told reporters Palestinians were against the "*Judaization of Jerusalem.*" (Our emphasis.)

As a result, the air thick with incendiary sparks, rioting continues in Hebron and in Bethlehem. As of this writing, one Palestinian has lost his life. Scores of others have been injured. Who knows how many more will die, how many more will be hurt, before their leader douses the fire that he stokes?

Arafat has decided, for the time being, not to pursue further talks with Israel"as long as the expansion of settlements is continuing." By "settlements", of course, he means Har Choma.

But if Arafat is persistent, he is also sly. He constantly refers to the proposed housing project on Har Choma as a "settlement." He knows through experience that the western media will likely adopt his terminology and with it, the false notion that housing in Jerusalem is illegal.

More insidious is his dismissive, pejorative reference to the *"Judaization of Jerusalem."* Here too, he knows he has a receptive audience throughout the western world and in the media.

But to the Jewish people, the very terminology is offensive, not to mention the sneering, contemptuous way in which he spits it out.

The *Judaization of Jerusalem,* literally and metaphorically, is precisely the mission of the modern Jewish return to the ancient Jewish homeland. It is the metaphysical fulcrum on which the weight of that "return" is balanced. We must resist by all turns, Arafat's efforts to destroy that balance.

Conscience stirring

It appears that conscience may be stirring in France. Last week, more than 35,000 marched in the streets of Strasbourg outside the conference hall where the National Front party and its leader, Jean Marie Le Pen, were convening.

Le Pen's ideology is notorious: a right-wing, intolerant, xenophobic approach to life in France, opposed to anyone who does not look or sound like he does.

The anti-Le Pen rally was impressive in its size, its fervor, and the breadth of its coalition. But it is only a beginning. It cannot be considered an achievement in and of itself. Recent media reports claim that as many as 15 percent of French voters may support the National Front. This is a sizable number. It is more than a fringe.

Thus, it is our profound hope that the forces that united against Le Pen last weekend remain united and ever vigilant in their opposition to him and to all that he represents.

The lesson we in Canada can learn from the Strasbourg march is plain. We must also be vocal in our opposition to anyone or to any party that attempts to prey upon the vulnerable and the "different" among us. As one of the marchers aptly said: "First, second, third generation. We are all the children of immigrants."

Who, better than the Jewish people, can understand the profound truth of this simple statement?

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"If we assume there are nine million Jews in the world, and that it would be possible to colonize ten thousand Jews in Palestine every year, the Jewish question would require nine hundred years for its solution. This would seem impracticable."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 31, 1899 the local press of Saint John, N.B., reported the arrival of the S.S. Gallia from Liverpool with 300 Jewish immigrants on board. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Don't abandon heartland of Israel

In the pursuit of a democratic and Jewish State of Israel, Rabbi Shlomo Jakobovits was reported ("Arab state needed as result of demographic changes: rabbi," *CJN*, March 13), to have made three points in favor of the Israeli abandonment of Judea, Samaria and Gaza: demography, strategy and Judaism.

The "demographic argument" notes that the Arab population in Israel has a greater rate of natural increase than does the Jewish population. It would follow that the Arabs would eventually outnumber the Jews. Therefore the Jews are advised to retreat to the confines of pre-1967 Israel, more or less.

But there is a large Arab population living within the borders of "Little Israel." Prior to the recent Russian immigration, the Arabs within Israel would have achieved a majority in about 50 years, as opposed to 20 years with the inclusion of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. Retreat only delays an Arab demographic victory. Rabbi Jakobovits understands this.

You report that Rabbi Jakobovits said the Arab population under Israeli control must not be allowed to increase. In what way does abandoning most of the heartland of historic Israel preserve the democratic nature of the State of Israel if a discriminatory policy is still necessary to preserve the Jewish majority?

The "strategic argument" in favor of retreat is that modern wars are fought with missiles carrying nuclear warheads and that territory is irrelevant. But all modern wars to date have been decided by conventional ground forces. The loss of control of the Golan and the highlands of Judea and Samaria obviously weakens Israel's conventional military options. Also, deterrent forces need space in which to hide from a pre-emptive attack. Absent a territorial buffer, the Israeli government must commit to a strategy of pre-emptive attack, as it did prior to June 1967. This is a destabilizing option and a horrifying prospect in the presence of weapons of mass destruction. The vulnerability of Israel to attack by such weapons is heightened by the great concentration of the population in a small number of cities.

A rational response to the threat of nuclear attack is to disperse the population as much as possible in small settlements in hilly terrain, so that it would not be possible to destroy a large proportion of the Jewish population with only a few explosions. Israel should be moving as much of its population as possible into towns and villages in the uplands of Judea, Samaria and the Galilee.

There seems to be an assumption that retreat will lead to peaceful relations with the Arabs. If that is so, Israel would be well advised to disarm entirely, thereby freeing herself of a crippling economic burden. But, of course, no one really thinks that there are no risks of war after a retreat. The open and vile anti-Semitism of the Arab press is just a small sign of endemic hatred of Israel and Jews among Arab intellectuals and the Arab population in general.

It would be unseemly to dispute with Rabbi Jakobovits on the Jewish religious rationale in favor of retreat. An answer depends on what one thinks the facts are. Nevertheless, with Purim not long past, it's relevant to remember that Mordecai refused to bow before Haman, in spite of the danger of inciting Haman's hatred.

Myer Rosen
Toronto

Another view on mohalim

Rabbi Moshe Stern recently wrote to *The CJN* (March 13), and suggested that unless a mohel is certified by the Vaad Harabonim, he is not observant or committed to Torah.

I would remind our community that we have many mohalim among us who are also members of the medical profession and are indeed committed to Torah.

I am aware of Rabbi Stern's very significant contribution to our community, but would suggest that the distinguished rabbi's pen would be better served repairing fences and not tearing them down.

Robert K. Hundert
Toronto

Jews in Colombia don't face anti-Semitism

I am writing in response to the article "Hispanic Publisher a Success" (*CJN*, March 13).

As a Jew born in Bogota, Colombia, 31 years ago, raised in an openly loving Jewish family as part of an openly Jewish community, I must take issue with most of Eduardo Uruena's statements, and, on behalf of Colombia's Jewish community, set the record straight. Uruena's comments unfairly characterize Colombia as a stereotypical anti-Semitic society, which it is not.

It is important that your readers know that growing up in Bogota, I attended the Jewish school, Colegio Colombo Hebreo, which was founded more than 40 years ago. As a matter of fact, every major city with a Jewish community has a Jewish school. Thus, Uruena's comment that he attended a Catholic school because "there were no others" is incorrect.

Contrary to Uruena's comments, my family, indeed my community, never had to hide our roots and Jewish practices. I went to one of the *three* synagogues every Shabbat and lit my Shabbat candles openly. We never felt we had to keep our Jewishness a secret, and never faced "a lot of bigotry." We never kept anything secret.

The anti-Semitism described by Uruena did once exist (before World War II). Nevertheless, the Jewish community was able to get established in Colombia where it thrived. Colombia maintains diplomatic relations with Israel and the Israeli Embassy was founded in Colombia in 1960. Since then, anti-Semitism has diminished dramatically,and, although still present, is almost imperceptible.

Paulina Roitman
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Arafat's political strategy

The silence that deafens

By GERALD M. STEINBERG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

First in importance come actions, then — particularly in the Middle East — words. And in the face of terrorism, silence too speaks volumes.

Three-and-a-half years have passed since Oslo, but Yasser Arafat has consistently failed to condemn terrorism clearly and unequivocally.

After the latest atrocity in Tel Aviv, instead of using his status as elected head of the Palestinian Authority to take a strong stand against violence, he ran away again.

Arafat's behavior contrasts sharply with Yitzhak Rabin's, and with that of King Hussein.

In 1994, Rabin did not hide his anger after Baruch Goldstein killed 29 Palestinians in Hebron. He could have excused the murders as the desperate act of a doctor who had seen too many victims of terror die in his hands.

Instead, Rabin told the Israeli public, "I am shamed by the disgrace imposed upon us by a degenerate murderer."

In repeated statements, he declared that the "damage inflicted by one person on the State of Israel, on the Jewish people and on the people of Israel" was immeasurable. He made no attempt to shift the blame. "This is an Israeli responsibility, because we are the government," he declared.

Rabin was not alone in his unequivocal condemnation.

Benjamin Netanyahu, who headed the opposition, denounced the "despicable crime" that had violated Jewish and universal values and could be neither tolerated nor excused.

President Ezer Weizman declared: "There is no understanding, no forgiveness and no atonement for this horrible act," while Shimon Peres warned that Israel "will be in grave trouble if we do not mobilize" to fight terrorism and its supporters.

"We can have no peace with them, and no accommodation. These people can cause a catastrophe. They are the enemies of the nation," Peres added.

Two weeks ago, after a Jordanian soldier killed seven Israeli schoolgirls, King Hussein did not hide his anger and shame. In appointing a commission of inquiry, he wrote "I am sure you share with me...and all members of the honorable Arab army's armed forces, the feelings of pain, shock and shame over the vile crime...by the bullet of a treacherous coward, who has harmed the noble reputation of our army and its honor."

Instead of blaming others, dismissing these murders as the act of a deranged individual, or running away, the Jordanian leader immediately returned from Europe.

A few days later, he took the unprecedented step of going to Bet Shemesh to console the victims' families.

Accompanied by two of his children, by members of the government and the Jordanian press, Hussein got down on his knees and declared, "Words cannot express how I personally feel, how my family feels, how my people feel. We consider this a loss that all of us suffered...I feel that if there is anything in life, it is to ensure that all the children enjoy peace and security. I hope you consider me a brother and a member of the family."

Beyond the immense moral impact, these words and gestures of empathy with the victims helped heal political wounds and restore confidence between Israel and Jordan.

Denouncing despicable crimes

If Arafat and other Palestinian leaders were seriously interested in the peace process and in ending the long and painful conflict, wouldn't they have taken a cue from their partners?

But instead of taking the high road, Arafat persists in peppering his public speeches with calls for jihad, armed struggle and praise for terrorist "martyrs" like Yihye Ayyash.

Arafat's links to continuing terrorism and murder extend to actions like letting terrorists out of Palestinian jails and holding meetings and making agreements with Hamas leaders.

Arafat's encouragement of terror for political ends, and his failure to take a clear and consistent public stand against violence make a mockery of the peace process.

Israel is asked to take security risks for the sake of peace, to open airports and roads ("safe passages") and to allow thousands of Palestinians to work in its cities, without any quid pro quo from Arafat.

In the critical area of Arafat confronting terrorism, the peace process has yet to begin.

Gerald M. Steinberg is a senior associate at Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies.

The 'amber light' that killed

By MOSHE ZAK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, talking privately with members of Congress, reportedly said that faced with the current crisis with the Palestinians, Benjamin Netanyahu should set up a national unity government. Very likely someone passed Albright's view onto Jerusalem.

Netanyahu appeared in no hurry to act on this advice, but the U.S. administration unwittingly helped create national unity elsewhere — in the Palestinian camp.

Yasser Arafat's reception in the White House and his meetings in the State Department earlier this month led him to believe he could risk uniting the Palestinian rank and file with Oslo's Islamic opponents, who are for continuing the "armed struggle."

Arafat sensed he had the administration's respect and saw it as even willing to sanction "unusual" measures aimed at allowing the Gazan in the street to let off steam. The United States assumed, wrongly, that Palestinian anger could be vented via protest, obviating terror. Hence its raising no objection to Arafat's international conference in Gaza.

However, Arafat then interpreted what the Americans told him in a way radically different from what they had intended. When he got back from Washington, he met with the leaders of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other opposition groups, and indicated they could "let off steam" via terror.

The Palestinian Authority's threats of force against the bulldozers on Har Choma, and Arafat's successes in the international offensive against the construction actually helped escalate the violence.

Getting this "amber light," Palestinians took to the streets of Hebron and Bethlehem, stoning and firebombing IDF soldiers. Ibrahim Makadmeh, the Hamas leader newly released from Arafat's jail, screamed out to Gaza crowds of forthcoming attacks inside Israel — at just around the time his emissary was choosing his table in Tel Aviv's Apropo cafe.

With Palestinian popular support for Hamas operations arousing envy within Arafat's Fatah, the spiral of terror will widen.

The United States believed it could cool things down by appeasing Arafat, ignoring intelligence reports about his encouraging terror, and by publicly calling on Israel to halt the bulldozers on Har Choma.

Its mistake was seeing Har Choma as the pivot of the crisis and assuming that an Arafat-Netanyahu meeting would calm things down.

It didn't realize that the problem lay in the date of March 17, when final status talks were scheduled to resume. And it didn't think how Oslo had simply swept under the rug the huge gap between the sides on Jerusalem, the right of return and the permanent status of the territories.

While some Israelis hoped that the interim period would engender an atmosphere that would make the Palestinians more conciliatory over Jerusalem, the Palestinians doubted it. They knew exactly where Jerusalem figured in their plans.

When the date for final status negotiations approached, the "battle for Jerusalem" drew nearer and direct terror lurked in the background. But then the timetable of Israeli withdrawals became modified and Arafat thought he could activate terror by "remote control."

But he is gradually losing control of the situation, carried along on the crest of the wave of popular protest he started and pushed by international conferences to break off relations with Israel even before he gets more territory.

The possibility of a real crisis panicked the Americans into sending special envoy Dennis Ross to Rabat in Morocco to persuade Arafat to meet with Netanyahu and thus ease tension.

But since the present crisis was not caused by Har Choma but by Arafat's desire to bring the Jerusalem issue to the fore, the package deal Ross is bringing to the region is like a tranquilizer after a heart attack.

Some Israelis thought Jerusalem could be spun out for two more years, until the end of final status negotiations, but Arafat's provocative speeches at the Islamic conference showed otherwise. He wanted Jerusalem discussed, and he wanted it discussed amid threats and violence.

Crisis not caused by Har Choma

It is no accident that the violent student-IDF clashes erupted in Bethlehem, just south of Jerusalem, and in Ramallah, just north of it.

Arafat is using the road to Jerusalem to mold the Arab consensus, while trying to split the Israeli one.

Israel and the United States must tell him that this manoeuvre won't work, that he cannot twist our arm on Jerusalem.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

Protests against Israel's decision to build a new housing project on Har Choma have continued now for three weeks. Included among the protesters are the Palestinian police whose responsibility it was to contain the protest in the first place. [Reuters/RNS]

Opinions

Helping students keep in touch

By VIVA PRESS

As final exams approach, it's time to reflect on the impact of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation (APJSF) during the past year.

By Viva Press in Halifax

The APJSF reaches out to Jewish students throughout the Atlantic provinces. It is the centralizing body of Jewish students who are in small minorities at the dozen or so colleges and universities in this area. It is the only Jewish organization here and it is responsible for communication between the different universities.

From the start of the school year in September with Schmooze & Booze part one, to the breaking of the Yom Kippur fast, to the third-annual ski trip, to Shabbat dinners, to Schmooze & Booze part shtayim, to our Purim party in March, the APJSF has enjoyed a fun-packed year.

The last two programs of the academic year are happening later this month. On April 6, elections for next year's executive positions will take place, followed by a bagel brunch. And during Pesach, there will be a student seder.

The new executive for the upcoming year, with the help of program coordinator Yakov Feig, will be responsible for organizing next year's events. Communication between the Jewish students at the different universities will be the number 1 priority.

The vote is being conducted all over the area. Members of each of the following universities will vote for president, communications chair and other campus representatives: Dalhousie, University of King's College, Acadia, University of New Brunswick, University of Moncton, University of Prince Edward Island, University College of Cape Breton, Mount Allison, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, and Memorial.

Schmooze & Booze, part shtayim

In addition to the events the APJSF has organized, it has also been invited to numerous Atlantic Jewish Council programs.

At the biannual convention in December, guest speaker, Julius Ciss, spoke about how to counter missionaries who are out to convert Jews and how Halifax can deal with this threat.

In fact, it's just as well Ciss came to talk about this important topic. During the second week of March, two of my peers confronted a man on Spring Garden Road, a main street in Halifax. He was handing out Jews for Jesus pamphlets. After one of them told the man that he worked at the Atlantic Jewish Council, the man left. Fortunately, this was the only encounter reported.

The APJSF was also able to schedule in a special talk last month with Chen Ivri, counsellor of the Israel Embassy in Ottawa. Ivri spoke about Israel's position in the peace process. Because the talk was set up at the Dalhousie campus, students were able to ask questions in an informal atmosphere. Ivri was visiting the Jewish communities in the area and held student discussions at both Dalhousie and University of New Brunswick.

With the good turnout for events this year, the APJSF has seen a splinter group emerge. Jewish students above the age of 24 and young adults outside of university have created their own group. The new group is called the Association of Young Jewish Adults in Atlantic Canada (AYJAAC). They hold their own weekly meetings and organize some of their own programs, but they still retain an affiliation with the APJSF.

Although the APJSF does most of its programming during the school year, it doesn't stop there. For the students who remain in Halifax and the other university towns, the APJSF organizes summer retreats in various parts of the Atlantic provinces. This summer will be no exception.

I know that the APJSF isn't the only group organizing Jewish events for its students. I'm sure other student federations around the country have had good years too. And that's what unites us. No matter which university one chooses, the Jewish organization there will help keep the Jewish students in touch with one another.

The new executive will take office in September. I'm sure another productive year is ahead for the APJSF. We look forward to seeing new faces.

Sliding downward

It is hard to figure out what kind of violence will still have shock value a few years from now if things go on the way they are. Someone is disappointed with life and the failure of his business and goes to the top of the Empire State Building, shoots people at random and then kills himself. Another gets annoyed because someone toots at him while driving and he shoots the offending party in a new kind of drive-by killing. By the time this column is published, some other form of violence will have made the headlines.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

It is popular to ascribe all this to television, which has relatively few offerings that do not, in one form or another, portray violence as a widespread solution to problems.

I am as appalled as anyone at TV offerings that have fouled the airscape around us. If it isn't an inane sitcom, it is a violence-ridden piece where, I sometimes suspect, the violence itself is the major content. Still, TV only responds to something that has been in existence for a long time — a trend that was in evidence ages before television was invented and became the centre of public attention, information and entertainment.

It will surprise some readers that the movement in this direction did not originate in the United States. It came to us 100 years ago from Europe, especially from France and Germany. At the end of the 19th century, artists, poets and expressionists of modernity showed a love of crime, the satanic outsider and the destruction of civilization. The early expressionists were in fact enamored with war as the ultimate expression of the human being, and after the World War I, terror became a legitimate part of the political landscape.

Writers like Juenger, Celine and Breton became the rage, and the last-named was famous for his saying that "the simplest surrealist deed is to go into the street, revolver in hand, and to shoot blindly into the crowd as long as there is ammunition."

The Holocaust and worldwide incidents of mass murder gave brutal expression to this trend. With all the wonderful ideals to pursue, we have been sliding downward, and television has become both the interpreter and sponsor of this descent. This cultural convulsion has become so extreme that the viewer hardly knows any more how to distinguish between reality and fiction. German author, H.M. Enzensberger, in his book dealing with the likelihood of civil war, puts it this way: "Thus television becomes a collection of giant graffiti that serve as prostheses for an autistically shrivelled I."

So, what can an individual do? I will suggest a small start, reckoning that anyone who reads my columns is already onside: Stop tuning in on stations that provide this kind of "entertainment." Sooner or later, Nielsen ratings will have their effect. It is a small step, but one in the right direction. It may very well be that despite the 50 channels we can choose from today and 100 tomorrow, public television will be our sole refuge from this cultural disaster.

Having said that, I might as well appeal to my readers to support the kind of television that stays clear of the current trend.

Living with pride and enthusiasm

While I was celebrating at our Purim party this year I glanced around the room and asked myself when a large group of students had last got together like this for a Jewish cause. To my dismay, the answer I came up with was the last memorial service for a tragedy in Israel. So I thought, when was the time before that? Again, I recalled, it was for another memorial service.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

The public recognition of tragedies that affect us all as Jews is vital to traditional Jewish thought, in addition to serving the purpose of raising awareness. However, memorial services should not be considered merely an inspiration to gather Jewish people together. In using memorial services and other causes of this sort to strengthen a sense of Jewish identity, a greater concept is being neglected. The reason public events like these are held is that we all feel affected by the tragedy. And we all feel affected because we all share the same Jewish heritage. The importance of these events has to be seen within the broader picture of our common Judaism and not the other way around. The event does not draw out our Judaism.

The problem is that we strive to find causes that will seem attractive to young Jews and make us want to come together. The truth is that there already is a cause. The cause is Judaism. What we must do is find a way to show that this cause is worthy. The richness of Judaism is currently hidden behind a number of other causes designed to get Jewish students "involved," causes like fighting anti-Semitism and fighting anti-Israel biases. Ironically, we thereby place the moral responsibility of uniting the Jewish people in the hands of the anti-Semites. That is quite an honor we give our enemies.

Spirituality, mysticism, guidance

This may lead Jewish people to be Jewish, but for negative reasons. Young people today should not want to live a Jewish life because we feel badly about all the suffering that Jews have endured throughout history. We should want to live as Jews out of pride and enthusiasm.

Many students look elsewhere for spiritual and communal contentment, when that contentment could be found within Jewish spirituality, mysticism, guidance, ethics and celebrations, all aspects of the bountiful tradition of Judaism that are being hidden. What remains is Judaism as a "sympathy religion."

The holiday of Purim serves as a example of this struggle. We celebrate the miracle of being spared from destruction at the hands of an evil anti-Semitic force. The approach that we take on Purim to commemorate this near-disaster was chosen for a very important reason. First of all, there is indeed recognition of the anti-Semitic threat, Haman. However, we do not stand for a moment of silence to remember his wrong doings. On the contrary, we remember him by not even giving him a moment of legitimacy. Each time his name is read aloud we block it out. This somewhat ridiculous-seeming act is significant in that we do not even try to understand the reasoning behind his evil; we do not look for its "cause." We would do well to adopt that same approach today.

Purim is a celebration of a miracle, a joyous occasion when people dress themselves up and proclaim their pride.

A concrete Jewish identity is acquired from being proud to be able to stand on the shoulders of thousands of years of Jewish contributions to mankind, not from a sense of guilt that makes us associate Judaism with tragic events.

The Kirshner File

Archeologist plumbs the secrets of Yavneh-Yam

Moshe Fischer is seriously searching for ancient Greek temples, not in Greece but in Israel.

By Sheldon Kirshner

A professor of classical archeology at Tel Aviv University, Fischer is project director of the Yavneh-Yam excavation, one of the most fascinating digs in Israel today.

"Yavneh-Yam was a cosmopolitan city with monumental buildings," he said in an interview during a recent visit to Toronto. "It was called *Portus Jude*, or the "harbor of the Jews."

Yavneh-Yam, known also as Iamnia-on-the Sea, was Yavneh's outlet to the Mediterranean Sea. Yavneh itself was one of the most significant centres of Jewish learning during the Roman period in the Land of Israel.

According to Fischer, Yavneh-Yam was built about 4,000 years ago by the Canaanites, during the Bronze Age. Subsequently settled by the Israelites, the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Byzantines, the Phoenicians and the Mameluk Arabs, Yavneh-Yam fell into a state of disrepair approximately 600 years ago.

In historical terms, Yavneh-Yam is important because it sheds new light on the complex, sometimes violent relationship between Jews and Greeks during the Hellenistic era, when the Maccabean wars were raging.

Initially, Jews enjoyed good relations with Greeks in Yavneh-Yam, whose population was never greater than 20,000. But strife ensued when the Greeks tried to impose their culture and their values upon the Jews. So, for Jews, Yavneh-Yam became a symbol of Greek domination and oppression.

Cited by Roman geographers, Yavneh-Yam, some 20 kilometres south of Tel Aviv, was "discovered" by Israeli archeologists in the 1950s and 1960s. Surveys from the air and on the ground revealed a fortified enclosure bounded by freestanding ramparts. Due to a dearth of funds and a lack of sustained interest, the 20-hectare site was left more or less untouched until Fischer appeared on the scene.

Fischer, whose field of expertise is Hellenistic and Roman architecture in Eretz Yisrael, got involved in 1992 when one of his students presented him with a Greek jug he had stumbled upon in Yavneh-Yam.

Since then, Fischer has spent every summer there, plumbing its secrets with the help of volunteers from Israel and abroad.

Their labors have not been in vain. His team has unearthed the remains of mudbrick structures and such artifacts as jars, oil lamps, terracotta statuettes and coins, mainly from the Hellenistic and Phoenician periods.

When the fourth excavating season gets under way in the summer (June 29 to Aug. 22), he and his band of fellow archeologists and assistants plan to broaden their horizons.

"We'll be looking for Greek temples and government buildings," said Fischer. "In effect, we'll be excavating an entire city."

Fischer will also be seeking volunteers 16 and older and in good health. "It's hard but satisfying work," he said of the two-week shifts volunteers can apply for. "On an average day, we start at 5 a.m., stop for a hearty breakfast and finish at 1 p.m."

After a lengthy siesta, the volunteers exchange notes in so-called "find sessions." In the evenings, they attend an introductory archeology course on the Holy Land given by Fischer, and every other Sunday, they are taken around the country on a sightseeing trip.

"We've had a few Canadian volunteers," said Fischer. The majority,

Moshe Fischer

however, have been Americans, Germans, British, French, Israelis, Japanese and Spanish.

The cost to participants is about $600 (US). This covers full room and board, the course and the exploratory trip.

Fischer can be reached at the department of classical studies at Tel Aviv University in Ramat Gan (972-3-6409779), or at home (972-3-93002293).

***

Before he set his sights on Yavneh-Yam, Fischer, a Romanian Jew who made aliyah in 1970, was co-director and director of several archeological projects.

On the southwest shore of the Dead Sea, near Masada, he excavated a Herodian perfume factory.

At Mazad Tamar, in the Negev desert, he dug up a Roman military fortress.

Near the panhandle of the Galilee, he found a Roman temple.

On the road from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, he unearthed a Roman-era Jewish settlement named Khorvat Mazad.

And close to his home in Petach Tikvah, he excavated a 1,500-year-old church frequented by Christian pilgrims.

Born in Brasov in 1945, Fischer studied ancient history and archeology at the University of Bucharest and at the University of Basel in Switzerland. His specialty was Greek civilization in the region of the Black Sea. "It was a kind of preparation for the issues I would deal with after my arrival in Israel," he explained.

Fischer, part of whose family was murdered during the Holocaust, left Romania as a reaction to communism and anti-Semitism. Upon completing his military service in Israel, he resumed his studies at Tel Aviv University, graduating with a PhD in 1980.

Fischer, married with two children, is eager to get back to Yavneh-Yam, which is shaping up as an exceedingly interesting excavation. Once his work there is finished, probably in the year 2000, he intends to write a book about its historical significance within the context of Near Eastern civilizations.

And then, he hopes, the government will designate Yavneh-Yam as a tourist site-cum national park.

Wonderful lithographs

David Roberts, a Scotsman, was one of the greatest landscape artists of the 19th century. In 1838, fascinated by distant lands, he set sail for the Middle East, a trip which altered Europeans' concept of the region.

Travelling to what is now Egypt, Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan and Lebanon, Roberts produced a series of wonderful lithographs which were published in London and which assured him lasting fame.

Yesterday and Today, The Holy Land (General Publishing, no price listed) contains the original plates, in large format and in chronological order, of the first edition. Remarkably enough, each illustration is paired with a photograph which depicts the same scene more than a century later, and with extracts from Roberts' journal. It's an irresistible combination, a form of time travel.

The lithographs, marvels of draftsmanship and detail, are romantic and airy in tone and dominated by a range of tan colors, reflecting the topography and the climate of the Mideast. There are drawings of ancient ruins, dilapidated buildings, rugged terrain (in particular the ethereal Sinai Peninsula) and placid lakes (the Dead Sea at Ein Gedi and the Sea of Galilee). In addition, there are contemporary scenes of Jerusalem, Hebron, Nablus, Jaffa, Haifa, Acre and Nazareth.

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THE BORINS BEAT

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to **Al & Faye Mintz (Mintz & Partners)**. The whole Mintz family are terrific supporters of Reena.

Congratulations to solicitor **Roger Rowe!!!** What a wonderful winter for him. His son **Jackson** was born January 4th & his **Canadian Black Lawyers Association** was also created. Thanks to inveterate letter-writer (who keeps newspaper editors on their toes) and lawyer **Bert Raphael,** a great Reena supporter, for helping Roger and his group get started.

Other than Sheila Engel, the person I've written about the most through the years in my CJN, Bayview Post & Jewish Tribune columns, is **Bert Raphael, Q.C.** Yasher Koach to Bert on being chosen as one of Ontario's 61 recipients of the **Law Society of Upper Canada's 1997 Bicentennial Award of Merit.** The special award - marking the Society's 200th anniversary - recognizes the incredible contributions lawyers like Bert make to their towns and cities through community work. Bert was singled out for making a difference because of his years of dedication to public service.

It's a small world, isn't it? **Ronny Gold (Gold's Luggage Shop Ltd.)** was telling me her daughter **Lorie** is marrying **Steven Israel** on May 25th. Steven's mom happens to be **Gail Israel**, the Reena Foundation's newest board member and chair of special events like the upcoming Gala Dinner honouring **MILES NADAL**, two days later on **May 27th**.

Miles Nadal has always shown a generosity of time & spirit that can serve as an inspiration to everyone at **Reena.** It's ironic that in **Howard Brown's** column **"The Personal Touch"** in June, 1995 the second part of this column, after his kind words about Miles Nadal, discussed Reena. So here they are together again. The Gala Dinner's Tribute Committee Co-chairmen are **Bert Raphael** and **Gerald Wilks.** The Dinner Chairman is **Lloyd S. D. Fogler, Q.C.,** "Genial **Gerald Hartman,** Reena Foundation Board Member and President and CEO of RDS Diagnostics Ltd., will serve as Event Chair."

The most response to my words in my over 40 years of jottings, has to be to the line in my last column congratulating **Elli Davis** on once again being #1 sales rep. in Canada for **Royal LePage.** She must have a ton of happy customers. They all phoned me. It seems this is her 10th consecutive year leading over 6,000 reps Wow!!!

There I was browsing through some current (sic) magazines at my doctor's office & came across a photo of **Ken Darby's "Pancho". 1973 Egg Tempera.** In this "current" 1986 issue of Equinox, it mentioned the art was hanging in the home of **Mr. & Mrs. Irving Ungerman** in Toronto. I couldn't help commenting to **Dr. Stein** that the reference to "EGG" & Ungerman reminded me of all the chickens who became "poultry in motion", at the **Wheat Sheaf.** We sold tons of Irving's wings in my 26 years as owner.

We are fortunate to have all the abovementioned fine people working for the benefit of Reena's community & for helping improve the lives of so many people.

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in May, 1997. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss the dedication opportunities still available.

The family of the late

HENRY ZYSHOLZ ז"ל

January 20, 1912 - March 19, 1997

wish to express their heartfelt appreciation to all their family and friends for the kind expression of sympathy and support extended to them during their recent loss.

Genia Zysholz, Fran, Bruno, Sonya, Daniel & Lauren Iacovetta

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Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 15, 1997.
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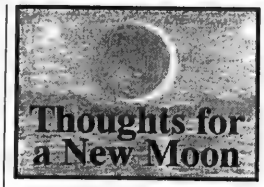
For reservations and further information, please call, in confidence, Deborah at 789-3291, ext. 513.



Themes of Passover

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The Passover Haggadah weaves the themes of freedom and nationhood into our seder. It also speaks of the family unit and contains a beautiful statement of parental responsibility toward our children.

Within the Haggadah, we read of four children who seem to represent four archetypes: "the wise," "the wicked," "the naive" and "the one who does not know to question."

At first we accept these children as covering the myriad of character possibilities within our children. However, the statement in the Haggadah is far more complex.

This section of the Haggadah is introduced with the words: "The Torah speaks of four children," and indeed, the secret to the passage becomes clear if we search within the Torah for these four children.

In Deut. 6:20, we find the question that the "wise" child poses: "What are the testimonies that G-d our Lord has commanded you?" However, the answer that appears in the Torah is not the answer that appears in the Hagaddah.

In fact, the answer to the "wise" child's question appearing in the Torah parallels the answer that the Haggadah gives to the "naive" child: "G-d took us out of Egypt with a mighty Hand."

The same split occurs with the remaining two children. The "wicked" child's question appears in Ex. 12:26, yet the answer in the Torah is not the answer given in the Haggadah. The Torah represents "the child who does not know to question" in Ex. 13:8, and the response given to this child in the Torah is the response given to the "wicked" child in the Hagaddah.

In other words, the questions are separated from their answers and the Hagaddah uses this separation to group the four children into two groups: the wise and the naive; and the wicked and the one who does not know to question. The groupings seem odd until we look at the language carefully.

The simplicity of the "naive" child creates the image of a young child. The child asks: "What is this?" There is no evaluation made, but a neutral question is asked. The parent responds by saying that G-d took us out of Egypt. The parent is including the child in the answer since the word "us" appears. This child will grow into the "wise" child who uses inclusive language when asking a question. This child was raised as a part of the whole and will view him/herself in that way.

Likewise "the child who does not know to question" appears very young and since there is no question asked, the parent has an open field in which to respond. The parent says: "Due to this, G-d did [this] for me when I left Egypt." The parent has not said "us" and has excluded the child. This child will grow into the "wicked" child who excludes him/herself from the collective when asking questions.

The Haggadah has subtly yet clearly understood the Torah as a parental guide for nationhood. The people Israel can form a nation when our children are included and made to feel part of us. If we, as parents, exclude our children, even in our language, they will grow to exclude themselves.

Combatting genetic disease

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Stanley Diamond, president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal, has become a medical-genealogical detective, in a bid to defuse what he calls a "ticking time bomb" and prevent potential suffering and death caused by thalassemia, a genetic disease.

The genetic trait responsible for thalassemia is common among Mediterranean peoples including Sephardi Jews, those whose ancestry can be traced back to medieval Spain, Portugal and areas of the eastern Mediterranean. However, the gene was thought not to exist among the Ashkenazi population of Jews whose ancestors lived in Germany and neighboring countries during the Middle Ages. Several years ago, doctors found it among members of Diamond's family, who are Ashkenazi and who carry a rare mutation called beta-thalassemia.

"It's a novel mutation that has never been seen before," said Diamond, a semi-retired businessman. "My first reaction was that I could find relatives because of this condition. Then it occurred to me that the increased incidence of intermarriage between Jews and gentiles creates a dangerous situation for Ashkenazi Jews who are carriers and don't know it.

The greater the lack of awareness, the greater the risk of two carriers marrying and having offspring with the disease."

Carriers are not stricken with the most potent form of the disease, but may experience a malady that is often misdiagnosed as mild chronic anemia. (To offset this, Diamond was prescribed iron pills as a child.)

When two carriers marry, chances are that one in four of their children will acquire the disease, which destroys red blood cells and causes large iron deposits in the liver and other organs. The disease is always fatal.

In the past year, Diamond has made several trips to Poland to visit archives where Jewish records are kept. Generally not known for their extreme helpfulness, archival officials rolled out the red carpet to him and his translator, offering full access to usually restricted records of Jewish births, marriages and deaths from 1808 to 1939.

"For humanitarian and scientific reasons, the Polish authorities were extremely generous with their time," he said. "They bent over backwards to ensure that I had cooperation at every level."

Diamond had previously traced his ancestry back some eight generations to 1760 and his Polish trips allowed him to uncover several lateral branches of his family tree down which the genetic trait may have descended. By tracking down distant cousins who carry the gene, Diamond has determined that it was carried by one of his great-grandparents, Yankel and Sara (nee Nowes) Widelec, who were likely born in the town of Ostrow Mazowiecka (Ostrova) about 1825.

Three years ago, as Dr. Charles Scriver of McGill University and the Children's Hospital of Montreal was studying the DNA in Diamond's blood to identify the beta-thalassemia gene, Dr. Ariella Oppenheim of Hadassah-Hebrew University Hospital in Jerusalem was seeking an identical gene in a Jerusalemite woman, Rita Paran, a Belarussian emigre suffering from anemia.

"My doctor got very excited when he heard about this," Diamond said. "He told me, 'If we can join these two families together, it can be the subject of a medical paper.' Well, he didn't know who he was talking to."

After studying Paran's ancestry, Diamond has determined that the gene passed through her grandmother, who came from a Belarussian town within 200 kilometres of the place where his ancestors lived. Because the disease is so rare, he is convinced that he and Paran are related. Based on their combined research, Diamond and Scriver co-authored a medical paper that appeared in January in a U.S.-based medical publication, *Human Mutation Journal*.

As he continues to trace distant relatives on his family tree, Diamond is using the Internet and the international network of Jewish genealogical societies to conduct a worldwide search for other Ashkenazi carriers of the gene, whose condition may or may not be known to them.

Since the discovery of beta-thalassemia in Diamond's family's DNA, the genetic trait has been found in 13 Ashkenazi families.

In a bid to retrieve more of his family history, Diamond is working with the U.S. Commission For The Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad to reassemble some old Jewish tombstones found in a farmer's field in Wyszkow, Poland. Working with 19th-century Jewish records, he has made an index of local Jews. Did your ancestors come from Wyszkow? If so, call him at 514-484-0100.

Jewish Life

Guest Voices

In 'neutral' Switzerland

By GERDA FRIEBERG

In 1945, after the Allied armies liberated the death camps of Europe, Holocaust survivors were urged to get on with their lives, rather than dwell on the past. It took years before the accounts of the experiences in death camps, ghettos and hiding places began to surface.

Many stories have already been told; many stories are yet to be told; and many will never be told.

Finally, more than 50 years after the war, the role of neutral Switzerland is being exposed. The time has therefore come to tell this story:

When the Jews of Berlin were being rounded up to be deported to Riga, Lodz and various camps in Poland, my aunt and uncle left for southern Germany. They discarded the yellow stars and changed their names from Alfred and Rosa Schindler to Schmiedler, because they thought Schindler was too Jewish a name. But they had no papers to establish their new identities.

Arriving in a small town, they went to the authorities and told them: "We were bombed out in Berlin and lost everything including our identification papers. We were so happy to be alive that we just got on the train to escape the bombardment of the city."

Somehow their story was convincing, and with their new papers in hand and under a new name, they settled where they hoped to live till the end of the war.

One Sunday morning, a young boy greeted them with great excitement. "I am so happy to see you," he said. "You must remember me. We lived in the backyard in your house. Wait till I tell my parents!"

There was no time to waste. As a contingency plan just in case something went wrong, they had made contact earlier with someone who smuggled people into Switzerland. They immediately contacted him, paid the agreed upon fee and when night fell, began their trek through the forest.

Suddenly the man told them: "This is as far as I go. I cannot afford to be caught near the border smuggling Jews." He disappeared, leaving them in the darkness.

They sat for a while not knowing in which direction to proceed, until they heard church bells ringing and decided to follow the sound, without knowing if they were headed toward Switzerland or back to Germany.

It was almost dawn when they realized they had crossed the border into Switzerland. They were overjoyed, but their joy did not last long. They were picked up by border guards who escorted them back to the border.

Exhausted, my aunt and uncle told the guards the truth: They were Jews fleeing Nazi persecution.

"Sorry," the guard said. "We do not harbor Jews in our country."

At the station, my aunt pleaded with them: "Look, we are elderly people. My husband is sick and walks with a cane."

The supervisor offered my uncle asylum due to his age and to his disability. But they had orders to send my aunt back to Germany.

"If you send us back we will be shot," my aunt told them. "I suggest you shoot both of us right here, rather than have the Nazis do it for you. But first, I want to settle my finances. Contact my bank in Zurich. We have a numbered account and would like to withdraw the money."

Contacts were made and her story was verified. After many hours of negotiation, they were allowed to stay and were taken to a refugee camp Winterthur.

After the war, my aunt contacted the Red Cross in search of family. The reply was devastating. No one could be found.

In the meantime, I arrived with my mother and my sister at the Landsberg displaced persons (DP) camp. My mother refused to believe that her sister had perished and contacted every organization that dealt with refugees. Finally, after many inquiries we were informed that they might be in Switzerland.

It was impossible, though, for my mother to travel there. Survivors were stateless and no country would issue us passports. Moreover, survivors were not welcome in Switzerland without a work permit, and there was little, if any, chance of obtaining one.

The only way to find my aunt and uncle was to get to Switzerland illegally. My sister took the train to a village on the Swiss border and crossed over at night. She found herself in Shafausen, where she managed to find a Jewish family.

When she told them she was a survivor in search of her family, they called the Jewish community offices in Zurich and asked about Alfred and Rosa Schindler. Unbelievably, the record of the family was found. They were alive and living in Winterthur.

The office arranged my sister's fare and called our aunt to inform her that her niece would be arriving in Winterthur by train. A large crowd was gathered to greet her, as she was the first Holocaust survivor to arrive and scores of people wanted to witness the reunion.

But the happiness was short lived. Two days later, with my uncle in the hospital to have his leg amputated and my aunt at his side, two police officers came to the apartment to arrest my sister for having illegally entered the country.

Just as my aunt and uncle had done two years before, my sister convinced the officers not to take her to the police station before my aunt returned from the hospital. The police allowed her to stay for two days. Then they escorted her back to the German border.

There had been no room for Jewish refugees escaping certain death at the hands of the Nazis. Nor was there any compassion to allow the survivors to enjoy a short reunion.

This was an example of the humanity of neutral Switzerland.

HADASSAH MEETS IN FLORIDA

Over 200 Canadian Hadassah-WIZO members and friends wintering in Florida attended the organization's recent 19th annual Southern Conference in Palm Beach. From left are conference chair Marilyn Fraiberg of Calgary; speaker Kenneth Jacobson of the Anti-Defamation League; and Patricia Alpert, national president, Hadassah-WIZO of Canada.

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Greater Toronto Area

Researcher explores lost world of Marrano Jews

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Gloria Mound, executive director of Casa Shalom, the Institute for Marrano (Anusim) Studies in Israel, was sitting with an elderly woman whose name she recognized as crypto-Jewish.

"Like most Marranos, she denied everything," Mound recalls. But when the British-born researcher produced a Megillah page, the older woman recognized it as Hebrew and burst into tears. "To me it was very telling."

Mound told that story during a recent lecture at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation. The evening event, attended by about 100 people, was jointly sponsored by Beth David's sisterhood and Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation.

Mound has been researching secret Jewish communities since 1978. Her interest was sparked on Majorcan vacations in the late '60s.

In 1985, she and husband Leslie, then a newly retired businessman, moved from London to Ibiza. They wanted to spend a year learning about its Jewish history and that of Formentera, another of the Balearic Islands near southern Spain.

On Majorca, the controlling island, the Inquisition was active until the 1800s , but on the smaller islands, *chuetas* (as crypto-Jews are known in that part of the world)

Gloria Mound

were protected by the locals.

The Mounds' year on Ibiza turned into three before they made aliyah as planned. During that time they discovered a pre-1942 Megillat Esther (now being restored by the Spanish government) and two secret synagogues, one in the basement of an Ibiza convent, where, it turned out, the elderly woman had worshipped as a child.

Part of the Mounds' work was funded by a grant from Beth Hatefutsoth, the Tel Aviv-based Diaspora museum, which has 300 of their photos in its archives.

In 1988, Gloria Mound's work earned her the title Honorary Research Fellow of the University of Glasgow, an honor that has been renewed each year since.

Her research has also taken the Mounds to Sao Tome y Principe, two small islands off the west coast of Africa, which were Portuguese colonies until 20 years ago.

In 1493, King Manuel of Portugal deported 2,000 Jewish children to Sao Tome y Principe. Although only 600 survived their first year on the crocodile-infested islands, they managed to keep Jewish practice alive there for generations, Mound said.

Mound is now awaiting Inquisition archives material including 571 pages on Sao Tome, which was only recently made available to researchers.

She also has an interest in the Persian Jews of Meshed, whose community "came to a complete halt" following pogroms in 1830.

Like many of their Marrano counterparts, who were outwardly Catholic, the Meshed community maintained Jewish tradition and eschewed intermarriage. Like good Muslims, they went on pilgrimage to Mecca, but many "got lost" on the way back and detoured to Israel.

The institute Mound founded in Gan Yavneh fields many inquiries from people of possible Jewish ancestry. "We try to answer their questions and lead them to at least a pride in their heritage."

Some take it a step further. A Marrano man who knew little of his heritage began taking conversion classes in Israel and hopes to become a rabbi.

The process can be very difficult for families. "Quite often one child is a very staunch Catholic while another wishes to re-identify with Judaism," Mound said.

A letter she received from Brazil reported a practice of crypto-Jews, which (if true) highlights their desperately sad plight. The writer told of her grandmother's village memories of crypto-Jews summoning a priest for last rites — but always too late.

Audible gasps were heard from the audience when Mound said that the dying person would be suffocated if it was feared that, in a state of delirium, he or she would reveal the family's Jewish practices.

At least one Portuguese historian suggests such stories arose as an attempt to explain the belated summoning of the priest, but Mound said that a credible source — a 1902 copy of the *Jewish Historical Review* — reported a Portuguese guild of suffocators .

Mound and her husband have made inroads in bringing more life — Jewish life — back to crypto-Jews. In Ibiza, where they ran a Sunday cheder and opened their home for Passover seders and Shabbat, the Mounds hope to run another seder this year. They expect about 50 *chuetas* will participate with them.

Clarification

VAUGHAN — City councillor Mario Racco, who had been seeking the federal Liberal nomination in the new riding of Thornhill until Elinor Caplan was appointed, has taken issue with a quote from Caplan that appeared in the March 20 issue of *The CJN*.

Caplan was quoted as saying that Racco, who came out forcefully against the appointment, "would have accepted an appointment" himself.

Racco denies that. He says he never would accept an appointment, nor has he said as much.

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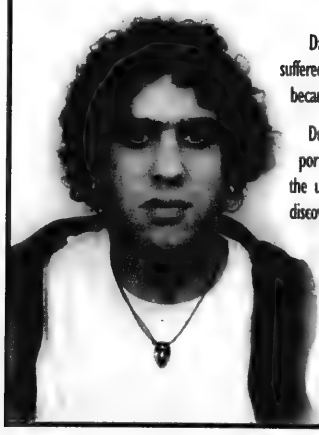

David Sharav was only 21 when, during his first year of army service, he was involved in a horrific car accident. He suffered severe brain damage, memory loss, and after being in a coma for over a week, his right arm was paralyzed. Dudu became deeply depressed during his recovery.

Dudu was referred to the Beit Halochem Centre in Tel Aviv for rehabilitation. The staff was able to offer him the support he so desperately needed. Dudu always believed he would get better - and he did. He regained his memory and the use of his arm. Gradually his depression lifted. The recreational therapist persuaded him to start art classes, and he discovered a wonderful talent.

'After my accident, I felt unbelievably isolated. I couldn't do anything for myself, but somehow when I came to Beit Halochem, I felt at home with the other disabled soldiers. When I came to Toronto in 1996 with other disabled war veterans, I felt I was finally on the road to recovery. The warmth and love of the Jewish community made me realize that people really care, and I could make friends and be happy again. Beit Halochem is my lifeline.'

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Participants in the trivia party to raise money for Zareinu Education Centre add up their scores. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Synagogue trivia contest helps Zareinu

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nearly 300 people competed in a multimedia trivia contest held recently at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, and managed not only to have fun, but to raise $7,000 for Zareinu Educational Centre, a school for children with multiple handicaps.

This is the second year that the event has been held, said Dahna Rosenblum, who co-ordinated the evening along with Tamar Koschitzky.

It all started with wanting to throw a party, and "it evolved into a fundraiser," she said. We decided that Zareinu was a really good cause, formed a committee," and the rest, as they say, was history.

This year, participants identified slides, music and perfume samples and took part in taste tests. Sports, Jewish knowledge and art were among the topics covered.

Each member of the winning team received a gift certificate to King Solomon's Table.

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Michael Briks

Briks goes to JIAS

TORONTO — Michael Briks has been appointed national executive director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), replacing Susan Davis.

Briks comes to the post from Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, where he was manager of community regional services.

He has extensive background in government, settlement agencies and the Jewish community.

Briks has a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Toronto, a master's in social work and a master's in criminology. He has also completed the advanced level program in Alternate Dispute Resolutions at the University of Windsor's faculty of law.

Briks has published extensively in such areas as human rights, employment equity and casework intervention.

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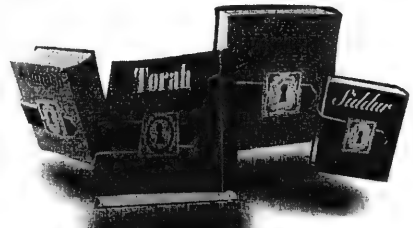

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Greater Toronto Area

Student relations deteriorate

[Cont'd. from page 3]

specting the sensitivities of Arab students, said Herbert Brill, JSU's political action coordinator. During Arab Culture Week, the Palestinian display stated that it was the Israeli government's policy to massacre people and that Israeli paratroopers were killers. The map of "Palestine" included Israel and had no political boundaries, he added.

Last year on Israel Day, organizers avoided any political issues and even employed an aerial view of the region to avoid including a map with political boundaries, Davis said. Jewish students are now saying we should be more up front in following our own political agenda, he added.

Despite that growing attitude, some Jewish students associated with the JSU wish to continue the JSU's two-year-old attempt to foster better relations with Arab students. Ari Fried has undertaken his own, "totally unofficial, very casual" contacts, discussing issues with Palestinian students in the university library.

But he too was disappointed at last week's lecture, which was billed as a forum for open discussion but which he believed "was a forum to express discontent with the peace process....You realize you have to build a bridge of trust and then you get one of these meetings and it's backward, like something out of the 1970s."

Layal El Abdallah, secretary and coordinator of the Arab Students Association, which mounted the controversial Palestinian display, agrees there is the need for better relations. But she defended the display and comparison of Israelis to Nazis.

She said she was offended by a soldier's uniform at the Israel Day exhibit, and she then compared Israeli soldiers to Nazis, saying Israelis had massacred Palestinians.

As for the display, "we have certain views and we didn't want to attack anybody," she said.

She said the relationship between Jewish and Arab students "can't get worse. It's going to get better, but it takes time, patience and an open mind," she said.

A WORLD OF JEWISH WOMEN

Above, an elderly Bukharan woman is one of a diverse group portrayed in *A World of Jewish Women*, the Joan Roth photo exhibit running from April 1 to 25, at the Vancouver Public Library. An award-winning photographer, Roth took the pictures over a period of 12 years in places like Israel, Morocco, India, Russia, Ethiopia, Yemen and Bulgaria. The show, sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women, Vancouver section, is one of several events being held this year in honor of the 100th anniversary of National Council of Jewish Women of Canada. [Joan Roth photo]

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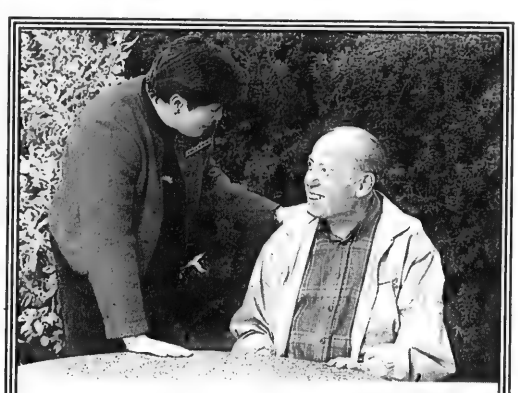

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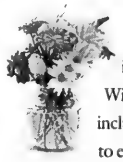

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Charness, Perelmuter make a real difference

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Susan Charness and Farah Perelmuter just want to make a difference.

Charness, 50, and Perelmuter, 27, were both nominees for the ninth annual Women Who Make a Difference Awards, presented by

Susan Charness

Toronto Life Fashion and The Hudson's Bay. Co.

Established to recognize the achievements of Toronto women, the awards are presented in such categories as the arts, business professional, communications, community affairs, early achiever and entrepreneur.

As owner of Susan Charness Talent, an 8-year-old talent agency for people with disabilities, Charness says, "I started the agency because I realized there were no disabled people in advertising or on television. I am trying to change social attitudes. People are not handicapped by disabilities, but rather, by the attitude of others."

Charness, who had polio as a youngster in Halifax, says that the public sees people with disabilities as either how they are portrayed on telethons or as "Rick Hansen-types. In between these two spectrums are people like me and my clients – ordinary people who happen to have a disability. We are people first."

She says that none of her over 100 clients had ever acted. "They had the desire, but they needed the chance. Given that chance, I can see the tremendous change in them. When people see them in a positive light, that is how they react and they feel good about themselves. The fun part of my work is opening up doors and letting people walk through. Incredible things happen."

In a perfect world, says Charness, disabled people would be able to audition for every part.

"Right now, if it is not written into the script they cannot get in. It is always stipulated what type of disability [producers and directors] want to see; so in fact, the disability comes before the person. What I want, is for everyone to be treated equally.

Special Olympics volunteer

"We've come a long way in eight years, but not nearly long enough for me."

Perelmuter, nominated in the young achievers category, is president and founder of Speakers' Spotlight, a 2-year-old company that books speakers for conferences around the world.

"The exciting part of my business is meeting some of Canada's most interesting people," she says. "From discussing sports with Paul Henderson or talking fashion with Harry Rosen, to having coffee with Margaret Trudeau Kemper, I think my job is fascinating. I think many meeting planners are now realizing what Canada has to offer. We have world aclaimed speakers right in our own backyard."

Farah Perelmuter

Volunteer work is an important part of Perelmuter's life, she says, and a highlight for her was her work with the 1997 Special Olympics World Winter Games. She was a member of the marketing committee, co-commissioner of the speakers bureau and was responsible for developing and training a group of athlete and volunteer spokespersons.

"It was an incredible experience, working with these athletes. Whether they won or not, they were all supportive of one another and happy to be participating in the games. It helped me put a perspective on my life."

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Greater Toronto Area

Panelists explore importance of their Jewish identity

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a radio talk show host, Marsha Lederman describes herself as an "out-of-the-closet" Jew.

In a similar vein, Ralph Benmergui of *CBC Newsworld* advised Jewish campus leaders during a recent program at Adath Israel Congregation never to apologize for being Jewish.

The two journalists (neither of whom work on Jewish holidays) joined Freda Muscovitch, the driving force behind Holy Blossom Temple's Out of the Cold Program for homeless people, on a panel at the Jewish Campus Services leadership development program. The panelists discussed how they express their Jewish identity in their work or volunteer life.

A major influence on Lederman, both personally and professionally, was being a child of Holocaust survivors, she said.

Even as a youngster, she wondered how the world let the Holocaust happen, a question that still haunts her. Journalism provided the "opportunity to combine the things I was good at with a desire to make the world aware."

In 1994, while still a reporter at AM640 (now Talk 640), where she can be heard these days co-hosting the weekday show *Horsman/Lederman*, she produced, wrote and served as interviewer on a five-part Holocaust documentary. The series earned her a Radio and Television News Directors Association of Canada award.

Her four-part documentary on

Freda Muscovitch

Marsha Lederman

Ralph Benmergui

AIDS victims ran this year.

"If I made people care... maybe I've given them the opportunity to speak up next time something awful happens," she said.

But there's also "bad stuff" about being openly Jewish, Lederman noted. She considers on-air calls with anti-Semitic overtones "a good opportunity" to set the record straight, but knows she won't get through to everyone. Most such negative feedback can be found on the show's voice mail, she said. "You just have to take it with a grain of salt."

Lederman is convinced there is a reason for her parents' survival and her existence: to give people "the courage, knowledge and opportunity to speak up... You guys go out and do it!"

Moroccan-born Benmergui sees himself as a minority within a minority.

Journalism is a logical choice for Jews, he believes. "The thing about being a Jew of any kind... is that it leads you to deconstruct things quickly and find out how to fit in."

Over the past 20 years in comedy and journalism, Benmergui has "made it a point to be an ethnic person.

"I can't see the purpose of keeping our heads down."

Benmergui worries about insular groups of Jews who see themselves as right and others as wrong. "Things are wrong if you don't hear that other people have legitimacy as people. You dehumanize them.

"You have to take pride in where you come from and who you are, but please try not to be exclusive about this."

It's incumbent on Jews to learn about other faiths, he believes, so "they don't become just 'other.' That's what we are to them."

Using touchy Israeli political issues as an example, he urged students to open themselves to the possibility of changing their minds. "Stay confused," he advised.

Muscovitch, as a downtown resident, had long been aware of Toronto's homeless population. As an educator in the field of alcohol and drug abuse, she wondered whether giving money to street people was just "maintaining their habit."

"What can we do that isn't token?" she wondered. The answer came to her about three years ago, when she heard a radio broadcast about Out of the Cold, a food and shelter program run at some two dozen Toronto churches.

Hearing that it was non-denominational, she inquired whether there was Jewish participation.

With the support of Rabbi Dow Marmur and Holy Blossom's social action committee, Muscovitch organized an apprenticeship program at a downtown church, where her Holy Blossom contingent, bolstered by other members of the Jewish community including a substantial number of campus volunteers, could learn the ropes before launching their own self-sustaining program affiliated with Out of the Cold.

"When you see something, respond to it," she urged. "Seek mentors." To her, leadership means providing nurturance, taking on a challenge and doing the legwork. "There are always people who will support you."

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On campus

Intergenerational program helps students, seniors

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Betina Kuzmarov, a fourth-year University of Toronto student, has a new perspective on aging, thanks to a monthly intergenerational program that began last fall under her aegis as social action co-chair for U of T's Jewish Student Union (JSU).

The seniors in the program are participants in a group that meets weekly at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre for social/cultural/educational programs.

Their monthly intergenerational events have been a joint effort of the students and Judy Weinryb, JCC seniors' coordinator.

"It's a very positive thing," said Weinryb. "The students are terrific. They put in a lot of effort. They're very creative."

The first session, held in October, was a storytelling/getting-to-know-each-other session held on campus, resulting from the JSU's participation in the Downtown Community Council, a group of downtown Jewish organizations.

Kuzmarov's co-chair, Naomi Rifkind, has been overseeing a second intergenerational program, a weekly event at Lincoln Place Nursing Home.

Mid-April Shabbat dinners at the Bernard Betel Centre and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, as well as a Shabbat lunch at the Bloor JCC, are upcoming intergenerational events.

At a recent JCC event, Kuzmarov and three other students (less than half the usual number because of exams) organized a Purim event. Participants made Mishloach Manot baskets to be delivered to shut-ins. Kuzmarov taught a couple of Purim songs and led a discussion on the story of Purim.

University of Toronto student Shoshana Lebovic, left, wraps Purim treats with Helen Eisen at a recent intergenerational program at the Bloor JCC. [Frances Kraft photo]

At 85, Sylvia Kane is probably the senior senior of the group. A going concern, she goes to the JCC often, exercising twice weekly and attending current event classes as well as the Thursday group.

Kane is delighted about the intergenerational program. "I'm happy to see good youth who do good things and set an example for other youth. We need stable youth role models to show the other youth who do not read much, who sit by the television and want to be entertained, to get them interested in more things. It's good for them and the community."

The students are "great," enthused Fanny Brass, 77.

Morris Eisen, who attends the group with his wife Helen, likes seeing young people, he said. For Helen, the student programs provide a change of pace.

"I think they're very entertaining and stimulating. The students don't look down on seniors," said septuagenarian Mollie Rotman, who particularly enjoyed their Tu b'Shvat seder program. "I think most people weren't even aware there was a seder at Tu B'Shvat."

For her part, Kuzmarov has loved working with the seniors, she said. "It's been such a rewarding experience. My grandparents live in Montreal. I don't get to experience them on a day-to-day basis. Most importantly, this has taught me a positive way to age."

This type of program "transcends all these differences we think separate us," said Lance Davis, JSU program director.

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סאַבע (פרידע) מיראָנסקי

דינסטיק, דעם 25־סטן פעברואר, איז אין טאָראָנטאָ, נאָך אַ קורצער אָבער שווערער קראַנקהייט געשטאָרבן די באַקאַנטע גע־זעלשאַפטלעכע טוערין סאַבע (פרידע) מיראָנסקי, אלמנה פון דעם פאָפולערן ייִדישן דיכטער און משלים־שרייבער פרץ מיראָנסקי.

דער טויט פון סאַבען איז געווען אַן אומגעריכטער און האָט אַרויסגערופן אומגלויבן אין טרויער בי אַלע וואָס האָבן זי געקענט. זי איז געווען אַן ענסטיק־שטאַרקער מענטש, מיט אַ סך ענערגיע און אַ וויל צום לעבן. איר כאַראַקטער און מוט זיינען אַלעמאָל ביגעקומען די שווערסטן, וואָס זי האָט אָנגעטראָפן אין איר לעבן.

סאַבע איז געבוירן געווארן אין וואַרשע, געווען אַ שילערין פון אַ ייִדיש־זוֹעלטלעכער שולע און וויי אַ סך קינדער פון די פאַלקס־שולן זיך אָנגעשלאָסן אין דער יוגנט באַוועגונג פון „בונד", אין „סקיף" און „צוקונפט".

אין די שוידערלעכע יאָרן פון דער מלחמה איז סאַבע, צוזאַמען מען מיט איר מוטער און שוועסטער פראַנקא, פאַרשלעפט געוואָרן קיין ווילנע, וואו זי האָט דורכגעלעבט די טראָגישע יאָרן פון ווילנער געטאָ־לעבן. די ייִשע הענקער האָבן סאַבען, נאָך דער ליק־ווידאַציע פון ווילנער געטאָ, פארשיקט אין אַ קאָנצענטראַציע לאָגער אין עסטאָניע. זי האָט איבערגעלעבט און זיך דערוואַרט אויפן זיג איבער די היטלער־מערדער.

נאָך דער באַפרייאונג פון דייטשער שקלאָפערי איז זי אַוועק קיין לאָדזש, וואו עס האָט שוין פונקציאָנירט אַ באַנייטע בונדישע אַרגאַניזאַציע. דאָרט האָט זי געפונען איר מקום־מקלט. זי ווערט אַקטיוו און זי ווערט אַ טייל פון דער שוך־גרופּע, וואָס האָט מיט געווער אין די הענט באַשיצט דעם אַרגאַניזאַציע־לאָקאַל קעגן כ־ליגאַנישע אַנפאַלן פון די פאַשיסטן. סאַבע באַקענט דאָן און פאַר־ביידט זיך מיט איר חבר שמשון פרידע. די מעגלעכקייטן צו בוינען אַ ני ייִדיש לעבן אויף די חורבות פון די פּוילישע געטאָס זיינען געווען שווערע, און סאַבע מיט שמשונען פאַרלאָזן פּוילן און קומען אָן אין אַ די־פּי. לאָגער אין דייטשלאַנד. דאָרט ווערט געבוירן זייער טעכטעקל אסתר־ל. אין יאָר 1948 קומען זיי אָן קיין טאָראָנטאָ, וואו זיי בויען זייער ני לעבן.

זייער היים ווערט דער צענטער פאַר די ני־אַנגעקומענע חברים. דאָס איז געווען אַ שטוב אַנגעפילט מיט מענטשלעכער וואַרעמקייט און אַ חברישע אַטמאָספער פון גוטסקייט. שמשון מיט סאַבען ווערן באַלד אַקטיוו אין דעם טאָראָנטער אַרבעטער־ריג. זיי ווערן די מיטגרינדער פון דעם שלמה מענדעלסאָן ברענטש און פון דעם „אַנגאַ ראָזענטאָל פרויען קלוב", וועלכע פידן ביזן היינטיקן טאָג זייער געזעלשאַפטלעכע און ייִדישע קולטור־אַרבעט. זיי באַטייליקן זיך אַקטיוו אין דער טעטיקייט פון דער בונדישער גרופּע און אין דער אַרבעט פון דער פּרץ שולע. זיי זיינען געווען אין צענטער פון די אַקטיוויסטן פון די ני־געקומענע חברים.

אַבער ווי געוואָגט איז סאַבע'ס לעבן געווען פול מיט שווערי־קייטן. אין יאָר 1971 איז שמשון אומדערוואַרטעט אַוועק פון דער וועלט און איבערגעלאָזט פאַר־יתומט נישט בלויז סאַבען מיט די קינדער, נאָר אויך זיינע חברים און פרייַנד.

דאָס אומגליק האָט אַבער נישט געבראָכן סאַבע'ס ווילן וויטער אָנצוגיין מיטן לעבן. נאָך עטלעכע יאָרן איינאַמקייט, טרויער איר אַקטיוואַר אַרבעט אין דעם „אַנגאַ ראָזענטאָל קלוב" און אַרבעטער־ריג, באַפרייַנדעט זיך סאַבע מיטן באַקאַנטן ייִדישן פּאָעט און שרייבער פרץ מיראָנסקי, וועלכער האָט פאַרלוירן זיין פרוי. זיי באַקומען זיך ליב און האָבן חתונה. אַ ני גליקלעך קאַפּיטל האָט זיך אָנגעהויבן אין סאַבע'ס לעבן. פרץ איז געווען גוט צו איר וויי אַ טאַטע. זי איז געווען גוט צו אים, געזאָרגט פאַר זיין געזונט, פאַר זיין אויסזען, געוואָרן די טרייַ־קראָפט פאַר זיין ייִדישער שאָפּונג און איז געוואָרן די צווייטע מאַמע פאַר פרצ'עס יתומים.

סאַבע'ס ענערגיע, אידע געזעלשאַפטלעכע אַקטיוויטעטן און ייִדישע קולטור אַרבעט האָבן פיל צוגעטראָגן צו זייער גליקלעך צוזאַמענלעבן. דורך דער צייט זיינען דערשינען דריי ביכער פון מיראָנסקי'ס לידער און משלים. די מיראָנסקיס זיינען געוואָרן פאָפולער אין באַליבט אין דער ייִדישער געזעלשאַפט. מיט פרצ'עס אַוועקגיין פון דער וועלט האָבן זיך נייַע טעג פון איינאַמקייט אָנגעהויבן פאַר סאַבען. זי האָט אַבער נישט אויפגעגעבן איר ווילן צום לעבן. ווי פריער איז זי געווען אַקטיוו אין אַרבעטער־ריג, בונדישע גרופּע און אין קאַמיטעט פאַר ייִדיש, וואו זי איז געווען אַן עקזעקוטיוו־מיטגליד.

עס איז אַוועק אַ גוטער, האַרציקער, נוצלעכער מענטש און טוער. כבוד איר אָנדענק!

אהרון פיינער

Tom's 2nd Annual "Why Pay Retail?" Sale!

Rediscover **Tom's Place**, Toronto's best-kept fashion secret! The Bloor JCC will host Tom's 2nd Annual million dollar Inventory Clearance Sale! Prices will be slashed 60% to 80% off Tom's regular sale prices! Best of all, a portion of the sale proceeds on Thursday, Friday and Sunday will be donated to the Bloor JCC's capital campaign.

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Leather Coats from $149.99! Men's & Women's Suits from $99.99! Jackets from $49.99! Pants from $29.99! Skirts from $19.99! Blouses from $9.99! Ties from $9.99! Belts from $9.99!

Prices valid April 10 to April 13 while supplies last. Alterations extra. All sales final. Major credit cards and Interac accepted. No cheques please.

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Ray D. Wolfe Fellow, 1996-97
University of Toronto

LOVE, LITERATURE, AND THE JEWS:
S.Y. AGNON AND THE SEARCH FOR
THE ROMANTIC NOVEL

Monday, April 7, 1997
8:00 p.m.

Croft Chapter House – Room 183
University College
15 King's College Circle

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.
Reception following.

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Sunday afternoon,
April 13, 1997

Preview 12:30 p.m.
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(Dessert reception following auction)

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Singles Events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sunday,April 6, 7:30 pm**, Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook, Ages 26-40, 41-69. ***BRIDGE, Rummicube, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo,** 7:30-8pm,Prizes, refreshments, $5.00, 62 couples have already met! Free introductions, Mollie, 416-733-3634.

NEW IMAGE 50 + SINGLES** is having a ***Mix & Mingle on Sunday, April 6th at Earl Bales Community Centre at 7:30 pm. Refreshments. Tapes by Murray. Members $2., Guests $4. Member's Dinner, Sun., May 25th, money now due. Trip to Granit, Sunday, July 27th - Monday, August 4th (9 days). See Helen.

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It's a Ball! It's a Mask! It's a Blast! Israel Cancer Research Fund is holding its 5th Annual **Le Bal Masque**, Saturday, April 12 at 8pm at The Arcadian Court, Simpson Tower, 401 Bay St. It includes a casino (proceeds to Mt. Sinai Hospital), silent auction, dancing, light dinner & much more! The event features a Mardi Gras theme. Black Tie optional. Prize for Best Mask will be presented by a Toronto celebrity. Tickets $50.00 in advance, $65.00 at the door. **Call the ICRF office at (416) 487-5246.**

Jewish Singles Registry *"Open House"*. If you have **never** been to a dating service before, here's the perfect opportunity to informally drop by and see what we're all about. Meet with Registry staff members, view selected **profiles, photographs,** and hear **voice messages**. With over **1300** members registered & averaging an **engagement every 6 weeks**, the **JSR** is the fastest & easiest way to meet other Jewish singles. Let us show you how! Sun., April 13th, from 1pm - 4pm, 55 Eglinton Ave. East, Suite 405. Call 416-483-4151.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1300** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** weeks. 483-4151.

The Adventure Network (TAN) - Get a Tan this Summer - Cycling, Blading, Hiking & Water Skiing. Club Registration & Information: **TUCKER TOURS** - Totally Excellent Adventures: 905-707-0147.

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BBC presents Media Human Rights Awards

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

Allan Rock

WINNIPEG — An article on Ku Klux Klan activities in Saskatchewan in the 1930s, a *Toronto Star* series on spousal abuse, a retrospective on the Nuremberg trials 50 years later, and a Quebec television documentary suggesting a cover-up in the deaths of two Inuit fishermen were the winners in the recent 22nd annual B'nai Brith Canada National Media Human Rights Awards.

The Quebec piece, aired by Radio-Canada, explored the unsolved deaths, 17 years ago, of the two Inuit, with allegations of a cover-up by authorities. The program also highlighted the ongoing problems between native people and Quebec police.

In the radio category, the winning entry was *Nuremberg On Trial*, a two-part CBC Radio Ideas program comparing the Nuremberg trials with the recent trials of alleged war criminals in Bosnia.

The Moosomin, Sask. *World Spectator* won in the Print/Non-dailies category for its look at the history and influence of the Klan in that province in the 1920s and 1930s. The article suggested that the Saskatchewan Klan was more a political than a violent racist movement.

Honorable mentions in the Print Non/Dailies category were given to the *Western Jewish Bulletin* for a series revealing the unfair treatment of Vancouver Jews with AIDS and Toronto's *NOW* magazine for an exposé of Jewish conspiracy theories in the Polish press in that city.

Winnipeg played host to the awards for the third year in a row. The keynote speaker this year was federal Justice Minister Allan Rock.

Rock spoke of Canada's diverse ethnic make-up but warned, "There is no room for complacency. We have to be continually taking stock and striving to do better. The struggle is never over, the race never won."

He spoke of judicial progress in the last three years in terms of human rights. He noted, as an example, the amendment to the Criminal Code which instructs courts and judges, in passing sentence, to take into consideration hatred or prejudice in the commission of a crime.

On the subject of Nazi war criminals living in Canada, Rock observed that "too many Canadian governments for too long did too little." He described his government's actions to deal with the problem by bringing immigration proceedings against a dozen alleged war criminals in an effort to deport them.

"We are committed to pursuing these cases wherever warranted," he said. "We will find the resources we need. There is no statute of limitation on murder. This is a matter of simple human morality."

It is not only World War II war criminals about which the Canadian government is prepared to take action. "We will no longer allow Canada to become a haven for any alleged war criminals, past or present," Rock said.

The evening featured the inaugural presentation of a regional Human Rights Achievement Award to Helmut-Harry Loewen, an anti-racist activist and founder and research director of WARN (the Western Anti-Racist Network).

He pointed out that he is part of a growing international network of anti-racists who track, monitor and, at times, confront and counter racists and their propaganda. "The fight goes on at many levels," he said. "The situation in Winnipeg mirrors Canada as a whole. You will find the Klan, the European Defence League, the Northern Hammerskins in several cities across the country."

He praised Winnipeg Jewish skinhead leader Yaron Walter for his anti-racist efforts.

On May 12, he reported, Winnipeg will be the site of the most important hate crimes trial in Canadian history. Four neo-Nazis are facing a murder charge in the death of Gordon Kuhtey four years ago. The attackers allegedly thought Kuhtey was gay because he was walking alone in an area of Winnipeg known to be frequented by gay men.

"There will be tension around the trial," Loewen said. "Our concern is that some of the witnesses are weakening. Manitoba does not have a good track record in prosecuting neo-Nazis."

From coast to coast

Jewish anglophone to help promote a separate Quebec

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The man who will have the tough job of explaining separation and selling Quebec as a good place to invest over the next few years to Wall Street is David Levine, a Jewish anglophone who embraced Quebec independence over 20 years ago and has spent his entire career in the francophone milieu.

Levine, director-general of Notre Dame Hospital for five years, is taking a leave of absence to assume a new position at the province's delegation in New York in May.

Initially, Levine will serve as "multilateral delegate for international organizations," acting as liaison with such bodies as the United Nations and the World Bank. This fall, he is to assume the top post of delegate-general, when Kevin Drummond's mandate ends, continuing his multilateral duties. The term is generally three years.

Quebec has three delegates-general — in London, Paris and New York — as well as lower-ranked representation in Brussels, Tokyo and Mexico City.

In New York, the quasi-diplomatic delegation has a largely economic role, trying to help Quebec businesses sell their wares in the United States and attract American investment. The office also promotes Quebec's artists and cultural products, deals with immigration, and monitors U.S. public affairs.

Levine will oversee a staff of about 30, located in Rockefeller Centre, and spend a good deal of time in Washington as well. In fact, the office is responsible for the eastern half of the United States.

"It will be a dynamic time, with a [Quebec] election within the next two years, and if the government wins, a referendum after that. Being in New York will give me an interesting window to events," he said.

Americans see it as an internal Canadian matter

Levine doesn't think Americans, either those in politics or business, are all that concerned with separation. "The government sees it as an internal Canadian matter and, among investors, they may be concerned with the consequences of sovereignty, but not with sovereignty as such."

He believes that if Americans are shown what Quebec has to offer, they will realize separation need not mean a "significant disruption" in the pursuit of their financial interests. He will be presenting Quebec, with its bilingualism, as a "middleman" between North America and Europe.

"I will explain why the current situation exists, where sovereignty came from. But I'm certainly not going to try to convince Americans. They are not going to vote here."

Levine, 48, grew up in the West End, attended Solomon Schechter Academy and was USY director at Shaare Zion Congregation. He graduated from McGill in engineering and then went to England to study biomedical engineering.

He says he never spoke French until he enrolled at the Ecole des Hautes Etude Commerciales, where one of his professors was Jacques Parizeau. In 1979, he ran for the Parti Québécois in the D'Arcy McGee byelection, at the request of then premier René Levesque who hoped he could explain the upcoming sovereignty referendum to anglophones.

His early flirtation with independence was rooted in his identification with social democratic politics. Today, he supports separation "out of respect for Quebecers' legitimate aspirations."

Before coming to Notre Dame, Levine has worked over the past 25 years mainly in health care administration, including directing Verdun Hospital and one of the first CLSCs in Montreal.

Levine is no stranger to New York. His sister Elissa and her husband Albert Benchimol have lived there 10 years and he visits about four times a year. She is head of rehabilitation services at Mount Sinai Hospital and he is an executive with the Reliance insurance company.

Levine will be moving with his wife Arlene, a Vanier College teacher, and their three teenaged children.

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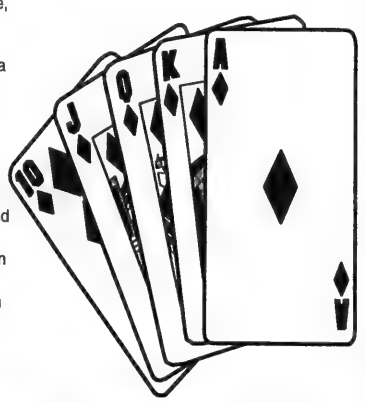

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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, April 7, deadline for April 17 issue; Monday, April 14, deadline for April 24. Due to Passover holidays, Thursday, April 17, is deadline for May 1 and Thursday, April 24, is deadline for May 8. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, April 3

ISRAEL ALIYAH CENTRE

Resolutions and summary evening to conclude series of meetings with shippers and vendors, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. 633-4766.

Sunday, April 6

THE SHPEELERS

Shaarei Shomayim Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Brotherhood present The Shpeelers, 8 p.m. Band is donating its services and proceeds go to Jews for Judaism. Coordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove.**

GENETIC ENGINEERING

At Temple Sinai, **Rabbi Lawrence Colton, Dr. Alan Bernstein,** lawyer **Gilbert Sharpe** discuss Genetic Engineering – How Far Do We Go?, 10 a.m.

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

To Laugh is Healthy! (Lachn iz gezunt), with **Gloria Valentine, Michael Lebovic, Allen Farkas, Brian Katz,** 7 p.m., Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. 498-0106.

GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY

Social evening of Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah and more for Group A ages 26-40, Group B ages 41-69, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrooke Ave. **Mollie** 733-3634.

BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST

Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood breakfast, investment advisor **Joseph Frasko** speaks on Managing the Risk of Outliving Your Savings. Services 8:30 a.m., breakfast at 9.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

All are welcome to listen and tell at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

WELLNESS SERIES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah Sisterhood wellness series features Nutrition in the '90s, with **Jane Manly,** 8 p.m.

HABONIM'S BREAKFAST CLUB

Congregation Habonim features philatelist **Norman Amato** in a talk about Anti-Jewish Feelings: A History in Stamps, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave.

ORAYNU

Comparative Religions lecture, **Peter Gilbert,** 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. RSVP 364-7002.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Feminist Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, *Desert of the Heart* by **Jane Rule,** 2-4 p.m. **Ruth Goldsmith,** 782-6414.

Monday, April 7

MEALS OF PASSOVER

Beth Sholom Sisterhood presents three seders, Ashkenazi, Sephardi and vegetarian, and other Passover meals for the week by authors of *To Life* cook book, **Thelma Barer-Stein, Esther Schwartz** and **Rita Vandersluis,** 8 p.m. Admittance by Passover food product.

MIZRACHI CONCERT

Annual Mizrachi concert featuring **Chazzan Yaacov Motzin** and guest appearance by **Shloime Simcha,** 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. For tickets, 630-9266.

U OF T JEWISH STUDIES

University of Toronto Jewish studies program lecture on Love, Literature, and the Jews: S.Y. Agnon and the Search for the Romantic Novel by **Sharon Green,** Ray D. Wolfe Fellow, 1996/97, 8 p.m., Croft Chapter House, University College, 15 King's College Circle.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODISH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Nisan celebration, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Who Knows Four? Our Foremothers, with **Rachael Turkienicz.** Ma'ariv for women following shiur.

GIANT RUMMAGE SALE

Pride of Israel Sisterhood giant rummage sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Tuesday, April 8

ORAH CHAPTER, JWI

Orah chapter, Jewish Women Inter-

[Cont'd. on page 25]

WARNING!

For centuries we have learned of the 10 plagues, with which the Egyptians were smitten.

Blood • Frogs • Lice • Beasts • Blight • Boils • Hail • Locusts • Darkness and the slaying of the first born.

On Pesach we rejoice in the recollection of the Jews' exodus from Egypt. Our seders commemorate this historic period.

When preparing for the seder this year ...

AVOID the 11th PLAGUE

Avoid being a slave in the kitchen ...

Avoid washing dozens of dishes long after the seder has ended

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What's New

{Cont'd. from page 24}

national, invites you to LAPH it off! **Lynne Morrison** explains the Lifestyle Adjustment Program for Health and how to reduce health risk factors, 7:30 p.m. **Annette** 789-2434.

FASHION SHOW

Beth Tikvah Sisterhood Fashion Show, In the Pink. Silent auction 6:45 p.m. preceding show beginning 8 p.m. Proceeds to sisterhood projects and Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital. $20.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

At Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood meeting, **Marilyn Steiner** discusses Touring with the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9

JEWISH FAMILY IN CRISIS

The Jewish Family in Crisis, a three-part symposium presented by Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute. First lecture, Survival of the Jewish People: The Family In Community, by **Prof. David Novak** 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation. 596-6959.

VISIT TO DENNIS MUSEUM

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation historical and exhibitions committee visit to Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum, Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 8 p.m. **Dorion Liebgott,** curator.

CREATIVITY & INSPIRATION

Lynne Heller, quilt maker and surface designer, slide show of her recent work, at Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 225-2002 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses How to Kosher Your Kitchen for Passover, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

SANDWICH GENERATION

Associated Hebrew Schools Parents' Association meeting followed by **Dale Wasser** of Seneca College speaking on The Sandwich Generation, 8 p.m., Kamin Centre. **Doris** 905-771-7988.

Thursday, April 10

FROM LEGO TO EGO

Shaar Shalom Sisterhood presents **Sarah Chana Radcliffe,** author of *The Delicate Balance*, speaking on From Lego to Ego — The Building Block of Self-Esteem, 8 p.m., at synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill.

BAYCREST SPRING SALE

Baycrest's Spring Sale '97, offering new merchandise at bargain prices, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Money raised supports projects of Baycrest Women's Auxiliary, Alzheimer research and construction of Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders.

And What Else Is New

SENIORS/STUDENTS SHABBAT

Intergenerational Shabbat programs involving seniors and students from York's Jewish Student Federation, U of T's Jewish Students Union, and Ryerson and Seneca Hillels, April 11-12. Friday, April 11, dinners at Bernard Betel Centre and Baycrest; Saturday, April 12, Shabbat lunch at Bloor JCC. Jewish Campus Services 512-0814.

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Yiddish and Jewish music, theatre and comedy, hosted by **Gloria Valentine**, emceed by **Bluma**, featuring Bluma & Friend, **Jodi Miller, Ben Shek**, **Jack Newman, Allan Price**, **Paul Matthew**, **Honey Novick**, Saturday, April 12, 8:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Sponsored by Morris Winchevsky School 789-5502 and Jewish Artists Scholarship Society 638-2222.

MUSICAL LEGACY CONCERT

Temple Sinai's Musical Legacy Concert Friday, April 11, features the Milton Choristers, conducted by **Gordon Burnett.** Featured work is *Sarah's Sacrifice* by **Ben Steinberg.** Services begin 8:15 p.m.

CULINARY EVENING

Casual culinary evening, Italian style, speaker **Percy Skuy**, Saturday, April 12, $25 (tax receipt). All funds go to purchase a sports wheelchair for Disabled Veterans in Israel (Beit Halochem Canada) 488-7649.

MUMS YOU CAN'T PASS OVER

National Council of Jewish Women delivers mums for Passover, personalized cards with each basket. $18. Free delivery. 633-5100.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Sisterhood CPR course, Sunday, April 6; MITY Munch, Monday, April 7; **Rabbi Lawrence Englander's** course, The Zohar: Reading in Kabbalah, Tuesdays; Kitah Aleph Shabbat dinner Friday, April 11; Grade 2 and 3 afternoon program, Saturday, April 12; Solel seder, Tuesday, April 22; morning minyan Tuesdays; regular and family Shabbat services. 905-820-5915.

AT BETH TZEDEC

Rabbi Marvin Tokayer speaks on The Jews of China, Sunday, April 6, at Men's Club brunch. Brunch 10 a.m. ($3), lecture 11 a.m. (no charge).

Seniors Chaverim program, Monday, April 7, 1:30 p.m. **Gordon Kushner**, director, Beth Tzedec Choir, speaks on Music in Our Lives.

One Hundred Years of Zionism series concludes with The End of Zionism or the Dream of a New Era? with **Rabbi Dow Marmur**, Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Elliott Malamet leads the seder on Monday, April 21, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Reserve. **Carol** 789-3213.

KIDS PEER GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service groups for parents and kids: A peer socialization group for children who have difficulty making friends or who behave in a socially inappropriate way. Begins Wednesday, May 6. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

KESHET SHALOM SEDER

Congregation Keshet Shalom, serving the needs of the gay, lesbian and bisexual communities, Passover seder, Tuesday, April 22, 519 Community Centre on Church St. Reserve by April 16. 925-1408.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Improve your conversational Yiddish. Intermediate classes start Wednesday, April 9, 7:30-9:30 p.m., register at 6:30 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue; $56 for eight sessions, $6.50 for seniors. **Judy** 785-3690 or **Louis** 495-0919.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Parenting Alone, begins May 5; Stepparenting, begins April 9; Bereavement Group for people who have lost a spouse, begins April 10. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800. ext. 215.

PATRON GALA

Koffler Centre of the Arts annual Patron Gala featuring the works of Canadian artist **Tim Whiten**, plus live jazz, elegant desserts, Tuesday, April 15. All levels of patronage include admission for two. 636-1880, ext. 352.

BETH JACOB CONGREGATION

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation, 147 Overbrook Pl.

Rabbi Jay Kelman leads classes on the Passover Haggadah Wednesdays, April 9 and 16, 8:15 p.m. 638-5955.

Beginner's Minyan — A service for beginners, Saturday, April 5, 10:15 a.m **Harry Zettel**. 635-8478.

CJC REGIONAL PLENARY

The 29th regional Plenary of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, April 5-6, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Opening session (admission free), Saturday 8:30 p.m., One is Too Many: Nazi War Criminals in Canada, **Steve Rambam, Prof. Irving Abella**, lawyer **Ed Morgan**, journalist **David Vienneau**. Canadian International Trade Minister **Art Eggleton** and Tel Aviv Mayor **Romni Milo** address CJC Regional Council, Sunday. Information/registration **Jennifer Turack**, 635-2883, ext. 152 or 154.

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH

Therapeutic Touch classes at Mount Sinai Hospital. Proceeds from $75 fee go to Jewish Hospice Program. First one-day introductory class, Sunday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register by Monday, April 7. 586-4800, ext. 6776.

SPRING YIDDISH COURSES

Yiddish classes offered this spring, beginning April and May, include conversation, songs, poetry and humor. Regular beginners and intermediate classes and for more advanced students, special three-session Yiddish language-culture mini-course with **Aaron Fainer**, Also History of Yiddish with **Richard Bassett.** Committee for Yiddish-UJA Federation, 635-2883, ext. 155.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Power of Kabbalah lecture, Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. Register.

Pesach seminar, Sunday, April 6, Barbara Frum Library. Register 7 p.m., lecture 7:30 p.m.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors second seder Tuesday, April 22, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., 8 p.m. $18. **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Avon Cosmetics demonstration May 1; Spring Fair May 4; Israel Experience tour May 7-20; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-18 Casino Rama May 21 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). April 10 is bingo and games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: *Dames at Sea*, Buffalo, June 1; *Camelot* , Stratford, Sept. 17; *Barnum*, ArtPark. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112

Parkinson's Support Group meeting, Sharing and Caring: A Rap Session, Tuesday, April 8, 1:15 p.m.

Fall Prevention Clinic, North York Public Health Department nurse, Wednesday, April 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Book appointment at Wellness Desk. 225-2169.

Pesach: Rediscovering Our Roots, **Rabbi Irvin Beigel**, Thursday, April 10, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. April 9 is a lecture. **Anna.**

The movie *Nixon*, Sunday, April 6, 2:15 p.m.

Wednesday social April 9 features **Lenke Lichtenberg**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Sundays at Bloor, Books and Bagels, presents *Bridges*, April 6, 11 a.m. Coffee and bagels served.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club, Thursday, April 3, 2 p.m., Taking Care of Me: Ways to Enhance Your Life, social worker **Louise Silverston.** Thursday, April 10, excursion to Harbourfront Gallery to visit The Shoebox Collection, photos of **Irving Fistell**. Leaving Bloor JCC 2 p.m. by TTC. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Registration for Centre Camp '97 for ages 2½-4. Programs include sports, dance, drama, arts and crafts, Judaica, music, nature, swimming. Specialty camp programs in arts, sports, computers for ages 8-12. ext. 378. September registration for Tic Tac Two, Nursery, Junior and Senior Kindergarten and daycare. Programs include Fun Centre time and music enrichment. Hebrew included for nursery, JK and SK. ext. 248.

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Passover Foods

THE CURIEL FAMILY AT PASSOVER

This painting by Bernard Picart (1673 - 1733) captures one of Judaism's most celebrated memory-sustaining rituals, the Passover seder. The Curiel family were celebrated members of the Jewish communities of both Hamburg and Amsterdam. Jacob Curiel, alias Duarte Nunez de Costa (1587-1665) was born in Lisbon and after a period of wandering in Italy and Holland, finally settled in Hamburg. *[All photos of paintings in the Passover Food section are reproduced from Sotheby's Important Judaica Catalogues.]*

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Passover Foods

Best advice on eating is to use common sense

Forget "good foods" and "bad foods" — all foods can fit into healthy eating!

"Healthy eating does not mean eliminating particular foods or food groups," says dietitian Pierrette Buklis, director of nutrition communications for the Canadian Sugar Institute. "It does mean making informed food choices and keeping you nutritional goals in mind."

Studies consistently show that when it comes to food and nutrition, consumers are confused by the often contradictory information they hear. While they want to make healthy food choices, they are reluctant to sacrifice taste and pleasure for nutritional value.

The good news is that all foods that add taste and enjoyment to a food or recipe have a role to play in healthy eating. For instance, sugar, which contains half the calories of fat, is an important source of carbohydrates and energy.

International studies indicate Canadians are eating sugar at a level consistent with Health Canada's definition of healthy eating and a recent nationwide tracking study by the Canadian Sugar Institute showed that nearly half the women surveyed felt sugar in moderation should be included in the diet.

Sugar on its own fits into the Other Foods group of Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating. As a component in other foods, it can be found in all other food groups, in items such as fruits, breads, yogurt, milk beverages and baked beans. Health Canada recommends we get most of our daily energy from carbohydrates, including sugars.

"Some of the best advice on healthy eating is really common sense," says Buklis. "Eat a variety of foods from all food groups, eat moderate portions, maintain a healthy weight and balance your food choices over time."

The dietitians at the Canadian Sugar Institute have the following tips for following a healthy diet:

• Make changes gradually. Putting an instant stop to any of your favorite foods will likely backfire in the long run.

Keep portions small

• Reduce, don't eliminate certain foods. If you eat too much of one food one day, simply cut back or choose something new the next day.

• Balance your food choices over time. A healthy diet is based on long-term eating habits based on a variety of foods.

• Start off with small portions. You can always go back for seconds.

• Remember, foods are neither good nor bad. Everying in moderation.

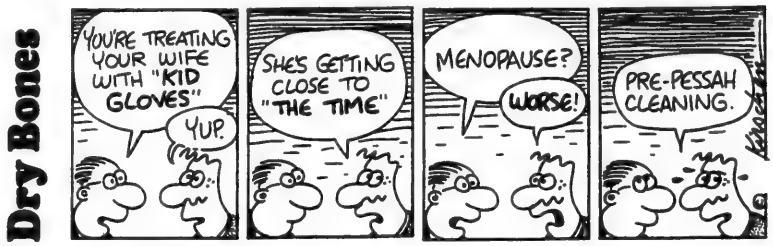
• Sugars add flavor, which can help us enjoy nutritious foods, such as whole grain products, that are important to our health. A little sugar as an ingredient in foods makes them more appetizing and satisfying. Try glazed carrots, bran muffins or chocolate milk.

• Did you know sugar has other functions in food? When baking, remember sugar can absorb and retain water very easily, helping to keep breads and muffins moist and tender. Sugar also prevents growth of bacteria, in items such as jams and preserves. And canned fruits retain their bright color better when kept in a sugar solution.

• The size of portions and the number of times you eat rich foods can be more detrimental to the waistline than what's actually in the food. For people who are trying to lose weight, it is important to remember that each gram of fat supplies nine calories, while each gram of sugar supplies only four:

• A little jam or jelly can replace butter or margarine as a spread.

• Half the amount of oil in a muffin recipe can often be replaced by a sweetened fruit purée, such as applesauce.



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Passover Foods

Lip-smacking photos make cookbook inspiration

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

It is possible to eat healthy on Pesach. It's not something people usually do, but it is possible.

Try Lucy Waverman's *Fast & Fresh Cookbook*, recently reprinted by Firefly Books. While it is not particularly Pesachdik, just reading it gives you inspiration to use more fresh fruits and vegetables in imaginative ways, grill and bake foods instead of frying them during Chol Ha'Moed, and use interesting spices rather than fat.

The color photographs are lip-smacking, and the liberal use of sketches makes the book enjoyable to look at.

Her tips for leftovers, for keeping food fresh, and for altering recipes to make them healthier will be useful. Ever thought of keeping cooked fish fresh by marinading it in lemon juice and oil, or layering leftover roast beef with finely chopped onion, sliced tomatoes and chopped pickles then drizzling each layer with a spoonful of vinaigrette?

Or combining leftover poultry with greens and dressing the whole dish with spicy vinaigrette for a fast and easy supper?

After Pesach, enjoy her many recipes using beans, grains and rice.

Here are a few of Waverman's recipes suitable for a dairy Pesach meal.

COLD CUCUMBER SOUP

1 cup grated cucumber, plus 4 thin slices
1 cup Passover yogourt
1/2 cup pareve chicken stock
1/2 cup tomato juice
1 tbsp. grated fresh ginger
1 clove garlic, minced
2 tbsp. Passover vinegar
2 tbsp light cream
2 tbsp. mint, finely chopped
salt and pepper to taste

In a medium bowl, blend together grated cucumber, yogourt, stock and tomato juice. Add ginger, garlic, vinegar, cream, and 1 tbsp. mint. Season with salt and pepper and chill.

Serve cold with a garnish of cucumber slices and remaining mint. Serves 4

GRILLED SALMON WITH GINGER ORANGE BUTTER

1/2 cup butter, at room temperature
1 tbsp. grated fresh ginger
grated rind and juice of 1/2 orange
1-1 1/2 lb. salmon fillet
1 tbsp. Passover olive oil
salt and pepper to taste

In a food processor or by hand, cream together butter, ginger, orange rind and juice. Refrigerate until needed.

With a sharp knife angled almost parallel to the skin, slice salmon into slices 1/2 in. thick, starting at the thicker end.

Line a baking sheet with foil. Place salmon on top. Brush with oil and season with salt and pepper.

Broil salmon for 3 minutes, or until white juices rise to the surface. Do not turn salmon. Serve with dab of ginger orange butter. Serves 4

GARLICKY MASHED POTATOES

4 baking potatoes, peeled and quartered
8 cloves garlic, unpeeled
1/4 cup butter
1/2 cup milk
salt and pepper to taste

Place potatoes and garlic in a pot of cold water to cover. Bring to a boil. Simmer until potatoes are tender, about 10 min. Drain and press garlic cloves out of their skins.

With potato masher or electric beater, mash potatoes and garlic together. Beat in butter and milk. Season. Serves 4

Jazz up those tempting 'taters

Potatoes are a meal-time staple, especially on Pesach. Make your potatoes count for even more taste by jazzing them up with a tempting topping. Try these family-pleasers from Foodland Ontario.

- It's Greek to me: Top potatoes with diced greenhouse tomatoes, sliced olives and Passover feta cheese.
- Salsa yummy: Top potatoes with Passover salsa and a little sour cream or plain yogurt.
- Sweet dreams: Try sweet potatoes topped with mushrooms sautéed in butter and basil.
- Cheese, please: Start with a baked potato. Add sautéed mushrooms, tomatoes or onion. Top with the Passover cheese of your choice — cheddar, Monterey or mozzarella — for instance, and broil just until melted.
- Do it yourself: Allow for some mealtime experimentation, with a selection of toppings for personal potato-dressing.

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Cookbook offers plethora of ideas

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Usually when you look at a cookbook, you find a few recipes in each section that you like. If you are organized, you look through the index to find, for instance, gefilte fish.

The Complete Harrowsmith Cookbook (Firefly Books, 1996) is another kind of cookbook. Virtually every page has a plethora of ideas that the interested cook will want to try. Even kosher cooks will find lots to interest them, from avocado coriander soup, a processed mix of avocados, lime juice, and coriander; veal marengo, veal cutlets cooked with dry red wine, tomatoes, garlic, mushrooms and tarragon; cream cheese cookies, all the way to chocolate amaretto cheesecake.

And what could be wrong with duck with blueberries and vegetables?

Each recipe is prefaced with notes about the source of the recipe, or a mouthwatering description.

Instructions are clear, and not overly complicated, which is always a plus for the busy cook.

Here are a few examples that can liven up your Pesach table:

EGGPLANT AND CHICKEN

1 chicken, cut up
2 tbsp. oil
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 unpeeled eggplant, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 onion, diced
6 tomatoes, peeled and sliced
1/2 cup dry red Passover wine
1 tsp. Passover oregano
1 tsp. Passover basil
1/4 tsp. pepper
salt

In large pan, brown chicken on all sides in oil with garlic. Add eggplant and onion and sauté for 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, wine and spices. Cover and let simmer for 1 hr., stirring occasionally. Serves 4.

BEET VEGETABLE SOUP

1 cup cubed potatoes
1 cup cubed carrots
1 cup cubed beets
1/4 tsp. salt
pepper
1 cup sour cream

Cook potatoes, carrots and beets in 1 cup water until just done. Add salt and pepper, remove from heat and stir in sour cream. Serves 4.

VEGETABLES A LA GRECQUE

1 1/2 cups water
1/4 cup Passover olive oil
juice of 4-6 lemons
4 cloves garlic
1 bay leaf
celery top
1 tsp. Passover thyme
sprig of fennel
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. white pepper
sprig parsley
1 lb. asparagus, sliced
6 leeks, sliced
6 zucchini, sliced
8 carrots, sliced
12-16 small onions
3 fennel heads, quartered

Combine all ingredients except vegetables and bring to a boil. Boil for 5 minutes. Add vegetables and lower heat. Cook until vegetables are tender but crisp.

Cool. Remove garlic and chill. Serves 8.

PASSOVER PREPARATIONS

The market in Meah Shearim, Jerusalem, is depicted in this painting by Ludwig Blum (1891 - 1975).

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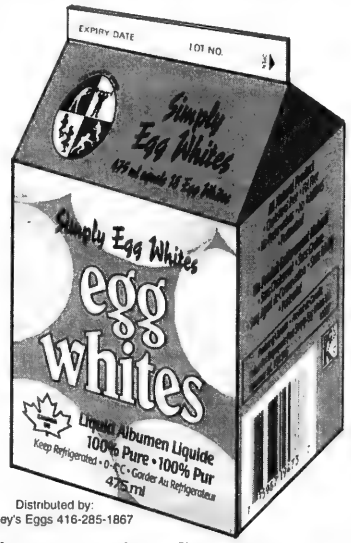

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Passover Foods

Great matzah ball debate a staple of Passover

By ALLYN RICKMAN
Special to The CJN

As Passover approaches each year and I begin to think about shopping lists and seder menus, my thoughts go back to the Passovers I spent as a child in Brooklyn.

We did not live in Brooklyn, our home was Torrington, Conn. but my maternal grandparents, my bubbie and zayde, lived a couple of blocks from Pitkin Avenue. Each year, my mother, sister and I, stayed with them for the whole week of Passover. My father, busy with his neighborhood drug store, was only able to come to Brooklyn for the seders.

One of my most persistent memories is the annual Great Matzah Ball debate! I probably remember this so vividly because I am the cook in our house and I make the matzah balls.

The two main advocates were my mother, on the side of light as a feather and her sister, my aunt Sarah, on the side of solid, heavy, rib-sticking, or as some of my cousins called them, golfballs. Both my mother and Aunt Sarah were great cooks but they definitely disagreed on matzah balls.

Since my bubbie also favored light as a feather, most matzah balls each Passover were wispy, but my aunt always brought some of hers to the seder for those who agreed with her and so the debate continued. There never was a resolution, and as I look back with the eyes of an adult, I guess they never wanted to resolve it — it had become a part of our seders.

As my mother's son, I am a proponent of light as a feather and so the recipes that follow are for those. I have however, taken matzah balls one step further, a step that my mother and aunt would probably have viewed with skepticism. I make flavored matzah balls.

I started this practice some years ago when I thought of adding dill to matzah balls. I tried it, the seder participants liked it, and a new tradition was born. To be on the safe side, I made plain matzah balls as well and gave everyone their choice. The next year I added a new choice, garlic and the next year nuts! Even before the soup bowls were cleared last year I began thinking of other flavorings — cinnamon, thyme, fennel, even, in a flight of wild imagination, cayenne. I quickly came to my senses. Offering all those choices, taking orders as I served the soup and being kidded by all would be too much.

I now make three kinds — plain, dill and garlic — a few weeks in advance and freeze them. I put the freshly-made matzah balls on

[Cont'd. on page 31]

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Kosher alcohol products

The LCBO is offering more than 40 kosher products, in time for Passover.

Now available at selected LCBO stores are red, white and rose table wines and sparkling wines from Israel, France, California and New York State. There are also liqueurs, grape brandy, slivovitz, and flavored and dessert wines. Prices for these products range from $6.45 to $20.90 for wines, and up to $25.10 for spirits.

Premium quality kosher-for-Passover wines include: Barons Edmond Benjamin de Rothschild Haut-Medoc 1993 at $34.95; Herzog Selection Beaujolais Villages at $16.95; and Baron Herzog Sonoma County Zinfandel at $17.75. These wines are only available in limited quantities at selected Toronto-area stores.

"Kosher products, like many other LCBO categories, are changing to reflect the tastes and interests of a more sophisticated buying public," says Randi Landy, LCBO category analyst, who oversees the purchase of Kosher products for the LCBO.

The majority of the kosher-for-Passover products have already arrived at selected LCBO stores. Consumers can also order Kosher products, based on availability, from any LCBO store across Ontario at no extra cost. LCBO unit sales for kosher products sold during Passover 1996 rose by 4.4 percent over the previous year.

Kosher-for-Passover products are now available at the following LCBO stores in the GTA:

• Metropolitan Toronto — 381 Wilson Ave.; 55 Bloor St. W.; 2512 Bayview Ave.; 908 St. Clair Ave. W.; 221 Wilmington Ave., Bathurst Manor Plaza, Downsview; 2 Cooper St. at Queens Quay Blvd.; First Canadian Place, Lower Concourse Level; 2901 Bayview Ave., Bayview Village Mall, Willowdale; 6 Yorkdale Shopping Centre; 5995 Yonge St.

• Richmond Hill — 9737 Yonge St., Richmond Centre Plaza.

Thornhill — 8129 Yonge St., Bayview Mews.

For more information, call the toll-free LCBO Infoline at 1-800-ONT-LCBO (668-5226); in Metro Toronto call (416) 365-5900.

Add some flavor to matzah balls

[Cont'd. from page 30]

cookie trays that have been covered first with paper toweling and then with wax paper with a few holes punched. I put the trays in the freezer for a few hours until the matzah balls are solid and then transfer them to air-tight freezer bags to store until Passover. The dill ones are easily recognizable with their green flecks, but the plain and garlic look identical, so I put a toothpick in each garlic ball before freezing for later identification.

PLAIN MATZOH BALLS

For dry ingredients:
½ cup matzoh meal
1 tsp. garlic salt (or to taste)
⅛ tsp. ground white pepper, or to taste
For liquid ingredients:
2 eggs well beaten
2 tbsp. melted rendered chicken fat* (you may use vegetable oil)
2 tbsp. plain seltzer

Mix together dry ingredients. Beat eggs and chicken fat together. Combine dry and liquid ingredients, mix well, add seltzer, mix well, cover and place in freezer for 20 minutes.

In a large pot, bring 3 quarts of water to a rolling boil. Roll the matzah ball mixture to the size of walnuts, drop in the boiling water, cover, reduce heat slightly to maintain a medium boil and cook for 35 to 40 minutes. Remove matzah balls with a slotted spoon and either freeze or, if using immediately, place in warm chicken soup to stay moist and warm.

For flavored matzah balls:
DILL: add 2 tsp. finely chopped fresh dill to the liquid before combining.
NUTS: add 2 tsp. finely chopped nuts (toasted almonds or toasted hazelnuts) to the dry mixture before combining.
GARLIC: add 1 tsp. finely chopped fresh garlic to the liquid before combining.

For other herbs, add 1 tsp. finely chopped fresh herb (or ⅛ tsp. dry herb) to the liquid before combining. For dry seasonings (cinnamon, nutmeg or whatever), add 1 tsp. to dry mixture before combining.

* Even in these times of fat avoidance, I use rendered chicken fat (schmaltz) for matzah balls. Rendered chicken fat is available at most supermarkets and kosher markets. It freezes well. Vegetable oil is a satisfactory substitute. Makes 6-8 matzah balls.

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Passover Menu #1
Gefilte Fish, Horseradish
Matzo Ball Soup with Noodles
Roast Chicken, Brisket
Potato Kugel or Farfel or Stuffed Potatoes
Carrot Tzimmes
Broccoli & Mushrooms or
Green Beans Almondine
Cole Slaw, Dill Pickles
Matzo
Seder Plate
Compote or Fruit Salad Bowl
Sponge Cake or Honey Cake
Macaroons
$18.95 pp

Passover Menu #2
Gefilte Fish, Horseradish
Chopped Liver or Fricassee
Matzo Ball Soup with Noodles
Boneless Chicken Breast Stuffed with Farfel /Mushroom
Potato Kugel or Stuffed Potatoes
Carrot Tzimmes • Ratatouille
Green Beans Almondine
Cole Slaw, Dill Pickles
Matzo
Seder Plate
Compote or Fruit Salad Bowl
Sponge Cake or Honey Cake
Macaroons
$21.95 pp

À La Carte
Gefilte Fish - Per Piece 2.99
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Fricassee 4.75 lb.
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Chicken Soup - 1 litre 4.99
Matzo Balls (each) .75
Cabbage Borscht - 1 gal. 17.99 - 1 litre 4.99
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Brisket of Beef Gravy 9.96 lb. Potato Kugel (9"Round) 7.99
Plain Matzo 3.99
Matzo Chicken Fingers 7.99 doz.

À La Carte
Egg Matzo 3.99
Mushroom Farfel (9" Round) 8.99
Stuffed Potatoes 1.49 each
Parisienne Potatoes 2.99 lb.
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Carrots & Pineapple (Tzimmes) 4.95 lb.
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Fresh Fruit Tray 39.99
Seder Plate Ingredients 4.99
HAPPY PASSOVER

Passover Foods

Flavorful meals include orange turkey, fudge brownies

By NAOMI ARBIT
Special to The CJN

ORANGE TURKEY BREAST

1 turkey breast; if frozen, thaw, rinse and dry well
garlic powder, pepper, ground ginger to taste
1 cup orange marmalade
1 6-oz. can orange juice concentrate thawed
6 oz. dried apricots
¾ cup golden and dark raisins mixed
2 onions
3 carrots, cut diagonally
1½ cups dry white Passover wine

Sprinkle seasonings on the inside of the turkey breast. Place the turkey in a large roasting pan. Spread top of turkey with marmalade, and pour the orange concentrate over the turkey. Place the apricots, raisins, onions and carrots around the turkey. Add the wine to the pan.

Roast the turkey for about 1½ hours in a 350-degree oven, basting every 30 minutes. It is a good idea to insert a meat thermometer into the thickest part of the breast. Cook breast until it has an internal temperature of 185 degrees. If the top gets too brown before it is done, cover loosely with greased foil. Make sure that there is liquid on the bottom of the pan, adding more wine if needed.

Let the turkey stand about 20 minutes before slicing. To serve, place the sliced meat over the vegetables and sauce, or serve the sauce separately.

A 5½-pound turkey breast serves 6 to 8 people.

VEGETABLE KUGEL

6 cups coarsely grated zucchini
2 tbsp. vegetable oil
3 cups finely chopped onion
3 cloves garlic, minced
3 cups grated carrot
3 eggs or Passover egg substitute
1½ cups matzah meal
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
Vegetable oil for baking pan
Sour cream or yogurt (optional)

Place the grated zucchini in a colander and sprinkle with ½ teaspoon salt and let stand for 15 minutes. Squeeze out all excess moisture and set aside.

Heat oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add onion, ½ teaspoon salt and saute about 10 minutes or until onion is soft. Add garlic and saute 2 minutes longer. Remove from heat. In a bowl, mix together zucchini, sauteed onion and grated carrot. Beat in eggs and matzah meal. Add some pepper and mix well.

Oil a 13 x 9-inch baking pan. Spoon in batter, spread and bake in a 375-degree oven for 1 hour or until firm. Cut into squares and serve with sour cream or yogurt, if desired.

FUDGY BROWNIES

4 oz. unsweetened chocolate
½ cup margarine (pareve)
2 cups sugar
4 eggs
1 cup matzah cake meal
1 tbsp. Passover brandy
⅛ tsp. salt
½ cup chopped walnuts

In a saucepan, melt chocolate and margarine over low heat. In a mixing bowl, stir together slightly cooled chocolate mixture and sugar. Beat in eggs, one at a time, with an electric mixer on medium speed. Stir in matzah meal, brandy and salt. Stir in nuts.

Pour into a greased 9 x 9 x 2-inch baking pan. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 30 minutes. Cool. Cut into 16 bars.

PEAR CRISP (cholesterol-free)

4½ cups peeled, cored, thinly sliced pears (or other fruit)
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. grated lemon rind
2-4 tbsp. sugar, as desired (or sugar substitute)
1 tbsp. potato starch
Dash of cinnamon (optional)
Topping:
1¼ cups matzah meal
¼ cup sugar or sugar substitute
1 tbsp. potato starch
½ tsp. cinnamon
¼ cup chopped walnuts
6 tbsp. melted margarine

In a bowl, combine the pears, lemon juice and rind. Combine sugar, potato starch and cinnamon, and add to the pear mixture. Spoon mixture into a non-stick sprayed 8-inch square pan.

In another bowl, combine the matzah meal, sugar, cinnamon and nuts. Cut in the margarine until the mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle the topping over the pear mixture.

Bake the pear crisp in a 350-degree oven for 45 minutes.

BETTER THAN MACAROONS

1 egg white
1 cup ground almonds
½ cup superfine sugar
1½ tsp. cinnamon

Beat egg whites until stiff. Beat in sugar. Stir in almonds and cinnamon. With wet hands, form into 16 balls and place on a non-stick (vegetable) sprayed cookie sheet. Bake in a 325-degree oven for 20 minutes. Cool on rack. Store in an airtight container for one week or in the freezer for a few months.

CHOCOLATE CAKE

½ cup butter, cut into small pieces
8 oz. bittersweet chocolate, cut into small pieces
5 large eggs, separated
Dash of salt
¾ cup sugar
Whipped topping and/or raspberry sauce to garnish

Raspberry Sauce:
2 10-oz. packages frozen raspberries, thawed
¼ cup sugar, or to taste
1 tsp. fresh lemon juice
Purée all ingredients in a blender or processor and chill.

Using a non-stick vegetable spray or butter, grease and lightly dust with potato starch a 10-inch round cake pan. Melt chocolate and butter in a double boiler or microwave, stirring occasionally. In a large mixing bowl, beat egg yolks, salt and all but 3 tablespoons of the sugar. Stir in the melted chocolate mixture.

With an electric mixer, beat egg whites on medium speed until soft peaks form. Gradually beat in the 3 tablespoons sugar and beat until stiff but not dry. Stir one-quarter of the whites into the chocolate mixture to lighten it. Fold in the remaining whites. Pour into prepared pan.

Bake in a 325-degree oven 1 hour and 15 minutes or until toothpick inserted into centre of cake comes out clean. Immediately turn cake out onto a rack. As cake cools, the centre will sink and crack. Serve with whipped topping and/or raspberry sauce.

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This is the title page of the Haggadah that was written for community leader Jacob ben Abraham Segal in Amsterdam dated 1786. The manuscript was unsigned but it had to be completed by someone familiar with talmudic commentary.

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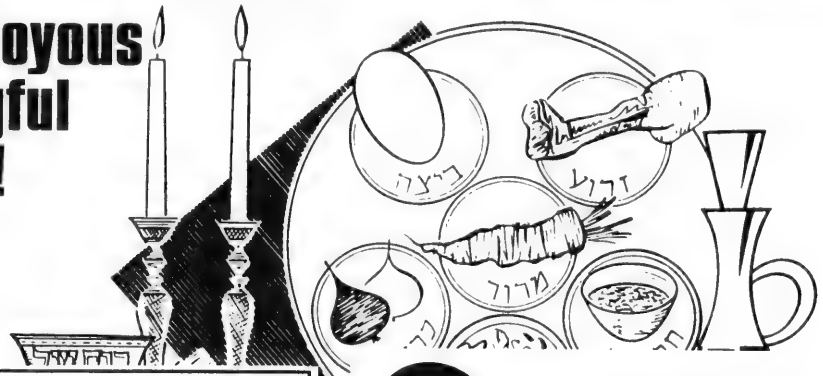

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Yom Ha'atzmaut Cartoon Contest

We are seeking cartoons dealing with the subject of Israel. In particular, we are looking for cartoons that have artistic and intellectual merit and which tastefully convey one of the many truths about life in Israel. They may be funny, serious, satiric or cute.

Who can enter: Adults and teenagers are eligible.

How to enter: You may submit as many entries as you like. The judges will choose cartoons that are well-illustrated, clever and tasteful. Two cartoons will be selected from the teenage cartoonists; two will be selected from the remaining submissions. The cartoons must be drawn in black and white. Please write your name, age, address and phone number on the back of your submission.

You may mail or deliver your submission to: *CJN* Community Contests, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the cartoon, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. onWednesday, April 30, 1997.

Prizes: The "winners" will be published in *The CJN* and each cartoonist will receive $25. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: The winning cartoonists will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Friday, May 2, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning submissions will be published in *The CJN* of May 8, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly afterwards. We look forward to receiving your entries.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

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MALMAR FINE FOODS & CATERING

Avoid favorite menu trap

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Long hours of deliberation and work go into making Shabbat meals sumptuous. The tastiness of the meal can set the mood for the entire day so, of course, we want everything to be perfect.

We're all guilty of falling into the favorite menu trap. What we look for, besides a new way to fix chicken or brisket, are new and exciting side dishes to spice up routine meals. A great side dish has to be easy, tasty, have the ability to be pareve or dairy, and be able to stay hot or cold if services run long.

INSTANT PICKLES PEPPERS AND POTATOES

4 cucumbers, sliced half-inch thick
1½ lbs. red skin potatoes
1 red pepper, sliced
1 green pepper, sliced
1 yellow pepper, sliced
1½ cups Passover vinegar
3½ cups water
2 tbsp. salt
4 tsp. sugar
1 sliced onion
3 to 4 cloves garlic
3 sprigs fresh dill
Salt
Pepper
Dried dill

Place potatoes in medium size pot, cover with water and cook until tender. Remove from heat, drain, cool and cut in half. Cover with damp cloth and refrigerate. Wash and slice all vegetables and set aside. In medium sized stock pot combine all remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Add vegetables and boil for 5 minutes. Remove from heat, let cool and refrigerate. Drain cold vegetables, saving the liquid (it can be used again). Combine vegetables and potatoes and season with a little salt, pepper, and dried dill. Serves 8 to 10.

ZUCCHINI NICOISE

2 tbsp. oil
1 medium onion sliced thin
½-lb. fresh mushrooms, sliced
1 cup chopped tomatoes
Fresh pepper
½ bay leaf
3 zucchini cut into 1-inch pieces

In large skillet, over medium heat, sauté onions and mushrooms in oil. Cook until onions are transparent. Add tomatoes and spices and simmer until tender, approximately 10 minutes. Add zucchini to sauce, cover and simmer for about 10 minutes. This can be served hot or cold and can be made into a main course by adding grilled tuna or salmon. Serves 4 to 6.

Passover Foods

THE SEDER PLATE

A rare, painted, porcelain Passover plate created by Jacob Frusina, probably in Vienna, 1890.

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The Kedem/Royal Wine Corporation recently announced the addition of a sulphite-free wine to their line of traditional Concord wines.

The new product, called Ruby-Red Concord Wine, is the result of many years of research and development on the part of the Royal Wine Corporation.

The sulphite-free Ruby-Red is unique, said a news release. Virtually all wines and grape juices have slight amounts of sulphur dioxide added to preserve freshness. For a vast majority of wine consumers, this poses no problems. However, for a small minority, even minute amounts of sulphur-dioxide can cause discomfort or illness.

"It is for these consumers that Ruby-Red has been created," according to a statement released by Phillip Herzog, the senior vice-president of the Royal Wine Corporation.

Much of the work associated with producing the sulphite-free Ruby-Red is credited to Michael Herzog, Kedem's chief winemaker and eighth-generation descendant of the Herzog wine-making family.

Ruby-Red, like all Kedem Concord grape products, was produced in the ultra-modern, strictly quality-controlled winery located upstate in Marlboro, N.Y.

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The Passover seder as depicted by Cyril J. Ross.

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MINIMUM ORDER 10 PERSONS

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- Assorted passover cookies

p.p. **$26.00**

MENU #2

- Chopped liver or chicken fricassee or sweet and sour meatballs
- Grilled salmon teriyaki
- Roast veal stuffed with spinach & mushrooms
- Broccoli farfel or potato pudding or roasted parisienne potatoes
- Jump-fried vegetable medley
- Frozen chocolate mousse cake or espresso dacquoise
- Assorted passover cookies

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Sweet and sour meatballs	$7.75 /lb.
Chopped liver	8.50 /lb.
Gefilte fish - sweet or salt	13.00 /5 pcs
Chicken fricassee	7.75/lb.
Chicken soup	6.25/1L.
Matzo balls	8.00/8 pcs
Egg noodles	8.00/bag
Cucumber salad	7.75/lb.
California baby greens/ balsamic vinaigrette	12.00/lb.

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Roast beef brisket	18.50/lb.
Roast rib eye of beef	22.50/lb.
Stuffed veal striploin	22.50/lb.
Whole turkey stuffed, with gravy	9.00/lb.
Sliced deboned turkey	14.00/lb.
Grilled salmon teriyaki	9.00/ea.
Poached salmon fillet	9.00/ea.
Sweet matzo farfel (6)	7.00
Broccoli farfel pudding	7.00
Potato pudding	7.00
Roasted pommes parisienne	6.50/lb.
Glazed carrots/pineapple	6.50/lb.
Marinated grilled vegetables	12.00/lb.
Jump-fried vegetable medley	8.50/lb.
Charoset	5.50/8 oz.
Red horseradish	2.75/8 oz.

PASSOVER DESSERTS

Sponge cake - serves 10-12	$20.00
Frozen lemon souffle cake serves 10-12	30.00
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Knesset to debate conversion bill

By LIAT COLLINS AND HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Barring a last-minute compromise, the Knesset was expected this week to hear the first reading of the conversion bill, which would restrict recognition for conversions to Judaism in Israel to those approved by the Chief Rabbinate.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told an Anti-Defamation League delegation he would "never allow a move that would delegitimize Reform or Conservative Judaism."

Netanyahu said he would rather let his government collapse than negate conversions performed abroad. However, he criticized what he said was an effort to change the status quo, under which non-Orthodox conversions performed abroad had been accepted, but not those done in Israel. He said there was a great deal of disinformation being spread among American Jewry regarding the conversion issue.

Several Knesset factions were to hold meetings on the bill before the vote. Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg was to have met separately with the opposition and coalition to discuss the agency's opposition.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid is demanding that the Knesset also vote on a bill recognizing non-Orthodox streams of Judaism. Tsomet is demanding the bill contain a clause stating that Israel recognizes non-Orthodox conversions performed abroad. One version of the bill, favored by the religious parties, would not recognize even these.

MKs Ze'ev Begin (Likud) and Alex Lubotzky (Third Way) are calling on the religious parties to continue talks on a possible compromise solution and back down from their demand that there be a vote this week.

Compromise solution

The religious parties are demanding the bill be raised now, because the High Court of Justice has given the attorney general until April 30 to reply to a petition to recognize a number of Conservative conversions of adopted children. The Knesset goes into recess at the end of this week and will not reconvene until May.

Lubotzky has met with coalition leaders to present his proposal that all converts be registered as Jews on their identity cards, while the Interior Ministry's Population Registry would record the type of conversion. However, the religious parties refused to postpone the vote.

The Conservative and Reform movements were to hold a demonstration and prayer meeting opposite the Knesset this week in opposition to the bill.

Politicians target end to direct elections

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A number of prominent Likud and Labor party figures announced last week the formation of an extra-parliamentary group that will work to repeal the law for the direct election of the prime minister.

The group will be headed by the Likud's Moshe Arens. Also taking part from the Likud is former minister Moshe Nissim and MK Uzi Landau. Labor is represented by MKs Yossi Beilin, Ephraim Sneh and Moshe Shahal.

The direct election law came into effect last summer. It was backed by Yitzhak Rabin and opposed by Shimon Peres.

The Likud was against direct elections, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu didn't follow the party line and voted for it in the last Knesset.

"The direct election system is dangerous and even many of those who had ardently campaigned for it are now changing their minds," Arens said.

Beilin said "the direct election law is one of the most terrible and utterly misleading pieces of legislation ever passed by the Knesset. It is anti-democratic."

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SPICE-NUT SPONGE CAKE

12-ounce package Manischewitz Passover Sponge Cake Mix
2 tsp. cinnamon ¼ tsp. ginger
¼ cup Manischewitz Concord Select Wine
6 eggs
¼ cup coarsely chopped walnuts

Add cinnamon and ginger to Sponge Cake Mix. Bake cake as directed on Sponge Cake box substituting ¼ cup Manischewitz Concord Select Wine for water. Also, add chopped nuts when folding in egg whites.

WINE SAUCE FOR DESSERTS

¾ cup sugar
2 tablespoons Manischewitz Potato Starch
¼ tsp. salt ½ cup water
1 cup Manischewitz Concord Select Wine
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1 cup pineapple chunks or fruit cocktail, drained

Combine first three ingredients in a small saucepan. Gradually blend in the water. Cook over moderate heat until thick, stirring constantly. Gradually blend in the wine and lemon juice. cook about 2 minutes longer or until thickened again. Cool. Add drained pineapple chunks or fruit cocktail. Spoon over Spice-Nut Sponge Cake slices. Or, use the Wine Sauce over your favorite ice cream, cake, or other dessert.

PASSOVER CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE

1 (10 ounce) Can Manischewitz macaroons, sliced
1/4 cup Manischewitz Concord Select Wine
8 ounces Semi-sweet chocolate
3 Egg yolks
4 Egg whites
3 Tablespoons Sugar
3 Tablespoons Coffee or water

Line bottom and sides of greased 8" spring form pan with ½ sliced macaroons. Dip remaining macaroons in Manischewitz Concord Select Wine and set aside.

Melt chocolate. Combine egg yolks, sugar and coffee (or water). Slowly blend chocolate into egg yolk mixture. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry. Fold egg whites into cooled chocolate mixture. Pour half of chocolate mixture into macaroon lined pan. Add wine soaked macaroons. Add remaining chocolate mixture and refrigerate 2 to 3 hours, or until set. To serve, unmold and garnish with a few macaroons, chocolate curls or dessert whip. Makes 6-8 servings.

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PM warns of 'virtual collapse of peace process'

[Cont'd from page 1]

• Israel will be asked to stop taking unilateral steps while the negotiations are continuing. The United States may ask Israel to freeze the construction work at Har Choma as the talks continue.

• Accelerated implementation of other aspects of the self-rule accords will be called for, including opening a Palestinian airport and seaport in Gaza and creating a safe route passage for Palestinians travelling between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, despite earlier fears, Land Day protests in the main Israeli Arab towns and villages passed quietly, prompting Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to praise Israeli Arab leaders for maintaining order.

Netanyahu had appealed to Israeli Arabs to shun violence during the annual protest day, which marks the 1976 killing by Israeli security forces of six Israeli Arabs protesting against land expropriations in the Galilee.

In the West Bank, however, violent protests continued and the IDF stationed tanks and reinforcements around the major West Bank towns to prevent an escalation of the violence.

The most serious clashes took place around Nablus, Jenin and Hebron, where dozens of Arabs were wounded by rubber bullets fired by Israeli troops in an effort to disperse the protesters.

In Nablus, Palestinian police set up barricades and fired into the air to prevent demonstrators from charging Joseph's Tomb, where an Israeli military unit was stationed.

Skirmishes were also reported near Rachel's Tomb outside Bethlehem and in Ramallah, where Palestinian police reportedly used clubs to disperse hundreds of protesters surging toward an Israeli army roadblock.

In a related incident, Palestinians bearing anti-Israel banners took part last Sunday in the funeral procession of Abdullah Khalil Salah, a 21-year-old Palestinian student killed in clashes the previous day in Ramallah. The funeral took place in Salah's hometown of Beit Sahur, which is located near Har Choma.

The IDF was investigating the cause of his death. Palestinians charged that he had been killed by live ammunition; Israeli officials said the soldiers were using rubber bullets.

In addition, Foreign Minister David Levy's office said the European Union's Middle East peace envoy, Miguel Angel Moratinos, had delivered a message to him from Arafat in which the Palestinian leader pledged to do his best to curb violence.

Nabil Abu Irdeineh, speaking for Arafat, said Israel must implement its commitments in the peace accords and return to the negotiations without any preconditions.

In Cairo, Arab foreign ministers adopted a resolution last Sunday calling on the 22-member Arab League to abide by the Arab boycott of Israel, in retaliation for the Jewish state's decision to start construction at Har Choma. In recent years, several Arab states have eased the boycott in recognition of Israeli-Palestinian peace moves.

The resolution, which will be presented to the governments of each of the ministers, also calls on Arab states to stop all normalization of ties with Israel, to close Israeli offices and missions in their countries and to suspend the multilateral talks that deal with regional issues such as water, the environment and security.

The resolution was not expected to affect Israel's peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan.

ANTI-SEMITISM ON THE PITCH
Members of the Malaysian Islamic Party, protesting the presence of an Israeli cricket team, hold up anti-Semitic banners during a match in Kuala Lumpur last week. [Reuters/RNS]

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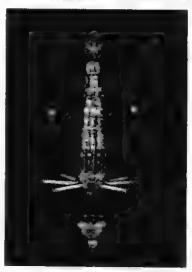
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The Week in Israel

Mar. 24

• Appearing in a Tel Aviv court, Margalit Har-Shefi pleaded innocent to charges that she was aware of the plot to kill Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin but failed to notify authorities. Her trial will be held in May.

• An Israeli art dealer is seeking permission from Belarus to buy the house that Marc Chagall was born in. He would like to dismantle it and bring it to Jerusalem for its possible use as a museum for Chagall's works.

Mar. 25

• The attorney-general ruled that four Palestinian offices in eastern Jerusalem should be closed because of alleged links to the Palestinian Authority.

• Israeli physician, Prof. Daniel Weinstein was scheduled to return to Jerusalem nine days after Moroccan police confiscated his passport to prevent his leaving the country. Weinstein, head of obstetrics at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, was a key organizer of the First World Congress on Maternal Mortality, held in Marrakesh.

Mar. 26

• Two earthquakes shook northern Israel. No local damage was reported by the quakes, both of which were centred in Lebanon.

• Ori Orr, a Labor Knesset member and former deputy minister of defence, was chosen by the Jerusalem Journalists Association as the "most courteous" parliamentarian.

Mar. 27

• Shoul Eisenberg, chair of the Israel Corporation and one of the country's most influential industrialists, died in Beijing, of an apparent heart attack.

• Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel met with the police team investigating the Bar-On affair. No date was given for the publication of the report on their investigations.

Mar. 28

• The media reported on the trial and reprimand of an IDF officer for racist behavior towards an Ethiopian soldier. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denounced the sentence as too lenient and called for a retrial.

With files from the JTA.

U.S. envoy back in fireman's role

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Dennis Ross is back again in a depressingly familiar role, a fireman in diplomat's clothing. The U.S. special envoy to the Mideast returned to the region last week, trying to douse flames which are consuming the tottering edifice of the peace process.

Mideast Analysis

It was the second time in six months that President Bill Clinton had summoned Ross, a latter-day Henry Kissinger, to defuse a major crisis between Israel and the Palestine Authority (PA).

Ross, who was back in Washington this week after two days of fruitless deliberations, was previously in the Middle East in January to wrap up three months of protracted negotiations which finally produced the long-awaited Hebron agreement. He was called there following last September's unprecedented wave of fighting in the territories, which broke out on the heels of Israel's decision to open a second entrance to an archeological tunnel in East Jerusalem.

The challenge facing Ross today, almost three months after Israel's partial withdrawal from Hebron, is no less serious.

The peace process is frozen. Indeed, Benjamin Netanyahu says it has virtually collapsed. Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat are barely on speaking terms. The PA is no longer cooperating with Israel on security matters, and the Palestinians see no point in continuing peace talks unless Israel stops building settlements. And daily clashes pitting Palestinian youths against Israeli soldiers in the West Bank are further widening the gulf of animosity and mistrust.

The latest crisis, which has been accompanied by an escalation of charges and counter-charges levelled by Israel and the PA, stems from several interrelated factors: the announcement by Israel to build the Har Choma residential neighborhood in East Jerusalem over the vehement protests of the PA and the Arab world; the PA's dissatisfaction with Israel's offer to withdraw from only nine percent of Area B and Area C in what is supposed to be the first of three Israeli redeployments from the West Bank; the determination by Israel to close four Palestinian offices in eastern Jerusalem said to be directly affiliated with the PA; the anger in Israel over the March 21 suicide bombing in Tel Aviv which, Netanyahu claims, was indirectly orchestrated by Arafat, an accusation he staunchly denies.

The bombing has clearly worsened the situation, because peace and terrorism are irreconcilable. (Suicide bombers have claimed the lives of 133 civilians and soldiers since April 1994.)

In responding to the latest terrorist outrage, the Israeli government stopped short of suspending peace talks, but warned that their longevity would be in peril unless the PA "reins in" groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Last winter, in the wake of four suicide bombings which killed 63 people in Israel, the PA cracked down on Islamic militants hell bent on wrecking the Oslo accords. A year on, however, the PA is less willing to do so, largely because of its conviction that Israel is creating unilateral facts on the ground and thus violating the spirit of Oslo and pre-empting final status negotiations.

Israel disputes these accusations, but the tension over the meaning of the Oslo agreements has all but eroded the modicum of mutual trust between Netanyahu and Arafat.

Netanyahu has not only accused Arafat of giving Islamic radicals the "green light" to wreak havoc in Israel, but charged his Fatah faction in the PLO of organizing the violent confrontations in the West Bank. In addition, Israel has condemned the non-binding Arab League resolution recommending that member states suspend relations with Israel.

The PA, in turn, has accused Netanyahu of "trickery," of calculations "to ruin" the peace process and of bowing to "extremist religious parties" in his cabinet. "We don't have any faith left in the other side," Arafat recently told the Israeli daily *Yediot Ahronot*, in an admission which hardly bodes well for the future.

Dennis Ross, who plans to return to the Mideast soon with a plan to get the peace process back on track, certainly has his work cut out for him.

The fires are still burning.

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Swiss oppose Jew as fund head

By FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ZURICH — At least one member of the Swiss cabinet is questioning whether a local Jewish leader should chair the body that will oversee disbursements from Switzerland's recently established Holocaust Memorial Fund.

Rolf Bloch, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland, confirmed that "it was the understanding" of Jewish leaders involved in the nomination process that he would serve as chairman of the seven-member executive board in charge of administering the fund.

But one member of the Swiss cabinet, Interior Minister Ruth Dreifuss, called for a meeting next week of fellow cabinet members to discuss the naming of Bloch to the top post of the fund's executive board.

Last week, the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO), which can nominate three members for the executive board, said it had put forward its candidates: Elie Wiesel, Undersecretary of Commerce Stuart Eizenstat and Israeli Knesset member Avraham Herschson.

The Swiss cabinet, which has final approval of the nominees, will meet April 9 to discuss the list of proposed board members, according to a government spokesperson.

Dreifuss, who is Jewish, questioned the wisdom of appointing a "Jewish president for the fund's directing committee" in a private letter to Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti that was subsequently made public.

In the letter, Dreifuss requested that Bloch's appointment be discussed by all seven members of the Swiss cabinet, or federal council, which issues governmental decisions on the basis of a consensus of its ministers.

Dreifuss "was very upset that the content of her internal letter to Cotti was made public," Dominique Rueb, the minister's spokesperson, said in an interview.

"It is obvious that Ruth Dreifuss has nothing against Rolf Bloch as a person," Rueb added.

Swiss leaders, stung by mounting accusations about the country's handling of Jewish wartime deposits and its economic ties to Nazi Germany, are apparently sensitive about having a local Jewish leader chair the fund's executive committee.

According to one political analyst, Dreifuss is not alone in questioning Bloch's nomination.

"It is very clear that the nomination of a Swiss Jewish leader as president of the fund's directing committee is opposed by several members of the government," the analyst said.

Another nominee to the fund's executive board, Eizenstat, may also be opposed by the Swiss cabinet on the grounds that he is a high-ranking official of a foreign country.

The approval of a "U.S. government official by the Swiss government is a very delicate matter," according to a source within the government.

The Swiss cabinet formally approved the Holocaust Memorial Fund in February, after Switzerland's three largest banks announced that they would contribute to a fund to help needy survivors and their heirs.

The fund now totals some $190 million as a result of pledges made by the three banks, and from subsequent pledges made by the Swiss central bank and by several industrial giants.

The question of who would be in charge of distributing the funds was the subject of delicate negotiations between the Swiss government and the World Jewish Congress (WJC), which spearheaded an international campaign to compensate Holocaust survivors and their heirs who were unable to reclaim assets deposited in Swiss banks during World War II.

In late February, the two sides reached a compromise on representation whereby the foundation administering the fund would be run by a seven-member executive board.

According to the agreement, the board would include four "eminent Swiss persons," and three "eminent persons recommended by the WJRO," which was created in 1992 by the WJC, the Jewish Agency for Israel and other leading Jewish groups.

The object of the fund, the agreement says, "is to support persons in need who were persecuted for reasons of their race, religion or political views or for other reasons, or were otherwise victims of the Holocaust/Shoah, as well as to support their descendants in need."

Non-Jewish victims, including Gypsies, are also expected to receive compensation.

According to Jewish and Swiss officials, the fund is expected to make its first payments in the summer.

The fund was created in an effort to provide immediate relief to needy victims of the Holocaust while investigations continue here into the whereabouts of Jewish assets deposited in Swiss banks during the war.

Needy Holocaust victims who receive payments from the fund will still be eligible to regain those assets once the investigation concludes.

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Eating disorders more common among Jews

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews appear to suffer from eating disorders at almost double the rate of the general population, Dr. Leora Pinhas told a standing-room audience at a recent program sponsored by York University's Jewish Student Federation.

Pinhas, a child and adolescent psychiatrist at the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC) and York County Hospital, as well as a research fellow at HSC, noted that these findings, which are also found among Catholics, appear equally in Orthodox and secular Jews.

She said a study is being started in high schools to try to find out the reasons.

It seems the findings are more prevalent in cultures where there are high expectations to achieve, and to conform to society's views on appearance.

"It is seen to be necessary to be thin to be well-thought of," she said, noting that a law clerk who had stood first in her class was told being thin was considered a sign of being in control, and thus able to do well in law.

She also said that matchmakers in the Orthodox community report that young men looking for wives demand women who are thin.

Pinhas said that anorexia, defined as not eating enough to maintain weight and the cessation of menses, has a 10 percent fatality rate. "It is found in one percent of the population, the same as schizophrenia. But it is one of the few psychiatric diseases where people die."

Bulemia, where a person forces herself to purge, has an even worse outlook, with a 20 percent mortality rate.

Even if the person does not die, there are serious health problems, such as osteoporosis and heart disease, she said.

Andy Lichtman, a 19-year-old York University student, told of her seven-year struggle with anorexia. It began, she said, with comments like "you would be so pretty if you would only lose weight."

When she was lavishly praised because she did lose weight, "I thought if I am getting compliments now, what if I lost more." She joined a health club, exercised more and more, and ate less and less.

She recalled how she pushed away her friends and family, lied about eating, skipped school and finally wound up in the hospital.

"They told me I could either eat, or be put on intravenous feeding."

It was then she realized that "I had to decide if I would get better or not. Until I decided I wanted help, I couldn't be helped."

Even though she decided to eat, it was a long, slow, painful process.

"All I could think about was food. The only books and movies I was interested in were about food. I couldn't focus on anything else."

Even now, "every bite is a battle. I refuse to ever skip a meal — I won't go back. I realize that if I did it once [stop eating] I could do it again."

During the question period, the audience hotly protested the emphasis on outward appearance and thinness in magazines, advertising and even in the schools. Pinhas agreed with suggestions that purchasing power is a strong weapon, and said things might change if people didn't buy magazines and products which stressed thinness.

"We are not victims here," said Pinhas. "We have a huge voice."

An audience member, saying that her sister is anorexic, objected to the emphasis on society's obsession with appearance as the cause of eating disorders.

"It is a matter of control — they feel that the only control they have in their lives is what goes into their mouths."

Pinhas agreed, but questioned why they chose to express their feelings through eating.

"It is also a matter of finding it difficult to cope with how hard it is to be an adolescent. You get so sick that you don't have to cope anymore."

Pinhas, Lichtman and many in the audience slammed the provincial government cutbacks, which they said are making it harder to get proper treatment.

MANAGEMENT AWARD

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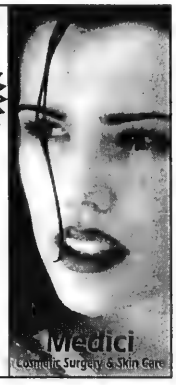
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Children In Israel

MINNIE MOUSE IN JERUSALEM

Israeli children think very carefully about their Purim costumes. This year, the traditional costumes of Mordechai, Esther, Haman and King Achashverosh were up against stiff competition from the secular world of Batman, Spiderman, and Disney. Especially popular were the Lion King, Pocahantas, and the perennial favorites, Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Seen in this photo is an obviously delighted young Minnie Mouse strolling with her umbrella on Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem.
[WZPS photo]

Mazel Tov kids

The CJN enjoyed all of the Purim cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Vanessa Bower, Esther Guttman and Samuel Manley. Each of our lucky winners will receive a cheque for $20.

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This young boy is playing outside his temporary home in Givat Hamatos. He and his family are waiting for their permanent home to be ready for them, hopefully, some time soon. Their temporary home is a trailer home. In Israel it is called a "caravan." [Israel photo]

CJ Kids

Book Review & cartoon too

Stories of Elijah

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Everyone I know spends part of the seder staring at Elijah's cup, hoping to see the contents go down.

According to tradition, the prophet Elijah comes to every seder in the world and takes a sip from the cup set aside for him. We invite him to join the seder in the hope that he will soon announce the coming of the Messiah.

Elijah is a very popular character, and countless legends are told about him. Many are found in *The Mysterious Visitor; stories of the Prophet Elijah*, by Nina Jaffe (Scholastic Press, 1997).

One famous story is about a poor man who is told by Elijah to go to a distant town to find his fortune. While there, the man discovers that his fortune lies, literally, in his own backyard.

Another is about a young boy who dreams that his life would be perfect if he only had another job – and finally finds that happiness lies in being himself.

Still another tells of a man who discovers that the spirit of Elijah lives in those who are kind and compassionate to others.

Elivia Savadier has created exquisite illustrations for *The Mysterious Visitor*, full of beautiful colors; many are dream-like and full of humor.

This would be a wonderful book for children to read while their parents are preparing for Pesach. Then they can tell their friends and relatives at the seder some of the stories of the great Elijah.

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Twenty-seven children from the Chernigov region near Chernobyl arrived in Israel recently on the 28th Chabad Children of Chernobyl flight. The children will receive medical care in special campuses in Kfar Chabad. [Mickey Freidin photo]

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- Chicken Dijon with Exotic Mushrooms
- Prime Rib of Beef au Jus
- Medley of Vegetables
- Glazed Baby Carrots
- Parisienne Potatoes

DESSERT
- Fresh Strawberries over Marble Sponge Cake with Strawberry Coulis
- Fresh Fruit Platter
- Tea & Coffee

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STRUB'S

חג שמח

Step into spring with Mephisto

As winter draws to a close, and blades of grass peep shyly up from the ground, most of us will spend more time outdoors. As the weather grows warm, we come out of hibernation, put off our heavy winter garments, maybe even dream of summer.

And what do we do outdoors? The major North American exercise is walking — especially for business and professional people, whose work involves little physical labor. Walking, because it uses the whole body without excessive strain, is one of the best all-round forms of exercise.

Taking a single step is a remarkable process. We extend one foot, lean forward from the hip, extend the knee, then balance our whole weight on this leg so the other can make the corresponding motion — all the while moving back, shoulders, neck and arms; and we do this *thousands of times a day.*

Not only does your foot bear all your weight each time you take a step, important nerves also link the feet with other organs; so healthy feet bode well for a healthy body. As your feet probably spend most of each day in shoes, the footwear you buy will affect your health in turn.

If you want shoes designed and crafted according to the best available knowledge, **Mephisto** is for you. Who wouldn't want to wear the *world's number one walking shoe*?

Mephisto shoes, boots and sandals are attractively styled in rich earth tones. They are durable, and hand-finished entirely from high-quality leather, rubber, cork, and other natural materials which shape themselves to your feet and gait.

Every model incorporates a latex foam midsole for tireless walking (it makes rugged ground seem like a thick, soft carpet); latex padding to protect heel and joints from pressure and rubbing; and a leather inner sock.

Mephisto offers footwear for every purpose, casual or formal; but as the weather warms up, you'll be thinking about walking shoes, walking sandals, and trekking shoes for light hiking.

Mephisto especially recommends the *Trampolins* model. The *Trampolins* features a protective mudguard and cleated sole for maximum grip on wet surfaces; a heel designed for maximum shock absorption; and a simple method of speed lacing.

While popular in their native France, Mephisto shoes find 85% of their market elsewhere in Europe, North America and Asia. Worn by celebrities everywhere, they are gaining popularity daily. In Toronto, you will find a large selection of *Trampolins* and other models at two Mephisto Boutiques (50 Bloor Street West, Concourse level, 416-966-2568 and 1177 Yonge Street at Summerhill, 416-968-7026); and at a Mephisto "Shop in Shop" (182 Main Street, Unionville, 905-940-0865).

Ralph Benisty, Mephisto's Director of Operations for Canada, will be only too happy to answer any specific questions you may have about any item in the Mephisto product line. You can reach him at (905) 881-0050.

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EXTRA SALAD DRESSING 455 ML JAR	$5.75 PER JAR
SWEET & SOUR MEATBALLS (PER DOZEN)	$14.50 PER DOZEN
APPETIZER GRILLED SALMON (1 SERVING PORTION)	$5.95 PER SERVING

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BONELESS ROAST TURKEY SLICED - WITH STUFFING & GRAVY	$14.75 PER LB.
GRILLED SALMON 1 SERVING PER PORTION	$9.75 PER SERVING
STIR FRIED VEGETABLES (3-4 SERVINGS PER LB.)	$8.75 PER LB.
PARISIENNE POTATOES (3-4 SERVINGS PER LB.)	$7.25 PER LB.
POTATO KUGEL UNCUT (4-6 SERVINGS PER PAN)	$9.99 PER PAN

DESSERTS

FROZEN LEMON CAKE 1 CAKE - THE PERFECT GIFT	$36.00 EACH
FROZEN LEMON CAKE MULTIPLES (ORDER 2 OR MORE)	$32.00 EACH
STRAWBERRY APPLE CRUMBLE (4-6 SERVINGS PER PAN)	$19.00 PER PAN

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EXTRA CHAROSET	$6.00 /4 OZ.
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There's No Place Like A New Home: Singles Registry Memberships On The Rise

Registration has jumped a whopping 30% since Toronto's largest Jewish dating service settled in to its new home. That's the word from Jewish Singles Registry director Rob Singer. After four and a half years in the B'nai Brith building on Hove St. the J.S.R. recently moved its headquarters to 55 Eglinton Ave. East #405, just east of Yonge St. The new premises are more than double the size and offers members a new level of privacy and confidentiality virtually unparalleled by any other dating service in the city.

What sets the J.S.R. apart from all other services is its successful approach to dating. "J.S.R. members are the one's that control the whole dating process" says Singer. "They get to choose for themselves who they would like to meet by viewing detailed biography/profiles, see photographs, and now exclusive to the J.S.R., they get to hear pre-recorded voice personal messages. You want to know as much as possible about a person before you meet them. The J.S.R. process let's you do that and more."

Personal Service

Besides from putting the member in control of the dating process, the J.S.R. has risen to a new level of personalized service. Members have the opportunity of discussing their selections with Registry staff, and if they wish to have feedback after the date, all they have to do is request it.

Fast, Safe, Reliable

Perhaps one of the most exciting features of the J.S.R. is how fast the process works. Most new J.S.R. members are usually dating within a week or two of joining the service. "That's my favourite part of the business" admits Singer. "People register with us because it is very difficult to meet other Jewish singles. Usually within a couple of days, they are already making plans to go out."

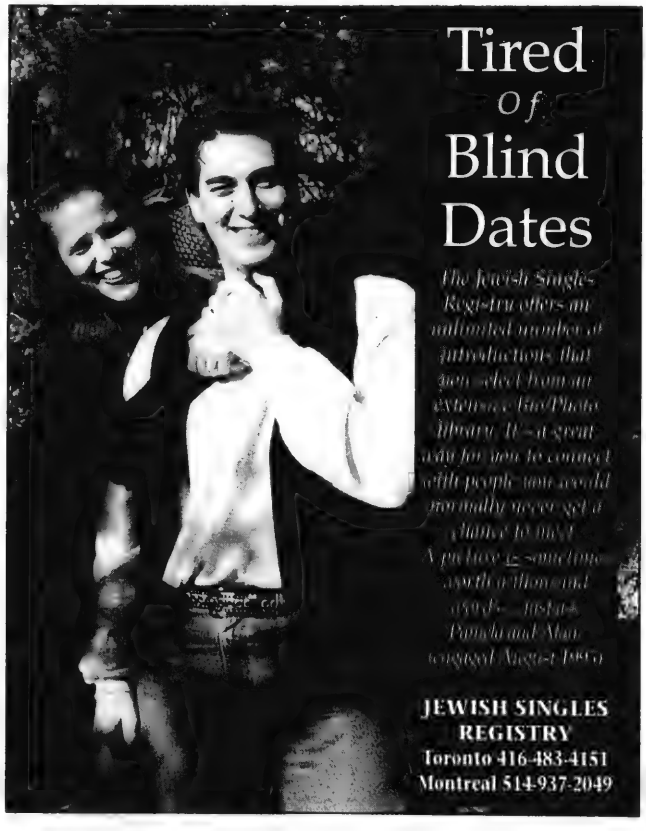
Another advantage of joining the J.S.R. is that each new applicant is initially screened before being allowed access to the database. Personal indentification must be provided at time of registration, otherwise the person will not be allowed entry into the service.

Open House For New Members

If you have **NEVER** been to a dating service before, here is your perfect opportunity to drop by the Jewish Singles Registry and see for yourself how the system works. An open house is scheduled for Sunday, April 13, 1997, from 1-4 p.m. You will be able to meet the entire Registry staff, as well as read selected profiles of actual members, see their photographs and hear their recorded voice personal messages. The afternoon promises to be, educational, informative and fun.

More To Come

A lot of exciting changes have occurred recently at the J.S.R. and Singer promises that the new office and new sophisticated computer system are just the beginning. Whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship, or marriage, the time is right to sign up with the Jewish Singles Registry. They can be reached at **(416) 483-4151** or e-mail at **jsreg@total.net.**



At The Greens Of Uplands, home is in the details

Traditionally, the common phrase "all the comforts of home" referred primarily to the house and its atmosphere inside, maybe also the yard. More and more today, though, when a thoughtful home buyer contemplates a purchase, the neighbourhood or community has a high priority.

Are you looking for an upscale home, with features that unite comfort, fine styling and good workmanship - in a neighbourhood with all the urban amenities, yet surrounded by natural beauty? If so, then the Greens of Uplands is for you.

The builder, Broadway Homes, is a family-owned Bratty company, with three generations of experience and expertise in building elegant residences, and long-standing records for excellent after-sales service.

Broadway Homes' newest community, the Greens of Uplands, fills a higher-income niche in the residential market; its uniquely elegant designs will appeal to the most discriminating buyer. The Greens combines prestige with convenience, accessibility with privacy - and most important of all, quality with value.

At Bathurst and Centre St. in Thornhill, the Greens of Uplands enjoys an exclusive ridgetop location in a green, wooded landscape. It is a golf-course community bordering the east Don River, the Thornhill Golf and Country Club, and the Uplands golf course (which contains a ski hill in the winter).

The Greens of Uplands is minutes away from schools (North York Montessori School, Leo Baeck, Ner Israel Yeshiva, Kamin Education Centre), parks, recreation facilities, shopping and cultural centres, and synagogues (Beth Avraham Yoseph Synagogue, B'nai Shalom Congregation and Day Nursery, Temple Kol Ami and Netivot HaTorah).

With over 100 homes, the Greens of Uplands is large enough to form a distinctive neighbourhood, yet small enough to be friendly. The spacious lots range from 50' wide up to 1/2 acre; most are 60' wide. There is a substantial custom features list for the 60' lots; some of these features are also available for the 50' lots.

Designed both for elegance and lasting value, the Greens of Uplands homes are all-brick, with optional stone and stucco upgrade fronts. There are 18 exceptional bungalow and 2 storey and 3 storey designs, in sizes from 2,000 sq. ft. up to 4,847.

Homes on lots from 60' up include these standard features: 9' ceilings on the main floor; flared 4x4 skylights; cornice moulding on the main floor and upper hallway; high archways with oversized trim; glazed transoms over some interior doors; 60 oz. broadloom; dining room with coffered ceiling; and halogen lights throughout.

The kitchens feature valence lighting with 4 way dome ceiling, higher cabinets with crown moulding, upper corner cabinets with glass doors, built-in electric cooktop, and oven with microwave and wine rack where possible.

An open staircase to the basement leads to a finished landing. The basement itself is spacious enough for you to finish for use as rec room, bar, in-law apartment, office or workshop. Other features include central air conditioning, complete vacuum system, and security system with view camera.

In attending to all the small details which add comfort and elegance to the solidity of good construction, Broadway Homes has been meticulous. Every particular has been thought of - right down to the brass lever handles on interior doors, and the higher-than-usual 5 1/4" baseboard trim.

Seen from outside, the Greens of Uplands homes are as fine as the interiors. The exteriors feature half-round elliptical transoms over vinyl casement windows; and distinctive gable and cottage rooflines mark these homes as the best residential designs in the area.

But no matter how a building will look on site once all the finishing touches are in place, traditional blueprints or scale models are hard to evaluate. How does your imagination make the leap from drawing or model to the life-sized reality?

To show you what your residence will really look like, Broadway is pioneering North America's most comprehensive, up-to-date form of presentation: computer simulations, with virtual 3 D walk-throughs of fully furnished homes. Right down to the standard exterior colour packages and the angle of light falling through the windows on the interior, the simulation is complete.

If this sounds like your kind of home, in the kind of neighbourhood you want to live in, Broadway Homes is waiting for your call. To arrange to view your future Greens of Uplands residence, call Abe or Francis Wang at **905-881-3154**.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Artist expresses psychic, metaphysical ideas

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Although his father designed and illustrated the first Canadian comic book Billy Beaver in the early 1940s, Larry Middlestadt's art is remote from cartooning.

"I take note of contemporary art but tend to work in a style that is personal and somewhat removed," he says. He is in his own realm, creating through a process of exploration and discovery, trying, he affirms, to understand the meaning of life.

His visual sources range from landscape itself, photos of microscopic material, the way a movie camera transforms the landscape, light falling on a surface — to the contemplative as expressed in the Buddhist phrase, "To have a mind like water."

He perceives a still pond illuminated by intuition opposed by a concentric circle, an energy of existence in continual motion that both defies and invites analysis and interpretation.

In this way, he says, nature becomes his vehicle for dealing with psychic and metaphysical ideas. He sees the psychic as a way of understanding or questioning the nature of existence and the metaphysical as dealing with the nature of existence.

"I cannot deal with small issues, only universal ideas," he maintains.

The possibility of conveying philosophical and emotional content through abstract and semi-abstract images seems elusive, he concedes, but adds, "It is this possibility that animates my work!"

Spontaneity and energy in oils

Middlestadt's recent solo exhibition at the Illuminary Art Gallery, 96 Spadina Ave., featured large canvases from two series, Primordia (beginning) and Out of Darkness.

Primordia originated some nine years ago after he had been experimenting at length with water colors and was trying to recapture their spontaneity and energy in oils, using a more complex technique, a layering of images.

Much of the spontaneity has been retained. Depth and flashes of color pull the viewer in.

Fire Dance, in the Primordia series, suggests fiery figures, "little amoeba dancing," Middlestadt says.

Taoist Landscape No. 2, deep violet blues and blue greens, postulates that everything is in motion with no end and no beginning. "Even rock is in motion but infinitely more slowly than water," Middlestadt notes.

The series, Out of Darkness, emerges from Primordia.

Here, *Eye of the Storm*, frosty white, carmine, blue green, lashes out with a confrontational force. Under a thundering sky is the vortex — a dynamic agitation between that sky and the water.

Stillpoint, in contrast, is pure abstraction, adeptly shaded levels of transparency, blacks, whites, warm greys — the concept of a still point following chaos.

Middlestadt, an Ontario College of Art graduate, is a teacher at George Brown College. He has exhibited in many other countries including France, Holland and Switzerland. His works are also in selected corporate collections.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Nitzan is thrilled to announce the arrival of his sister Dafna Michal Har Lavan. Mazel tov to parents Sigal and Azriel and grandparents in Israel and Toronto.

Happy birthday Ruth on April 22 and congratulations on your graduation. From the Warner, Smaye, Mael and Jakabovits families.

Happy birthday to Thelma Steinman of Ottawa, born May 1, 1912. You are a special lady. With love from your children, grandchildren and great-granddaughter.

Mazel tov to Ruth & Charles Cohen on their 50th wedding anniversary, March 29, from your son, daughter-in-law and grandson.

Mazel tov to Sala & Jack Kamiel who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 16. Love from children, Barbara, Michael & Wendy, and grandchildren.

Mazel tov on your 50th anniversary Gert & Al Spiegel, from Reah & Eddie, Janice & Allen and grandchildren David, Lisa, Nadine and Jason.

Mazel tov to Louis Zaks on his 80th birthday. Love from children, grandchildren, and cousin Rosa Weisbeker and children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Nison & Helena Ciss on their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 25. With love from Josef, Alon, Julius, Claire, Miriam, Dolly, Sonia and Hanna.

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Spheres is kosher and cool

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Daniel Elcabas and Oren Savir, two young Orthodox men, say they and their friends had difficulty finding a place to go for shidduch dates because kosher restaurants did not have the atmosphere they wanted.

Elcabas, 31, and Savir, 29, remedied the situation by opening a kosher cafe of their own in Thornhill four months ago.

Spheres European Coffee House, located on Centre Street just west of Bathurst Street, is "known as a place for shidduch dates," say the two young entrepreneurs.

They also note that Spheres, under the Kashrut Council of Toronto (COR), is the first late night kosher cafe in Toronto. It stays open until 1 a.m. most nights and as late as 3 a.m. on Saturdays.

The co-owners combined their artistic skills — Elcabas is a mosaic tile artisan, while Savir has a background in decorative wall painting — to create a visually pleasing and low-key environment.

The colors, mosaics and halogen lighting give Spheres the look of sophistication and style that one would find in many of the upscale eateries and cafes in trendier neighborhoods.

The cafe is designed to be an intimate relaxing place, Elcabas says, pointing to the different shapes of the tables that are also spaced well apart from each other for privacy.

While they pride themselves on the cafe's food and decor, they stress that providing good service is equally important.

"We pay a lot of attention to detail. People don't expect a kosher place to have so much service. We want people to feel comfortable here."

When they came up with their concept, Savir and Elcabas say they worried at first that the cafe would be too avant garde for the Orthodox community. "But, they accepted us with open arms. They love it. They wanted something like this for a long time."

Oren Savir whips up some kosher Belgian waffles for Daniel Elcabas. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Spheres is not just a comfortable place. The food — savory and sweet — and specialty coffees like cappuccino and cafe latte, draw people from all over the city, Elcabas says.

The cafe offers Mediterranean-style cuisine, which includes such items as cream of mushroom soup, made with fresh mushrooms and real cream; salad Nicoise, made with tuna and fresh green beans; and linguini in a mushroom Alfredo sauce.

All specialty coffees and dairy dishes are made from chalav Yisrael products.

Dessert lovers might want to try one of the gourmet cakes in the display case.

The piece de resistance is Injury by Chocolate. This six-inch high chocolate layer cake is filled with chocolate mousse and covered in a dark Belgian chocolate shell, garnished with burned sugar. Most of the cakes are pareve, except for the cheese cakes.

Spheres' Belgian waffles are popular for Sunday brunch or as a dessert, says Savir as he whips up a sample of this house specialty for Elcabas. The waffles, served with ice cream and sauce or whipped cream and fresh fruit, are as much a feast for the eye as for the palate.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

M	O	T	O		A	R	A	D	G	A	T	E	S
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Post-concert conversation with the artist onstage following the recital.
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Igor Uryash, piano
MOZART: Sonata in B-flat, K.454
ELGAR: Sonata
TCHAIKOVSKY: Sérénade mélancolique
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Drama & Literary Events

•*Unsettling Accounts*, by Quebec playwright **Yvan Bienvenue**, is "an insightful rampage on class, color, lust and love ... a deafening primal scream of a lost generation."

In part, the story involves a man's attempt to retrieve a tombstone that three skinheads have stolen from a Jewish cemetery. Translated by **Shelley Tepperman**, directed by **Jim Milan**, featuring **Michael Healey**. Previews Wed. Apr 2, runs April 3 to 13 at The Poor Alex Lava Lounge, 296 Brunswick Ave., Toronto. Tickets $12 to $16. 416-927-1881.

Yiddish & Yiddishkeit

• **Bernard Mendelovitch**, the star of Britain's Yiddish stage, appears in The World of Yiddish Theatre in Story & Song, April 13, 7:30 p.m., Beth David Congregation, 55 Yeomans Rd., North York. Piano accompaniment by **Nina Shapilsky**. Presented by Friends of Yiddish for one performance only. Tickets ($25 & $18) available from Lasting Impressions One Hour Photo,Negev Book Store & Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am. 416-633-5500.

• Yiddishland Cafe offers an evening of Yiddish humor entitled *To Laugh Is Healthy! (Lakhn Iz Gezunt!)* April 6, 7 p.m. at Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto. Featuring the Yiddish Players – **Gloria Valentine**, **Michael Lebovic**, **Allen Farkas** – and guitarist **Brian Katz**. Tickets are $10 in advance, available from Lasting Impression One Hour Photo, 416- 635-0720. A few tickets are expected to be available at the door for $12.

Jewish Museums

Shaarei Shomayim's series of museum visits contiunes April 9 (not April 8 as previously reported) at 8 p.m. at Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum, Beth Tzedec Synagogue. In addition to the Cecil Roth Collection, curator Dorion Liebgott will speak about the new exhibit "Jewish Communites of China, From Kaifeng to Shanghai."

Galas & Benefits

• Great Canadian Art for a Great Canadian Cause is being offered for sale at the Moore Gallery, 80 Spadina Ave., Suite 404, Toronto, Thurs. April 3, 7 p.m. (special presentation 7:30 p.m.) The jazz and white wine are complimentary; admission is free. **Michael Snow** and **Jean Paul Riopelle** are among many artists slated to attend. Proceeds to benefit Mount Sinai Hospital's Labor, Delivery and Recovery (LDR) Room project. Sari Zon, 416-586-8203.

• A screening of *Fiddler On The Roof* to mark the film's 25th anniversary is set for April 17 at the Famous Players Eglinton Theatre, 400 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto. Producer **Norman Jewison** is host and actor **ChaimTopol**, who played Tevye the Milkman, is a special guest. A gala reception is planned after the screening at the Four Seasons Hotel. Tickets are $95 for screening and reception with Topol, $50 for screening only. Proceeds to benefit the Canadian Spinal Research Organization. 905-508-4000.

• Ashkenaz Gala, hosted by **Linda Frum** and featuring **Mordecai Richler**, **Al Waxman**, **Alicia Svigals** of the **Klezmatics** and the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**, Mon. June 23, 8 p.m., Ford Centre, North York. Funds from sale of tickets ($100 each) to benefit Ashkenaz '97 Festival of New Yiddish Culture (Aug. 25 to Sept. 1). Besides an evening of New Yiddish culture and kosher reception, each patron receives a complimentary copy of the upcoming book *Growing Up Jewish*, edited by **Rosalie Sharp**, **Irving Abella** and **Edwin Goodman** (published by McClelland & Stewart). 416-872-2222.

At The Galleries

• The Koffler Gallery features Messages From The Light, a solo exhibition by Toronto artist **Tim Whiten**, featuring three-dimensional works and drawings. The exhibition later travels to the Gallery of the Saidye Bronfman Centre in Montreal and the Olga Korper Gallery in Toronto in 1998. Artist talk, April 6, 2 p.m. Until April 27. 4588 Bathurst St., North York. 416-636-1880, ext. 268.

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(MONTREAL) DOWNTOWN street tensions continue to escalate in the aftermath of the incident between three youths identified as "Skinheads" and a young writer severely beaten in a park. The East end man tried to prevent the youths from making off with a Jewish grave marker that they had stolen. In light of public outcry Police have raided numerous homes of "white power" organizations searching for the culprits who remain unknown and still at large. There have been countercharges of harassment levelled at the Jewish community for the family's sympathy for the ma

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The Canadian Jewish News, in conjunction with the Toronto Jewish Film Festival running May 1 to 8 at the Bloor Cinema has five prizes to give away.

The prizes are:

•1 pair of Festival Passes.

•1 pair of Opening Gala Passes

•1 pair of Closing Gala passes

•2 pairs each of specific film passes and T-shirts.

To enter the contest answer the following question. Who directed the film *Fiddler on the Roof* currently celebrating its 25th anniversary? Five winners will be randomly drawn from all correct answers received by April 10, noon. Decision of the judges is final.

Include your name and phone number to Festival Contest, CJN, 1500 Don Mills Rd. Suite 205, North York, On.M3B 3K4. Fax 416-391-0829 or E-mail TorCJN1@aol.com

Winners will be notified by phone by March 11 and must be able to pick up the prizes from our offices.

Young comedian's act celebrates popular culture

BY CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Despite his made-for-television looks, stand-up comedian Michael Gelbart is more than just a pretty face in a reputedly dirty business.

Having launched his career by appearing on amateur comedy nights at age 18, Gelbart, now 27, regularly performs at Yuk Yuk's across Canada and is known to headline the comedy club's Yids In The Hall, a once-a-month evening of Jewish schtick featuring the nation's top Jewish comics.

"I like doing shows for Jewish people, because I have a lot of Jewish material that I never get a chance to do on a regular basis," he says.

However, Gelbart's teachers and classmates would be quick to testify that he had plenty of time to practise his routine in high school. "I was always the class clown as a kid and I was always really big on getting attention," he says.

But whereas his adolescent antics were punishable by detentions, these days Gelbart's distinct sense of humor is being rewarded by film and television offers.

Gelbart starred in an episode of the CBC television show *Comics*, played a baseball-capped computer geek in the film *Panic In The Skies* and served as associate producer for the film *Dog's Best Friend*.

He is currently awaiting word on whether or not he will appear in the upcoming film *Dead End*, for which he recently auditioned. It is scheduled to star Olympia Dukakis.

Gelbart is thrilled that *Panic In The Skies* allowed him to work with Eric Estrada of *CHIPs*, Kate Jackson of *Charlie's Angels* and Maureen McCormick, who played Marcia on *The Brady Bunch*.

"I hung out all day with the people I watched on TV as a kid," he says with obvious enjoyment.

In fact, his obsession with pop culture's icons permeates Gelbart's stand-up comedy. With references to such television sitcoms as *Saved By The Bell*, *Seinfeld* and *Facts Of Life*, his unique brand of humor pays tribute to fictional characters whose laughs are derived from everyday situations.

"My act is a celebration of media in general. It is a celebration of all popular culture," he says.

Knowledgeable about the marketability of his prime-time material, Gelbart has made a conscious effort to ensure that his comedy routine is as clean as his khaki Gap chinos.

"To me, swearing in your act is fine if there's a point, but sometimes it looks like [comedians] are swearing because they can't think of anything funny. The challenge is to come up with funny ideas and phrases that are not full of profanity."

Besides, he confesses with a trademark television reference, "People don't want to hear a guy who looks like me talking all vulgar. Women want to see me as the nice cast of *Friends* kind of a guy."

Michael Gelbart is scheduled to perform May 8-11 at Yuk Yuk's West, 5165 Dixie Rd., Mississauga.

No place too small for handy guide

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

No destination is too exotic for the 1997 edition of the *Jewish Travel Guide* (Sepher-Hermon Press,), edited by Stephen Massil.

This handy volume, which has been published for more than a century, doesn't take anything for granted.

The average reader of *The Canadian Jewish News* is not, I trust, interested in visiting Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria or Iran any time soon. But no matter. For your convenience and edification, these countries, as well as many others, are listed should you ever be overcome by an irresistible desire to take in their sights.

The premise of this guide is that no country is too far, too near, too bland or too dangerous for its intrepid readership.

Almost half of it is given over to Britain, Israel and the United States. Canada, in case you wondered, rates 14 pages. By contrast, Senegal is given all of two lines.

The *Jewish Travel Guide* concentrates on hard, everyday facts, such as the names, phone numbers and addresses of hotels, kosher restaurants, synagogues and Jewish community organizations.

It makes for rather dull reading, but if you're planning a trip to, say, Brazil, of if you ever find yourself in a jam somewhere in Asia or Africa, you'll probably be glad you have a copy of the *Jewish Travel Guide* in your handbag.

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Business Profile

Entrepreneur's story immigrant's dream come true

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Until last year, Hummingbird Communications Ltd. was a familiar name to none but a select group within the international business/technology world.

The previously low-profile computer software company achieved instant prominence in Toronto, however, for donating $5 million to the O'Keefe Centre for the Performing Arts. The 36-year-old 3,155-seat theatre became the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts in November, and will bear its new name for 20 years.

Company president and chief executive officer Fred Sorkin, 59, also kept a relatively low profile until recently. Twenty-one years after he came here from Lithuania, his story is an immigrant dream come true.

From a modest start in 1984 with less than half a dozen people, the company Sorkin co-founded with Barry Litwin (now executive vice-president, research and development) has grown to an international staff of 350. Its sleek North York head office has 260 employees, over 90 percent of whom are also immigrants.

"It's a very cosmopolitan company," said Sorkin, ever conscious of the opportunities he was given in his adopted country. Although there is no explicit policy at Hummingbird, Sorkin has made a point of hiring qualified new immigrants when possible. Even at management level there are many immigrants, he noted. "We have everybody: Chinese, Vietnamese, Indian, a lot of Russians, Czechs. Usually immigrants are very hard-working people."

Hummingbird, whose shares have been traded publicly since 1993, has four European offices (in England, France, Germany and Switzerland), three in the United States and one in Australia. The Israeli company Bynet distributes Hummingbird products in Israel and has done some contract work for the Canadian company.

Sorkin has seen company revenues leap — through sales and well-timed acquisitions — from $1.6 million to $6 million to $102 million last year. He would like to see that figure more than double again. "I hope it will not take more than 1½ to 2 years to reach $250 to $300 million."

Given Hummingbird's rapid growth, Sorkin said management has been careful not to jeopardize the company's financial standing. He wants the company to "grow, not explode." He runs a tight ship, with fewer employees than comparable companies, he said. "You [as a company] have to go all the time; as soon as you stop, someone will take your place."

Not bad for someone who immigrated 21 years ago with $150 to his name. Today Sorkin is the picture of success, cufflinks gleaming in his spotless white cuffs, a cigar stub dangling from his left hand.

While some of his eastern European counterparts were discouraged by the uphill struggle they encountered in their new home, Sorkin made a conscious effort to maintain perspective.

"Everybody has the [same] brain. There's no difference between the brain of a scientist in Russia and a scientist here," he explained in an interview at Hummingbird's head office.

Fred Sorkin

"You use the same concepts when you're building computers. The only difference is in the technology. Technology in the Soviet Union was behind by 10 to 15 years."

Sorkin's sense of humor was likely also an asset in his quest to become established here. Recalling his language difficulties when he arrived in Canada, he explained that, having studied "British English," he would turn on the television and not understand a word. "I still have good Oxford accent," he said impishly, poking fun at his heavily eastern European-flavored English.

Sorkin, who has a PhD in Computer Science from Moscow University and masters' degrees in mathematics and electronics from state universities in Vilnius, was a computer scientist and chief engineer of the Soviet Union's largest computer manufacturing firm before he emigrated.

Although such success was not unheard of in the Soviet Jewish world, neither was it typical. "In Russia, probably it wouldn't happen," Sorkin said. "Lithuania was more western oriented."

Despite his comfortable position in Lithuania, Sorkin longed for freedom — to travel, to build his own business and to speak without fear of repercussions. Having survived World War II in the Far East, where his father served as a trade attaché in Japan, Sorkin and his family returned to Lithuania, where both parents were the targets of vicious anti-Semitic persecution during Sorkin's teenage years.

By the end of the 1960s, despite the way his career was shaping up, he had made up his mind to leave.

Sorkin's sister emigrated first, leaving for Israel in 1972 at his urging. He immediately became "persona non grata, not so kosher any more."

Around the same time he made his own unsuccessful application for an exit visa. It took four tries in all before he and his wife Anya received permission to leave. Their daughter, Riva, was born in Montreal.

Meanwhile he lost his citizenship and had to resign as chief engineer to take a less prestigious job. "At least they didn't fire me. In Russia they would have fired me right away."

The applications left "a black spot" on his career. "You cannot access any longer the private documents that you could before."

In March 1976, thanks to the sponsorship of Anya's aunt, Sorkin and his wife arrived in Montreal via Vienna.

He found his first Canadian job by word of mouth through friends in the Jewish community. It wasn't until he showed up for work wearing a three-piece suit that he realized his task was to shred paper.

"But it's okay. I was quite happy to get some money. When you immigrate, you have to be prepared for everything. You have to believe in your dreams. Nobody knows your credentials. You're starting from scratch. You have to have a good attitude."

Once he was able, he began trying to help the Jewish community here and in Israel. A contributor to UJA, he has also underwritten a computer school for low-income children in Tel Aviv.

Through Hummingbird, he has also sponsored performances at the Toronto Stage Centre.

Although he had no formal business training, Sorkin had a dream — and the drive to see it through. "Dreams are one thing. Reality is another. But always, in my head, I knew I had to try my best."

In 1981 he founded Execunet, an Ottawa-based company specializing in telephone and telecommunications systems. The company was later acquired by Mitel, where Sorkin was appointed a vice-president and general manager.

In 1984 he joined Helix Investments Ltd., a venture capital firm, before founding Hummingbird later in the year.

The company name, which he happened on while browsing through an encyclopedia of birds, appealed to him for its color and the ability of its namesake to change direction in mid-flight.

Anticipating possible changes in company direction, he liked the fact that the name wasn't tied to any one product or service.

Originally a consulting company, Hummingbird soon switched its focus to software development.

Two years ago the company acquired Beame & Whiteside Software, Inc. The NFS Maestro software they subsequently developed has won several industry awards.

And was the Hummingbird Centre donation another shrewd business move? Sorkin denies the suggestion emphatically. "We didn't expect our revenues to increase [because of the donation]. We only sell four percent of our revenue in Canada." Seventy percent of Hummingbird's market is in the United States, 25 percent in Europe and the rest in the Far East and Canada, he noted.

"The donation is really to say thank you from a whole [corporate] community of more than 90 percent immigrants, to give something back. I'm really thankful to Canada that they allowed me to be a member of this society. Really, there aren't so many lucky people who can be accepted to Canada."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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New custom designed home on prestigious quiet cres. Time to select your own finishes. Cheryl Graff*

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$285,000 Quiet street, modern decor, mostly new windows, roof '96, double garage. Samantha Graff*

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Lonsdale/Spadina - Village Area
Real curb appeal! Mn. fam. rm., outstanding master ste., renovated 5 bdrm. + nanny $849K. Jeffrey Joseph**

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Avenue Rd./Lawrence, 3450 sq. ft. 4 bdrms, 5 baths, 41x130. lot, mn. flr., lib. & fam. Fin. bsmt. Robert Greenberg*

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4500 sq. ft. custom home on magnificent lot, w/o fin. lower, Nanny's qrts, many up-dates, Special appts. thru Sharon Black*

Reduced! Sandon Schwartzben, V.P.**
2533 Bayview $688K 6+1 br, 5 bath, mn. fam. 100'x216'
2 Codsell Ave. $378K 4+1 br, 4 bath, mn. fam. 63'x120'

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Orchid Crt! $748K Elegant 5+2 bdrms, mn. flr. fam. & lib. & lau.
Ridley Blvd! $599K Reno 4+1 bdrm, mn, fam. o/l's pool!

Custom Classics – Lytton Blvd.
$659,000 each approx. 2900 sq. ft. - fin. bsmt., 5 baths, 4+1 bdrms. Quality finishes. Robert Greenberg*

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Bathurst/ Strathearn - centre hall, 5 bdrm, outstanding pool & cabana. Large lot, fin. bsmt. $719,000. Jean Zinman*

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Brand new construction - 8 yrs. - gorgeous. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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CUSTOM HOME ON SPRING GATE BOULEVARD
Fantastic 4+1 bdrm on 50 ft. lot, features hardwood floors, skylight, inground pool, renovated kitchen, baths & more! *Allen Sidofsky

"WESTMOUNT" BATHURST & CENTRE
Magnificent 3,600'. 4 bdrm custom home on quiet cres, gourmet kit, hdwd fls, b/i appls, 2 f/places ++! Steps to shul! *Allen Sidofsky

BATHURST-YORK DOWNS - CLANTON PARK
4 bdrm raised bungalow, fin bsmt w/sep entry, on 51x150 ft. lot! Hardwood, air, extras galore! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE - PRICED TO SELL!
4 bdrm with prof finished bsmt, large kitchen! *The Rosenzweigs

BATHURST-CLARK $289,900
Separate entry to finished basement apartment (in-law suite), fab 3 bdrm, dble garage, appliances, air & much more! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CLARK "SPRING FARM"
Just listed! 3 bdrm, close to everything, priced to sell! *Rosenzweigs

BATHURST-CLARK - 1ST AD!
Lovely 3 bdrm, huge kit & lot, ensuite & fin bsmt. *P. Waisglass

BATHURST & YORK DOWNS
3 bdrm bungalow, garage, hardwood floors, large lot! *Helen Winer

CONDOMINIUMS

BATHURST-STEELES "PRIMROSE" $189,900
Largest corner unit, great view! 2 baths, 2 parking spaces, locker, huge sunny kitchen large living room!
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South-east exp, great view! Large 2 bdrm, solarium, 2 baths, bright sunny kit. $188,900! *L. Kogan (905) 881-7248 or (905) 764-7200

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Large 3 bdrm, huge living room, west exposure, 2 parking spaces, hardwood floors, balcony, on 12th floor, near bus & shopping. *Leon Kogan (905) 881-7248 or (905) 764-7200

BATHURST-STEELES ONLY $144,900
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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CRANBROOKE AVENUE - $569,000.
Stone front 3+ BRs. Brkfst/family rm. Granite. Skylights. Detailed mouldings. Top quality finishes. Private drive & garage. Call **Don Wagman

AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE - $439,000.
Luxury detached home. 3 BRs. + nanny's room. Gourmet kitchen. Skylights, glass block, jacuzzi, quality materials. Fin l/lvl. CAC. Parking. **Natalie Schacter

ATTENTION PROFESSIONALS - $469,000.
Yonge/Eglinton. Detached 3-sty., renovated "in-town" home. Professional office with separate entrance & 2pce. Private parking. Walk to subway. **Don Wagman

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MACPHERSON/YONGE - $399,000.
Renovated Victorian in centre of city. One of Toronto's historical buildings. 3 bdrms. SOLD Eat-in kitchen. 2-car pkg. CAC. *Judy Nathan/*Edith Weiss

YONGE/ST. CLAIR - $459,000.
Spacious home located on deep lot. Features include 5 bdrms., 4 baths, lower SOLD nanny's suite w/separate entrance. 3-car gar. Quiet tree-lined street. *Don Wagman

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - $209,000
3 bedroom townhouse in exclusive complex. Eat-in kitchen. Skylight. Fireplace. Rec rm SOLD walk-out. Parking. *Betty Cohen

DREAM STARTER - $289,000.
Avenue Rd/Lawrence. Lovely 2 bdrms., 2 baths. White kitchen + walk-out. Fin. lower level SOLD central air. Private drive & garage. *Cathy Goldman

LESLIE/SHEPPARD - $309,000.
Charming bungalow in "Henry Farm" area.Quiet street. Pretty lot. Estate sale. Private dri SOLD double garage. *Betty Cohen

SOUTH RIVERDALE RENO - $215,000.
Spacious 4 bdrm. Eat-in kitchen with w/o to deck. 3rd flr.bdrm/family rm.w/exposed SOLD & warm pine floors. Walk to Queen Street "Antique Row", parks & cafes. *Carol Cotton

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4 bdrm., sep. liv. & din., fin. w/out bsmnt., dble drive, gar.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Spac. bung., 3 bdrms., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin SOLD bsmt., lge. lot.

WILMINGTON/FINCH
Split lvl., 5 bdrms., 4 bths., den, L-shape liv. & din., w/out, fin. bsmnt., don't miss.

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Bath. Manor, Sale by owner, gorgeous, spac. updated home, 6,000 s.f. of liv. space,5 bdrms., 3 bths., 2 1/2 bths. Brokers welcome, $469K. 398-1569.

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Bath./Clark, beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., sep. entr. & lndry., avail. Apr. 1. 905-761-0380.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Clark, 1450' sq. ft. PH, 2 bdrms., balc., 2 pkg., 5 appls., $1550./mo. 905-731-7743.

100 Antibes, 3 bdrms + sol, 2 baths, cac, parquet. 665-2720.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
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960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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Bath./Shepp., 1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Avail. April 1st, 635-5031.

Shepp./Bath., 2 bdrm. apt. for rent above a store, very private, $900./mo. 638-2018.

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123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT

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125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, Century Village, lux. condo, 1 bdrm, 2 baths, Fla. rm, furn./unfurn. 512-1402.

Lauderhill, lge. 1 bdrm. apt,1 1/2 baths, part. furn, encl. terrace, pkg, secur, close to all amen.954-739-0239, Mr.Brown.

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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

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175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED

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232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Bomboniere & Gift Business for Sale, outside Woodbridge. Manufacturer/Retailer, making profit. Est. 7 years plus. Asking $85K. Please call between 12pm - 6pm. 416-661-0998.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Religious School Director for progressive & dynamic Conservative Congregation, 250 students pre-K through 8th grade, school & family education programs. Mail or fax résumé to: Beth El Congregation, 1118 West Glendale Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, 85021; fax: (602) 944-3565, Attn: Carol Sunshine.

Small Liberal congregational Sunday school requires a teacher for Hebrew language & Jewish studies for 1997/98 school yr.Send résumé only, no phone calls,to: Amy Block, Congregation Darchei Noam, 15 Hove St.,North York, M3H 4Y8.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Religious/Nursery School Administrator: Growing suburban Reform Temple is seeking an innovative educator to administer our religious & nursery schools of 600 students. Applications are on file with **NATE, JCPC and RPC,** or submit comprehensive résumé to: Educator Search Committee, Temple Beth Am, 4660 Sheridan Dr., Williamsville (Buffalo), New York, 14221 or fax them to: (716) 633-8952.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Exper. chauffers, personable & prof., n/smkrs., well spoken, to drive corp. clientelle for a small limousine co., full & part-time, fax résumé: 416-224-9498

Female Day Camp counsellors,age 15-up. 785-4600,evgs

Whimz Parties needs part-time assistant for children's parties, enthusiastic, very organ. & responsible, playful & energetic. Send résumé to: Whimz, 8 Slade Ave., T.O., M6G 3A1.

247 DAY CARE

Shepp./Bath., Mother of 2, offering Day Care in my home. A fun learning environ. 638-1686.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
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• We prepare all documents for you.
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***Golden Care has live-in/out eldercare for seniors, HCA's, RN's, cleaners.Bonded, refs. Good rates. Honey, 665-4229.**

A caring HCA companion seeks live-out postion with elderly, disabled or housekeeping. Car, references. 495-9624.

Cleaning lady with exper. looking for a job. Call 285-8955.

Cleaning lady, very reas., refs. from a Jewish home.587-6810.

Exper. cleaning lady avail. for houses & apts., very good refs. 531-4038 or 573-9885.

Exper. nanny seeks live-out job, p/t, light hskpng, good refs. avail. Call 416-287-0415.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Marla's Gone Out On Her Own! Receive the **personal** touch! Live-in/live-out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, refs. **Call Marla's Domestics, 226-4325.**

Nannies from Quebec,summer & longer, refs. Call The Westmount Agency, 905-889-5366

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Why not *enjoy* Passover this Year? Marla's Domestics has qualified people avail. to help serve and do dishes. Call now, book early! **Call 416-226-4325.**

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Woman req'd. to help with light hskpng, Jewish cooking & personal care for a lady. Exper. & refs. req'd., live-out- 10am - 6pm. Call 905-881-2501.

258 HEALTHCARE

Exper. lady seeks job working with elderly. Nursing home exper.,live-out,refs. avail. 658-1790

HCA available to take of elderly/companion/nanny. Live-out. Call 416-269-0726.

Woman seeks job as HCA, priv. duty or homemaker, refs. Call Thelma at 905-791-8492.

Woman seeks job to take care of elderly, days work, house cleaning,refs.,exper. 763-7594.

2 exper. Polish female doctors are eager to provide prof. care of elderly or disabled, refs. avail. upon req. Call Agatha at 416-255-0947.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

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People are needed to care for children/youth, 24 hrs/day, as part of your family.
We provide training, support, a Board rate and cover most expenses.
Call
Foster Care Co-ordinator
Selma Elzas
at
Jewish Family and Child Service
638-7800 ext. 298

EXTRAS NEEDED! Jewish people needed for "The Rescuers", filming in Toronto. All ages required! Call Laws Talent 598-9222.

I'm looking for my brother, Jacob R. Leon. Please reply soon, I'm stuck here & running out of time. **URGENT!** Michael Leon at DRK Centre Tarnby, Lojtegardsvej, 97-99, Rm. 38, 2770 Kastrup, Denmark.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dressler-Adler, Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Dressler of Brandon, Manitoba are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Allson** to **Mark Adler**, son of the late Abram and May Adler of Toronto. A June wedding is planned.

Shapiro-Varkul, Monica and Barry, Gillian & Joe are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Joanna** and **Mark**. Proud grandparents are Janet Shapiro and Gertrude Birchwood of Montreal, and Dorothy Shoolman and Fruma Varkul of Cape Town, South Africa.

THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK!!

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Beautiful Bridal Gown for sale, size 11-12. 905-709-0184.

Save $100.00 on fresh cut flowers. Buy a $500.00 Gift Certif. for $400.00. 544-1907.

315 CARS FOR SALE

1987 Mercury Wagon, 140 kms., 1 owner, leather, 8 passenger, $3500., **1985 Grand Marquis,** 1 owner, 110 kms., immac., $4,500. 483-7133.

330 OBITUARIES

With broken heart & deep sorrow, we announce the sudden passing of **Eva Lovas** on March 26, 1997. Beloved mother of Suzanne Katès & son-in-law Robert,grandmother of Avra & Benjamin. Cousins, nephews, & numerous friends are remembering her love and accomplishments. Condolences at the Kates res., 31 Sheldrake, T.O.

STRUB, Irvin - November 6, 1910 - March 23, 1997. In his 86th year. Beloved husband of Evelyn Strub. Predeceased by his first wife, Annie Strub(nee Laskin). Beloved brother of Dan Strub and the late Sylvia Miller. Beloved father of Leo, Harry and Danny Strub, Doris Epstein and Esther Erez. Beloved grandfather of Michael, Billy and Ritchie Epstein and Anna Harari, Amie, Marty and Andy Strub; Aaron, Benjy, Jeremy and Michael Strub, Paula and Rochelle Strub, Leora Davids and Rina and Danielle Erez. Beloved great-grandfather of Adam, Jordan and Robbie Epstein, Nora, Greta & Hannah Epstein,Gabriella Harari,Hanna, Samara & Eli Strub, Arielle, Joshua and Adam Strub, Jonah Strub, Chananya & Zvi Davids. Funeral from the United Hebrew Chapel, 54 Vine Street, Hamilton, on Tuesday at 11 a.m. Interment Adas Israel Cemetery (Upper James St.)

BOCKNER, Cecil - on March 12, 1997, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #2004.
ENGLISH, Rose - on March 12, 1997, late of 235 Goulding Ave.
MUROKH, Liza - on March 12, 1997, late of 5750 Lemieux, #507.
CROZIER, Minnie - on March 14, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #510.
DOVER, Pearl - on March 14, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
FIREMAN, Nat - on March 14, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W., #1129.
VOLGYESI, Leslie - on March 14, 1997, late of 36 Gatehead Rd.
ZALKEN, Brenda - on March 15, 1997, late of 245 Roehampton Ave., #1103.
NEFSKY, Ida - on March 15, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
GOLD, Rose - on March 16, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
EVANS, Miriam - on March 17, 1997, late of 47 Glen Manor Dr.
SHAW, Sydney - on March 17, 1997, late of 23 Newgate Rd.
FREEMAN, Mary - on March 18, 1997, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd.
COWAN, Anne - on March 19, 1997, late of 155 Balmoral Ave.
LEE, Edward - on March 19, 1997, late of 108 Greenbush Cres.
EISEN, Mary - on March 20, 1997, late of 32 Glencedar Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

COOPER, Jeremy David on March 18, 1997, late of 33 Isabella St.
KOPSTICK, Faye - on March 18, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
ZYSHOLZ, Henry - on March 19, 1997, late of 8 Finchurst Dr.
MANN, Sophia (Sofia) - on March 21, 1997.
SAPERSZTEIN, Toby - on March 21, 1997.
SLOTKIN, Morris - on March 22, 1997, late of 343 Clark Ave. W.
FREEDMAN, Nathan - on March 23, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
GARNICK, Stanley - on March 23, 1997, late of 474 Woburn Ave.
GOULD, Frank - on March 24, 1997, late of 247 Sandringham Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
SARAH HARRIS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 6th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst St. South of Steeles)
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the most loving memory of
HETTY JOSEPHS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 6th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst St. , South of Steeles)
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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WEDNESDAY - 4:00 P.M.

(8 days preceding issue date)

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SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER

Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
Find Out How This Will Affect You!
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER

Lunchtime lessons prove popular

Program helps teach kids the joys of baseball

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — What started as a make-work project designed to give Michael Ullman some extra experience working with children has turned into a big business with the potential for expanding to the United States.

And unlike some of the heady, new frontier businesses that rely on high technology, Ullman's enterprise is decidedly low tech and old fashioned. Ullman is the owner/entrepreneur behind the Learn To Play Association (LTPA), a program designed to teach elementary school children the joys of baseball.

Since he launched the program in 1992, it has caught on among the youthful set faster than jester hats. From two public schools in that first year, the lunchtime program is expected to include from 220 to 300 schools across Canada and the United States when it resumes in the spring.

This winter, LTPA is continuing its growth phase as Ullman looks to schools in Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Ann Arbor, Mich. and Cleveland to jump on the bandwagon.

Michael Ullman gives a young slugger some pointers.

His pitch is simple. The Learn To Play Association helps children gain confidence in themselves, it aids in their socialization skills, it teaches them sportsmanship, it gives them role models and it keeps them busy during lunchtime. Ullman can point to a host of testimonials from satisfied parents and principals, who are ready to attest to the benefits offered by LTPA.

One parent points to the changed attitude in her son, who "always seemed to be left out" at lunchtime but who now "goes to school with a positive attitude...He's made new friends, not only with the children in his class but both younger and older children."

Ullman hires students enrolled in university education programs to supervise the lunchtime games, believing they serve as good role models for the kids. The program has proven so popular that Ullman no longer has the time to personally supervise each and every schoolyard.

Instead, he hires coordinators to look after regions and they, in turn, contact the schools and supervise the instructors. Ullman supplies the equipment — balls, bats, basepads and prizes.

In its first four years of operation, LTPA charged parents $25 per child, but this year the fee is climbing to $30. For that, boys and girls from Grades 1 to 6 play baseball once a week for eight weeks in May and June. They also receive certificates, buttons and participate in raffles.

With an estimated 14,000 students expected to participate in '97, gross revenues of $420,000 are expected. Ullman said his expenses continue to be high but "eventually I should be able to live on the revenue. I started the program with nothing in my pocket. I dip into the profit to build the program," obtaining equipment like radar guns and pitching machines. He expects to make running the LTPA his career with a degree in education, expected next year, as a fallback option.

A former student at Associated Hebrew Schools, Ullman, 24, devised the LTPA to satisfy the education faculty's requirement of experience working with children. He opened the program in 1992 with two participating schools, Flowervale and German Mills. The next year, 17 schools participated; in 1995, 80 schools took part. In 1996, the number had skyrocketed to 140 schools.

"When I started this, I thought there was a real need for a lunchtime program revolving around sports. At lunch, there was not a lot of supervision and there were kids not playing with other kids, being shunned by others," he said. "All I ask of the kids is for an honest effort and for them to do their best."

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Boneless Filet Roast
Reg. $9.20/lb. Save $3.30/lb. $5.90*/lb.
Each roast is average 5-6 lbs.
*With minimum chicken purchase of $50.
• All our beef is Grade "A" Red Brand •
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OUR BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY, HEALTHY PASSOVER
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Softball League
We are looking for individuals
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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

הבדידות

לחשוב על בדידות... לא זו הארעית, שבאה וחולפת, אלא זו שאינה מרפה והופכת צמודה כצל ומתעתעת בנשמה. כמו למשל תופעת הבדידות בטרגדיות המיתולוגיה היוונית. אדיפוס... שהטרגדיה לסופוקלס מספרת שבהתאם לנבואת האורקל של אפולון בדלפי, הרג את המלך לאיוס מתבי, מבלי שידע שאת אביו הרג. וכן, לאחר שאדיפוס הציל את אשתי תבי והפך מלך, נשא לאישה את יוקסטרה, שהיא אשת לאיוס, שהיא אמו. משהתגלתה הזוועה, ניקר אדיפוס לעצמו את שתי עיניו משום שרק בעולם העיוורון האפל מצא משום מפלט לנפשו הבודדת. או ספורה של אנטיגונה לסופוקלס. זו שמצאה עצמה בודדה מכל וסופה שגזרה על עצמה עונש מוות בשל המרת צוו של קריאון, שאסר להביא לקבורה את פולינייקס, אחיה המת של איסמני ואנטיגונה. בדד, בדד בצערה, אך לכודה באזיקי הגורל שאינו מאפשר אלא בחירה בנתיב שיוביל לגזר דין מוות, אנטיגונה מבכה: "ראו נא בסבלי, על כי בנעלה ובנשגב תמכתי."

.....

לאחרונה, נדמה שמצאתי בספרות העברית העכשווית הד לבדידות האיומה בביכורי יצירתה של אלונה קמחי, אני אנסטסיה.

באני אנסטסיה, כתר הוצאה לאור, 1996, מגוללת הסופרת חמישה סיפורים כואבים. בכל האמור לטכניקת כתיבה, אין זו ספרות יוצאת מן הכלל. גם אצל קמחי, הלשון סובלת מאותה מחלה מודרנית, מגונה, של מתירנות וולגרית. מיותר וחבל שכן מבחינה תכנית הסיפורים מרגשים ביותר. כאמור, חמישה סיפורים ייחודיים שיש להם מכנה משותף: נושא הבדידות התהומית. גיבורי הסיפורים פגועים רגשית עד כדי נכות נפשית. כל נסיון התאוששות אצל גיבוריה של קמחי, נגוז שייכשל. אפשרויות הבחירה, עלובות. ילדה, אנסטסיה, מנוכרת מסביבתה הישראלית, וקורבן להתעללותו של אביה החורג, עיתונאי, אלישע פלידל המדביק את חברו האהוב במחלת האיידס מפני שאיבד שפיות דעתו מחמת הבדידות, נשים, כגלי הציירת ומור אלקבץ, מחוננות אך מתעבות עצמן והן אומללות בשל השממה שבחייהן. כולם אנשים מושפלים ובכך מחדדת קמחי את צריבת הבדידות.

הנוגע ללב מכל הסיפורים הוא סיפורה של אנסטסיה, "ליקוי ירח". הלב נצבט ועיני דמעו למשמע סיפורה של הילדה מעכו, עולה מרוסיה שקוררות חייה כה עלובים ונטולי כל חן.

האב החורג, יעקב, (אביה נפטר בהיותה בת חמש) מתעב את הילדה. ברוסיה הוא היה מורה להיסטוריה, בארץ הוא מובטל. הוא שונא לכלוך, "אבל לא כל לכלוך, בעיקר את הלכלוך שלי." הוא מקלל אותה ומכנה אותה "חיידק הצואה." האם, ליבה כואב אך היא חסרת ישע.

אנסטסיה משתדלת להסתובב כמה שאפשר ברחוב, על מנת שלא תהיה במחיצת האב החורג. היא יודעת רק פחד: "כל הזמן הרגשה בפנים שמשהו רע הולך לקרות, שתיכף, תיכף יתגלה שעשיתי משהו רע." יעקב מכה את אנסטסיה ומענה אותה וכן נרמז די מפורשות שמדובר גם בגילוי עריות. כילדים מעונים אחרים, אנסטסיה מפתחת לעצמה "שיטה": היא מדמיינת שמצאה את כוכב הצפון והיא "מתחילה להסתכל עליו, להתרכז בו, חזק, חזק, עם כל הלב, והבטן... ולא חושבת על כלום. ואז לאט, לאט הכל מתחיל להיעלם, הגוף שלי, החדר, כל העולם, עד שלא נשאר כלום... ואז אני איננה..." וזעקתה דמומה ואיש אינו שומע ואיש אינו מקשיב: "אם מישהו היה מבקש ממני להסביר, הייתי מתבלבלת. אבל אף אחד לא מבקש."

(אלונה קמחי, ילידת 1966, לבוב, ברית המועצות. הקובץ אני אנסטסיה זכה בפרס לספרות.)

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
"NEW WAVE" CHAROSET
WE SELL JENN-AIR FOR LESS

2 Granny Smith apples
Juice of 1/2 lemon
1/2 cup fresh mango, peeled and diced
1/2 cup chopped toasted pecans
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 tblsp. honey
1 tblsp sweet wine

Peel, core, and dice the apples and sprinkle with the lemon juice. Place all ingredients in a food processor. Pulse once or twice just to break up. Let sit for the flavours to meld. Yield: About 2 cups.

About families

Dear Susan,

My husband and I are getting divorced after 35 years. While my husband and I are dealing with our separation and divorce in a completely amicable fashion, our children seem to be having difficulty accepting our situation. My daughter (age 28) wants to move back home with me. My 30-year-old son seems anxious about our future. Do you have any advice about how to help our adult children come to terms with our divorce?

Dear Reader,

I am pleased that you and your husband seem to have adjusted to the next phase of your life. Given the lack of animosity, I must assume that it was a mutual decision. Although you both seem to be adjusting effectively on either a practical or an emotional level.

There are some questions you may want to consider to help you determine why this is the case. Has the relationship between you and your husband been such that your children could have anticipated this or did their perception of your relationship cause this to be a complete surprise? Did you fully discuss the reasons for your decision regarding your separation and divorce with your children? Was the explanation given in non-judgmental terms? Did you give your children and opportunity to grieve for the family as they have known it? Did you discuss birthdays, religious holidays, weddings and other similar events and how you will participate in these events in the short, medium or long-term?

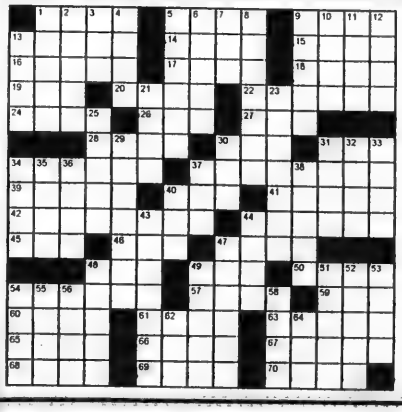
Also, what aspirations and expectations does each of your children have and what impact has your divorce had on these plans?

Your children are part of a generation bent on a personal and professional security. Your divorce may have taken them beyond their personal thresholds for risk-taking and unpredictability. Both are seeking means of "normalizing" the situation.

It is important that they do not feel they have to look after you or your husband. Conversely, if they feel a need to return home in order to be taken care of, this has to be the subject of discussion and negotiation with you and your husband. A good meal and plenty of reassurance may actually suffice. Emotional refueling is important throughout our lives, especially during time of turmoil and upheaval. I would support this kind of dependency in this case as long as it does not interfere with your plans and as long as your children lead separate and independent lives. Each child needs to negotiate a new adult relationship with each of you.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Adam's son
5. Chopped liver?
9. Emcee Parks
13. Seder must
14. Levaye notice
15. Wiesel
16. Dances
17. Tu B'Shevat planting?
18. Sharansky to friends
19. King David__, Jerusalem
20. Imitated Mauri Rose
22. Solomon's legend
24. Eden wear?
26. Affirmative
27. Last degree
28. Ellis
30. Fehl!
31. Exist
34. Magen David
37. Al Capp creation
39. Fleishidic? (Eng.)
40. Alien craft?
41. Desert food
42. Mess (Yid)
44. Hebrew letters
45. Exist
46. HaLevi specialty
47. ___ Alpert, bandleader
48. Purr
49. Sprocket
50. Gershwin and Morris
54. Stieglitz equipment
57. Hurry
59. Hester Street time zone
60. Piece for Tucker
61. __ and that
63. David's guard
65. Piece of Sinai
66. Koufax's target
67. Sage Akiva
68. Rubicoff and Geiger
69. "Rock of __"
70. Commit usury?

Down

1. Moses on the mount
2. Table tennis champ
3. Arkia posting
4. Fewer
5. Max Fleisher character
6. Obey
7. Biblical ore
8. Sanctuary light
9. Pray after meals
10. Israeli Valley
11. Circumcision
12. Herman Barron need
13. Gangster "Dandy __"
21. Lulav frond
23. High priest
25. Shmutz (Eng)
29. Actress Jane
30. "My Life", Meir story
31. Diary writer
32. Prepare funeral clothes
33. Byzantine and Roman
34. Poet Lazarus
35. Golda
36. Shamsky goal
37. Lillian Florence Hellman
38. Felix Salten animal tale
40. Employ
43. Prince of Persia
44. Dreidel features?
47. Tents for the tribes
48. Kippot holders
49. Break the Sabbath?
51. Solomon's tenure
52. Like the first son
53. Sagan sight
54. "House" to Marranos?
55. Ishmael's progeny
56. Hamas weapon?
58. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
62. Chazzer
64. Bear false witness

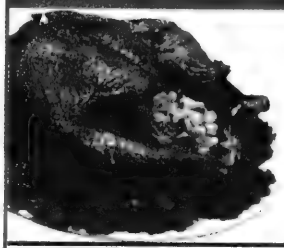
These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 53.)

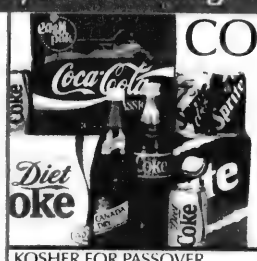
Prices Effective from
Mon. March 31, 1997 until
Sat. April 5, 1997

HIGHLAND FARMS

Come see what you're missing



KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
TURKEYS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Frozen
1.99 LB
4.39 kg



COCA-COLA, SPRITE & CANADA DRY
Regular & Diet
750 ml Bottle
79 Plus Deposit
5.49
Case of 24 x 355 ml Tins

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CORNISH HENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario, Canada Grade A
Frozen, 20 - 22 oz. av. wt.
3.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
HADDAR
BORSCHT
946 ml Bottle
1.49 EA

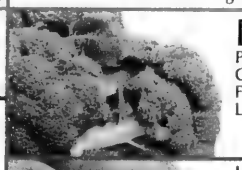
KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CHICKEN BREAST
Whole
Product of Ontario
Fresh
2.69 LB
5.93 kg

ROMAINE
LETTUCE
Product of USA
California
Fresh
Large Size
79 EA

EGGPLANT
Product of Mexico
Fresh
2.18 kg 99 LB

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
AVIV
MATZOS
5 x 1 lb Package
10.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
PERL'S
SALAMI CHUB
•Beef •Chicken
375 g Package
4.99 EA



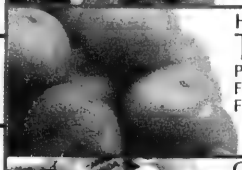
BROCCOLI
Product of USA
California
Fresh
Large Bunch
79 Bunch

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
AVIVA
SUNFLOWER SEED OIL
1 L Bottle
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
PERL'S
WIENERS
•Beef •Chicken
450 g Package
4.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
BNEI-DAROM
•CUCUMBERS IN BRINE
•HOT PEPPERS 540 ml Tin
1.69 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STRUB'S
HORSERADISH
•Regular •Beet
250 ml Jar
1.69 EA



HONEY
TANGERINES
Product of USA
Florida
Fresh
1.74 kg
79 LB

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CROYDEN HOUSE
INSTANT CHICKEN SOUP MIX
141 g Jar
1.69 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CERES
FRUIT JUICE
100% Pure
Assorted Varieties
1 L Tetra Pack
1.89 EA

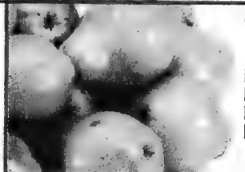
GOLDEN DELICIOUS
APPLES
Product of Ontario
Direct from Highland Farms Orchard,
Fancy Grade, Fresh
5 lb Poly Bag
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STREIT'S
•MATZO BALL & SOUP MIX
•MATZO BALL MIX 127.5 g Box
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
BILLY BEE
HONEY
Liquid
375 g Jar
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
LIEBER'S
MACAROONS
Assorted Varieties
280 g Tin
3.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STRUB'S
DILL PICKLES
1.5 L Jar
2.99 EA



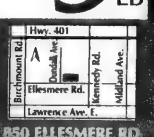
BARTLETT
PEARS
Product of Chile
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
1.74 kg
79 LB

KIWIFRUIT
Product of Italy
Fresh
Large Size
2.18 kg 99 LB

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STREIT'S
POTATO CHIPS
Assorted Varieties
198 g Bag
1.49 EA

KOSHER PRODUCTS ONLY
AVAILABLE AT DUFFERIN STORE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 10 pm
Saturday, 7 am to 10 pm
SUNDAY, 9 AM TO 5 PM
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

4750 DUFFERIN ST. AT SUPERTEST RD.
(SOUTH OF STEELES AVE.)



850 ELLESMERE RD. AT KENNEDY RD.

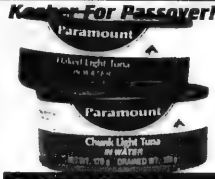
LAWRENCE AVE. E. AT BENNETT RD.

STILL THE PASSOVER PRICE LEADER!

Zellers

Prices Effective March 30 to April 21/97

Kosher For Passover!



Buy Them Fast! While They Last!

Paramount Chunk Light or Flaked Light Tuna
6 oz. tin
.77

Gefen or Haddar Chunk Light Tuna
6 oz. tin
.97

Aviva Sunflower Oil
1 litre plastic
1.97

Kosher For Passover!

Tropicana Pure Premium Orange Juice
2.97 Asst'd. 1.89 L

Sabra or Mrs. Adlers Apple Juice
64 fl. oz.
2 2.47

Kedem or Tampree Grape Juice
1.5 L Glass
4.87

Lieber or Bennett's Prune Juice
32 oz. bottle
1.97

Lieber Chocolate Bars
10 oz. - Milk and Bittersweet Great For Baking
3.47

Oppenheimer or Blooms Chocolate Chips
300 g
1.97

Rokeach Sabbath Candles
Box of 72
2.97

Fern Brand Candles
Box of 72
3.97

Croyden House Instant Chicken Soup
5 oz. bottle
1.67

Haddar or Streit's Cup-A-Soups
34 g
.97

Product of Israel Elite Chocolate Bars
Assorted 85 g
.97

Bazooka Bubble Gum
300 g100 pieces
1.87

Manischewitz Bakit or Streit's Bag 'N Bake
3 oz. box
1.67

Manischewitz or Horowitz Fine Egg Noodles
12 oz. pkge.
2.57

Holiday or Rokeach Boxed Candles

Billy Bee Honey
375 mL plastic
1.97

Manischewitz Soup Mixes
Assorted
1.47

Manischewitz Clear & 3 Matzo Ball Chicken Soup
10 oz. tin
1.77

241 WILMINGTON AVE
(In The Bathurst Manor Plaza)
HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:
MONDAY TO THURSDAY 9 - 9
FRIDAY 8 - 7 SATURDAY 10 - 6 SUNDAY 9 - 5

*305 FINCH AVE. WEST
(At The Corner of Bathurst St.)
HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9 - 9
SATURDAY 9 - 6 SUNDAY 10 - 5

*Limited Selection of Passover Products. Some Advertised Items Not Available At This Location

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES TO NORMAL FAMILY REQUIREMENTS. LIMITED QUANTITIES ON SOME ITEMS. SOME ITEMS NOT EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CORRECT PRINTERS ERRORS.

PLEASE NOTE: NO REFUNDS ON PASSOVER PRODUCTS

STILL THE PASSOVER PRICE LEADER!

SHARON VALLEY 778 JAMS
Selected varieties
12 oz. glass
1.97

SEASON, ROKEACH, HADDAR, ITKOWITZ & ALL OTHER 32 OZ. MAYONNAISE
Large
32 oz. jar
Regular
or Lite
3.37

GARDEN PATCH or STREIT'S POTATO CHIPS
Assorted
6 oz. bags
1.27

GREAT CANADIAN CHEESE STICKS 227 g pkg. **2.88**

MIGDAL CHEESE SLICES
White or Coloured
3 lb. pkgs.
13.97

HADDAR POTATO STARCH
24 oz. bonus canister
2.77

MANISCHEWITZ or GOLD'S BORSCHT
946 mL Bottle
(Regular only)
1.47

GEFEN TOMATO KETCHUP
30 oz. Squeeze
1.97

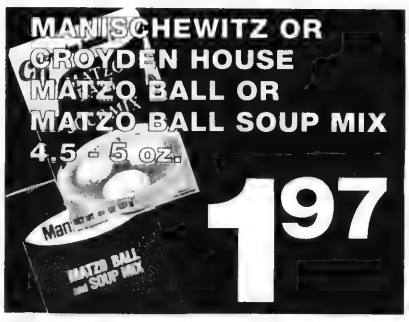
GRANDMA'S GEFILTE FISH
31 oz. glass jar
3.97

MANISCHEWITZ PREMIUM GOLD FISH LOAF 24 oz. jar **5.77**

MANISCHEWITZ PANCAKE MIX
(GRIDDLE) 9 oz. box
4.44

ROKEACH PANCAKE SYRUP 8 oz. bottle **2.99**

ROKEACH TOMATO/ MUSHROOM SAUCE
10 oz.
1.47



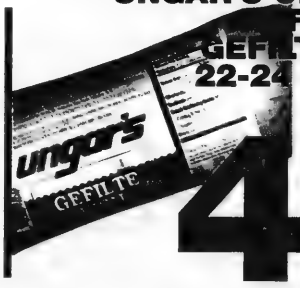
MANISCHEWITZ OR CROYDEN HOUSE MATZO BALL OR MATZO BALL SOUP MIX
4.5 - 5 oz.
1.97

CERES PURE JUICES
Product of South Africa
1 Litre or
3 x 250 mL boxes
1.97

ROKEACH, OLD VIENNA OR GOLD LABEL GEFILTE FISH
27 oz. tin
8 Pieces
4.47

MANISCHEWITZ
and all other
YOLK-FREE EGG MATZO
12 oz. box
3.19

UNGAR'S OR BENZ FROZEN GEFILTE FISH
22-24 oz. loaf



4.97

MANISCHEWITZ OR STREIT'S OR ALL OTHER SOUP NUTS
(Mandlen) 1.75 oz. Boxes
1.97

NO REFUNDS ON PASSOVER PRODUCTS

Goodbaum's STILL THE PASSOVER PRICE LEADER!

From The Refrigerated Section

Mrs. Whyte's or Levitt's Original Dill Pickles 1 L Glass Jar **1.97**

Strub's Original Dill Pickles 1.5 L Glass Jar **3.47**

Strub's Yom Tov Beet Horseradish 375 mL **1.67**

Golden Herring In Wine Marinade 600 g jar **3.97**

From The Dairy Department

Mother's Margarine 1 lb. tubs Salted or Unsalted **2.27**

Once A Year Enjoy The Taste Locally Of....

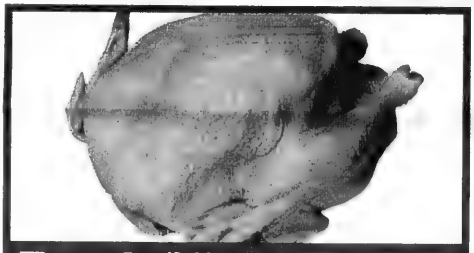
Breakstone Whipped Butter 8 oz. tub **2.77**

Temptee Cream Cheese 8 oz. tubs **2.97**

New! Galilee Cheese Sticks 227 g While supplies last **1.99**

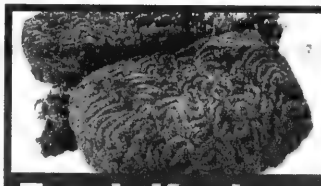
Rich's Whip Topping 8 oz. Parave **1.49**

✡ Kosher Meats ✡



Fresh Whole Turkeys (Subject to Availability) **2.29 lb.**

For the finest in Kosher Meats, contact our Master Butcher Ray Atwood or his able staff at (416) 635-5987



Rokeach Cranberry Sauce 16 oz. tin **1.57**

Fresh Kosher Lean Ground Chicken **3.99 lb.**

LEO'S FISH

For the best fish mix in the city, visit Leo at 241 Wilmington or place your phone orders by calling (416) 635-5987

"We Want Our Produce On Your Seder Table!"

Farm Fresh Produce Is Hand Picked Daily For Quality & Freshness!

BUY $20.00 Of Our Fruits & Vegetables and receive a selected 8 oz. bottle of Passover Salad Dressing for only .49

Limit 1 Per Customer

Product of Ontario Potatoes 10 lb. bag **1.99**

Mariani or Cal Pakt Extra Large Prunes 375 g Pkgs **1.99**

Product of Israel Jaffa Oranges Subject to availability lb. **.79**

Sunmaid Mini Raisins 14 x 14 g Pkg **1.59**

The Goodbaum family circa 1940.

It's our 65th year of bringing Passover to the Jewish Community.

NO REFUNDS ON PASSOVER PRODUCTS

Canada Packers

Still The Passover Price Leader!

New & Unique Items for Passover 1997

Just Time In Time For Cups!

New! Just Add Hot Water & Stir!
Kojel Instant Flavoured Cereals
1.7 oz. cups
1.39

New!
Wissotzky Teas
FRUIT OR HERBAL
20 - 25 count
2.79

New! Great Quality
Apple and Eve Apple Juice
64 oz. plastic
2.99

Best Tasting Cookie For Pesach!
Freida's Deluxe Passover Cookies
1 lb. tray
3.67

New!
Chef Paul Prudhomme Seasonings
51 - 57 g pkgs.
3.49

New!
Haddar Soup Nuts
Non-Gebrokt
1.75 oz.
1.99

New! For Passover
Beech Nut or Gefen Baby Food
Assorted Sizes
97¢

New! 3 Flavours!
Savion Cappacino
7 oz. boxes
4.79

New! No Mustard Seed!
Rokeach Dijon or Honey Mustard Flavour
8 oz.
2.97

New! Like Granola Bars!
Rokeach Matzonola Matzo Bars
3 Flavours Asst'd. 10 oz.
3.69

"Shop Early" and you are guaranteed all the New & Unique lines for Pesach. Shop Late and you may find that the demand will likely exceed the supply for many new products.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS SALE

(241 WILMINGTON ONLY)

SAT. APRIL 19 8:30 pm - 12:30 am

BIG SAVINGS!

Check the CJN and The Radio Show with Phil Kravetsky (Mon-Fri 7:30-8:30 - 1320 AM) for details.

NO REFUNDS ON PASSOVER PRODUCTS

Manischewitz Does It Again!

Manischewitz Introduces Great Tasting Innovative Products!

Introducing Mrs. Manischewitz Instant Mashed Potatoes In A Cup. Just add water and stir and you have an instant filling mashed potato meal with a creamy whipped texture. Assorted 1.5 oz. cups
1.47

Introducing Mrs. Manischewitz Potato Roasters. Guaranteed to make your potatoes come alive with flavour. 1.5 oz. box
1.67

Macaroons just became more fun in Bite-size. Introducing Rocky Road and Cookies 'n Cream Mini Macaroons. 5 oz. tins
2.88

Introducing the crispiest best quality Matzo blended with 100% Real White Grape Juice. New! Manischewitz White Grape Matzo. 10 oz. box
3.37

WOW! Manischewitz has gone purple . . . Introducing Grape Bite-Size Crackers. Made espicially for Kids (and adults who are young at heart) 5 oz. box
2.97

Introducing Manischewitz Banana Split Macaroons. Like a Banana Split magically turned into a macaroon. 10 oz. tin
3.88

The entire family enjoys Frosted Flakes all year long, so why not during Passover? Introducing Manischewitz Frosted Flakes Cereal. 12 oz. box
3.97

Go Mexican this Passover, with Manischewitz Soft Taco Dinner. Just add the meat and veggies. 6.7 oz. box
5.99

You can now enjoy Manischewitz Quality Borscht with NO SALT ADDED! Introducing Manischewitz Unsalted Borscht, 100% of the taste without salt added. 33 oz. bottle
2.19

Check the Manischewitz Web Site at www.manischewitz.com

Real Plus Extra
Bell Real Plus Extra™ offers a maximum of 12¢ a minute every Tuesday, Thursday and week-end until April 29,1997
For details call 1 800 668-BELL
NO GST Bell
www.bell.ca/bell/eng/promo/default.htm

The Canadian Jewish news
72 Pages | Thursday, April 10, 1997 | Nisan 3, 5757 | 75c

APRIL 20
SPECIAL
PASSOVER
FLIGHT
Call your travel agent
ELAL

This Week

Coast to Coast

Two alleged war criminals respond to 'snitch' line. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Don't blame God for all your tragedies, best-selling author says. *Page 5*

Eitz Chaim brings outer space research down to earth. *Page 21*

On Campus

New Jewish University group prepares for major leadership conference. *Page 23*

Travel

Travelling to the "rosered" city of Petra and beyond. *Travel Talk.* *Page 61*

Las Vegas is more than just gambling, glitz and glamor. *Page 64*

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Shabbat: Tazria
Candlelighting: 7:36
Nisan 4, 5757
Havdalah: 8:41

Israel and PA in standoff

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — As attention shifts to Washington for help in breathing life into the peace process, Israel and the Palestinian Authority are remaining firm in the stances that created the current logjam.

Before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's departure for the United States, Israeli officials said he did not intend to budge from decisions to build in all areas of Jerusalem and to expand Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

Palestinian official Hanan Ashrawi also travelled to the United States, carrying a message from Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat that the Palestinians were willing to resume negotiations with Israel on condition that Israel freeze all construction activity.

Palestinian officials added that they expected a U.S. invitation later for a higher-level delegation to join Ashrawi.

For his part, Netanyahu accused Arafat of giving the green light for violent demonstrations and terrorist attacks after Israel began construction of the new Jewish neighborhood of Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

The premier has demanded that Arafat send out a strong message against terror and violence as a precondition for resuming negotiations with the Palestinian Authority.

Continued on page 54

PREPARING FOR PESACH AT NCJW

From left, Grade 6 students Ilana Kopolovic, Bareket Kezwer, Bradley Hennick and Daniel Colman hold Passover food items to be distributed to needy recipients. The students were part of a contingent from United Synagogue Day School, one of many local Jewish schools to volunteer for the annual National Council of Jewish Women project. Distribution will take place April 13. *[Frances Kraft photo]*

Top court to hear appeal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Supreme Court of Canada has agreed to hear an appeal in a case involving three alleged Nazi war criminals, but it has set a limited time span in which to do so.

As a condition for hearing the appeal, the High Court stated the cases must be presented during its spring sitting, which concludes on June 27.

Lawyers for Helmut Oberlander, Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobiass are expected to argue that interference in the judicial process has tainted the cases and requires a stay of proceedings to correct it.

Continued on page 58

Nazi snitch line considered

'A choice between bad and worse'

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA
Special to The CJN

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to hear Steve Rambam speak about how he had elicited "confessions" in the form of boastful accounts of mass murder and brutality from the mouths of proud Nazi murderers and accomplices living in Canada.

It hurt to hear Canada being condemned when this issue exploded in the American media a few weeks ago. It hurt even more because we love Canada, and know that the overwhelming majority of Canadians would be outraged if they knew the full story of how the door to Jews was closed, but the door was flung open wide to the Nazis after the war. This policy did not represent Canada or Canadianism; it represented the antithesis.

I listened carefully as Rambam moved from past to future, from lament to formulating strategy. I could hardly believe my ears when I heard him suggest that we try to turn Nazi against Nazi, by offering immunity from prosecution for those who would "sing" against other Nazis, and through that singing the government succeeds in deporting them.

Comment

I cringed at the thought that we should be in cahoots with the devil, that we should offer sanctuary and asylum, in such an official way, to perpetrators of such horrible crimes. It was of little comfort to hear that t[illegible]

United States, and of even less comfort to hear that this is standard procedure in the pursuit of criminals.

I am still very uncomfortable with this approach. These were the people who murdered my grandparents, and the loved ones of so many Jews the world over. But I am even more uncomfortable at the thought that so many Nazis here in Canada will live out their lives without suffering any consequence for their evil.

We are confronted not with a choice between a good alternative and a bad alternative. We are confronted with a choice between a bad alternative and a worse alternative.

There are those who in principle want nothing to do with Nazis, and do not want any involvement with offering them a safe haven.

[illegible] on page 58

EARLY DEADLINE

Due to the Passover holiday, the editorial and advertising deadline for the May 1st issue of *The CJN* is Monday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m.

CJN0000896004 38 DEC97
PO BOX 922 STATION F
TORONTO ON XXPL
M4Y 2N9

A Montrealer's cri de coeur — please see page 9

The News in Brief

CANADA

Hecht Appointment

MONTREAL — Deputy premier and minister of state for the economy and finance, Bernard Landry, announced the appointment of Thomas O. Hecht to the board of directors of the Caisse de dépôt et de placement du Québec, the body that oversees the province's pension plan.

Hecht holds honorary doctorates from both Ben-Gurion University and Bar-Ilan-University. He is also founder of the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies, and is chair of its international board.

He serves on the president's advisory council of the Montreal Jewish General Hospital.

Bonds Appointment

TORONTO — Lawrence Waller has been named executive vice-president of Canada-Israel Securities Ltd. Currently the director for Ontario, Waller has been with Israel Bonds for 11 years.

ISRAEL

Bus Attacked

JERUSALEM — Israeli-Palestinian tensions rose another notch last week after a gasoline bomb was hurled at an Israeli bus in the West Bank. The bus was transporting Israeli soldiers to serve as guards at Jewish settlements.

The April 2 attack, which occurred near Ramallah, caused the bus to catch fire. The driver lost control of the vehicle, which tumbled over an embankment.

Eleven troops were wounded, most of them lightly. They were treated for fractures and bruises at Jerusalem hospitals.

Arafat's Account

JERUSALEM — Israel has deposited some $160,000 in a secret Tel Aviv bank account belonging to Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat since 1994, an Israeli newspaper reported last week.

An inquiry by senior officials from European Union donor countries found that only Arafat and his economic adviser were authorized to draw funds from the account, located in a Tel Aviv branch of Bank Leumi, according to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*.

WORLD

Rome Shul Attacked

ROME — A crude firebomb was hurled at Rome's main synagogue, causing minor damage to the entrance.

The synagogue was empty at the time of the Saturday night attack, and no injuries were reported.

Italian police detained a suspect, a 34-year-old Egyptian who apparently seemed drunk or mentally disturbed.

Anti-Semitic Flyers

MOSCOW — About 200,000 residents of the southern Russian region of Volgograd recently found anti-Semitic leaflets in their mailboxes.

The flier, which contained various anti-Semitic slogans, also made references to members of the Russian Cabinet and other top Russian officials who are Jewish.

The leaflet claimed that Russia is an occupied country with no ethnic Russians in the federal government.

Braille Hagaddah

NEW YORK — Individuals who have difficulty reading regular print may obtain a large print or braille Haggadah, free of charge, by forwarding their request, by mail or fax with a note from their eye care specialist indicating their condition to The Jewish Heritage for the Blind, PO Box 336, Brooklyn, NY, 11229-2401 or fax 718-338-0653.

Holocaust at Nuremberg

TUCSON, Ariz. — Michael Marrus of the University of Toronto will be presenting a paper on the Holocaust at Nuremberg, and Paulina Laymam of Concordia University will present a paper on the manifestation of Shechinah in Jewish women's ritual, at the third annual meeting of the Western Jewish Studies Association to be held on the University of Arizona campus, April 6 to 8.

The theme of the conference is Women in Jewish Life and Culture. It is the fist international, interdisciplinary scholarly conference held on this subject.

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Rosenblum Mourned

NEW YORK — A graveside service was recently held for Samuel Rosenblum, 77, a noted Yiddish poet and writer and longtime executive vice-president of the Cantors Assembly.

Since 1959, Chazzan Rosenblum had served as the professional head of the 450-member Cantors Assembly — the world's largest body of chazzanim — after completing a three-year term as its president. He was one of 10 cantors who founded the group in 1947.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday April 7, 1972

SOVIET JEWS DRAGGED FROM MOSCOW SERVICE

A Russian speaking Jew from Moscow said Soviet militia invaded the Great Synagogue and dragged worshippers outside, beating and kicking them.

Dr. Roman Rutman, a cybernetic ist recently fired, said, "Twenty-five young Jews were dragged from the synagogue, and outside on the street, crowds of anti-Semites hurled epithets such as 'Jew pig' at them."

DOCTOR QUESTIONS CAUSE OF TAY-SACHS DISEASE

With a PhD from McGill University, a $40,000 Ontario government grant and a moral obligation guiding his conscience, Dr. Alex Lowden, 39, is well on his way toward tracking down a cruel genetic abnormality which transforms spirited Jewish children into virtual vegetables before killing them.

"It's impossible to say when we'll have the answer," Lowden said. He believes that maybe Tay-Sachs children are not afflicted with an enzyme absence as most medical experts insist.

"If you can show the enzyme [which breaks down fatty substances in cells] is there, but has no activity, you can look for things that would make the enzyme function."

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Alleged war criminals respond to 'snitch' line

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Two alleged Nazi war criminals have already been "flipped" into giving evidence against former colleagues, U.S. Nazi hunter Steven Rambam said last week in Montreal.

"We have already found two war criminals ready to testify," Rambam revealed at a recent breakfast at the Shomrim Laboker Synagogue.

"They are cooperating. Despite the claims that we're siding with murderers, this program is effective and working."

The New York private eye — who made international headlines after duping dozens of suspected Nazis living in Canada into admitting their participation in atrocities against Jews — was referring to the controversial new hotline set up at Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) that allows informants, including suspected Nazi war criminals, to "rat" on their former colleagues.

In exchange for cooperating, CJC indicated it would turn over any information to the Justice Department and ask that informants not be targetted for deportation.

B'nai Brith (BB) has attacked the policy as "morally reprehensible" for a Jewish organization and as "an insult to the memory of those who died in the Holocaust," in the words of BB war crimes task force chair Thomas Hecht.

But Rambam, joined by CJC national community relations director Bernie Farber, defended the policy, saying among the few remaining witnesses to war crimes are war criminals themselves.

Farber said CJC was left with no other choice and criticized BB's going outside the Jewish community to oppose the policy.

He said unlike the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) Nazi-hunting unit in the United States, which is manned by Jews and by "special teams of historians and special investigators" that can make deals in exchange for catching the "bigger fish," Canadian authorities have not operated the same way and refused to consider accepting testimony from such witnesses.

"Our unit is neither here nor there," Farber said. "It is mostly made up of cops who don't have the historical acumen to put complicated cases together."

Asked what the motive would be for a suspected Nazi war criminal to come forward and cooperate if the chance of eventually being deported was negligible anyway, Rambam replied:

"Because for the first time, they do have something to fear.

"[We tell them:] 'If you don't cooperate, we will build a case against you.'

"And it's worked not once, but twice. It is not abstract theory."

"Whoever cooperates gets a break. That's what the RCMP should have been doing for the last 40 years."

Speaking to the breakfast audience of 300, Rambam was typically brash and blunt. He expressed little or no faith in Canadian authorities' commitment to bringing suspected war criminals to justice and criticized what he considered historical apathy on the part of Canadian Jewry in pursuing the issue.

"I really don't care what the RCMP or government is doing. I only care about what the Jewish community is doing," he said.

"Now it is an issue of Jewish honor and ahavat Yisrael and what is a Jewish life worth.

"If you can leave here a little aggravated, maybe you'll be motivated to do something."

Both Farber and Rambam called on members of the local Jewish community to show up by the hundreds at a planned rally on May 4, Holocaust Remembrance Day, to protest the slow pace of deportation proceedings against suspected Nazi war criminals.

Participants at the breakfast also signed a petition to that effect and Rambam said he would cooperate with the initiative of one Montreal Holocaust survivor — Issie Veisfeld — to bring the issue before the United Nations.

Rambam also announced that he has started to identify suspected collaborators publicly and said he would continue to do so on a weekly basis. Rambam named one suspect living in Burlington, Ont., who landed safely in Canada a decade ago after fleeing war criminal charges in the United States (his name was revealed in a recent report on "Canada's dark secret" on CBS' *60 Minutes*).

CJC has also called for his prosecution.

Farber said CJC is also looking at the potential of identifying suspected Nazi war criminals if Justice Minister Allan Rock does not follow through on his promise to name 12 more who would face deportation hearings.

Earlier, Farber criticized Rock for refusing to give a public accounting of Canada's Nazi-hunting activities in terms of budgeting details and caseload numbers.

More Coast to Coast coverage continues on page 47.

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Greater Toronto Area

Time to react to crisis gripping campuses

Last week in this space, I wrote about the critical importance of making Jewish support services available to our children attending college or university. Only by ensuring that there are adequate support services, I wrote, "can we give them and us too, the best chance that they will cherish and adopt into their own lives, the values, customs, and traditions of Judaism."

But in the greater Toronto area, those services are terribly inadequate. And we run a great risk of "losing" our children to the frenzied, heavily peer-pressured market of competing ideas and values because of it.

To emphasize the point, I analogized "unlike the expenses we do not spare to insure our precious stones, we spare almost every expense to insure the Jewish wellbeing of our children on campus."

It was no exaggeration.

There are an estimated 15,000 Jewish students attending York University, the University of Toronto, Ryerson and Seneca colleges, and the many community colleges in the Greater Toronto area.

At present, a heroic, over-worked and under-resourced staff of six people at the Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) attempts to serve the myriad pressing needs in providing programming, facilitating, counselling and just plain personal help for these 15,000 of our children.

JCS came into being in May 1995 when, responding to a gaping need in the vacuum of Jewish campus services here, the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto recruited Zac Kaye, a creative, dedicated, experienced, compassionate and highly-principled professional from Vancouver to design, build and head the organization which subsequently became known as the JCS.

Along with Helen Finder-Guttman, Kaye set to work on creating the new student services organization. It is unlikely they had any idea at the time of the true dimension of the challenge that lay in store.

With a new mission and purpose guiding them, an operational plan put in place and staff hired, the first board and officers of the JCS were elected in November 1996. Dr. Arthur Kruger, agreed to serve as its volunteer president.

Without listing the many achievements on his curriculum vitae, suffice to say that Kruger has spent his entire adult life engaged in civilization's most important activity, the under-appreciated endeavor we call "education." Kruger is an expert in "education," in its broad sense, in the fullest meaning of the word. When he speaks, people listen. When he speaks about education and the needs of students, people take notes.

He recently wrote about the nature and extent of Jewish campus services available to students in the Greater Toronto area. He pulled no punches.The following are excerpts.

"(O)ur operating budget puts Toronto at ***the very bottom of the list of North American cities in expenditures per students***. (Kruger's emphasis.) for a community that prides itself on its achievements and that claims to be serious about 'continuity,' this is a disgrace. Montreal spends twice as much as Toronto on campus and has about half the student population of Toronto.

"To indicate the magnitude of our problems, let us compare Toronto with Vancouver. There the community has provided funds for four full-time professionals to serve 1,200 students. York and the University of Toronto, each with about 5,000 students are served by one professional on each campus. Ryerson, with a student population the size of Vancouver's, is served 50 percent of the time by one professional. There are no resources at all devoted to the numerous campuses with smaller, but significant Jewish student bodies.

"Students at York have a modest area of their own for informal and formal events. It doesn't begin to compare with facilities available at comparable or even much smaller student bodies elsewhere.

"Students at the University of Toronto look with envy at what York students have. They are currently in a small, rat-infested basement and will be evicted from there at the end of June."

(The federation has found a new site for the students within Whitney Hall. But thus far, they have not found the funding. Unless a donor or donors come forward with funds very soon, the Jewish students at U of T will have nowhere to "call home" on that campus.)

"At Ryerson, our half-time worker operates from a closet with room for one chair and a small table, even that shared with the Macedonian students on campus."

It should be noted that Ryerson is the fifth largest university in terms of Jewish population in Canada, and there is funding for only a half-time worker who must be shared with Seneca colleges.

The six staff people at the JCS are able to reach just over 2,100 of the 15,000 Jewish students on campus. Recent innovative arrangements initiated by the JCS with different arms of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox agencies will extend the JCS reach on the campuses to some extent. But its reach, nevertheless, will still fall far short of all the students who want, let alone need, some form of Jewish contact on campus.

So much has already been achieved by the JCS in the two years it has been in operation. But there is so much still that needs to be done. Will it have sufficient opportunity and resources to do so?

Thus, I ask again what was asked last week. "At this critically important stage in their lives, do our children have the benefit on campus of positive Jewish influences, of inspiring Jewish role models, of meeting places where they can come together with their peers to discuss, argue debate, or sing or dance?

"We cannot assume and we must do more than merely hope that our children will automatically grasp tightly to the ways of their forebears. We must take steps."

It is no exaggeration. There is indeed a crisis. And we must react.

In the next column, I will discuss how. *MBD*

Please see related story on page 56.

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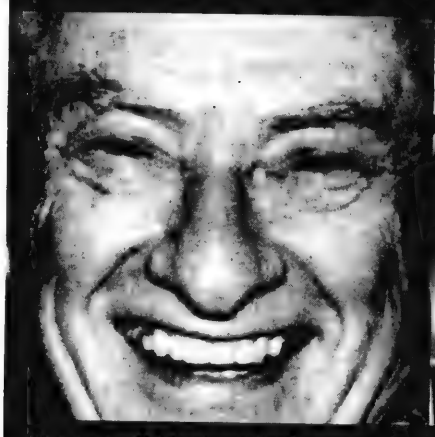

As a successful developer Alex Grossman supports many organizations that foster traditional Judaic values and promote Jewish heritage. Alex has made a generous gift to Reena's *Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre* because it will provide meaningful Judaic programming for adults with developmental handicaps.

Because of Reena's emphasis on providing a Jewish environment, Goldie Slomovitz can live in her supported independent living apartment in accordance with her Jewish values.

Through Reena, Goldie has been able to connect to her Jewish roots. With the help of her support worker, she attends Shabbat services, celebrates all the Jewish holidays, and is able to maintain a Kosher home. At the *Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre*, Goldie will participate in all Jewish festivals and Judaic programs.

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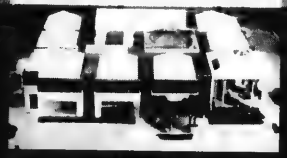

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Greater Toronto Area

God can't stop all tragedies, says Rabbi Kushner

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The way to deal with tragedy is "to take the white heat of your pain and send it out to make the world a better place," asserts Rabbi Harold Kushner.

"You had no choice about the tragedy [that befell you], but you do have a choice of how to live the rest of your life," he told a crowd of over 500 people who jammed the Leah Posluns Theatre last week.

Rabbi Kushner, author of the bestseller *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, gave the Marsha Goldstein Quiles Yahrtzeit Lecture for Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. The event was co-sponsored by the Bathurst Jewish Centre and Bereaved Jewish Families.

When he and his family had to deal with the long illness and eventual death of his son, he found that "when I tried to say the same things to myself that I said to congregants [when they were going through tragedies], I realized how uncomforted I was."

People told him all the traditional things, he said: It is God's will; you must stay strong enough to be an example ("I wanted to ask someone else to be an example"); God doesn't give us more than we are able to deal with.

"I finally realized that these words weren't meant to comfort me — they were designed to defend God. And God would probably say that He can take care of Himself."

In his grief, Rabbi Kushner said, he went to the Book of Job, the classic tale of a good man who was made to suffer unbearable sorrows.

There were three premises in Job, he said, of which one could only believe two: God is all powerful; God is completely good; and Job is a good person.

Rabbi Harold Kushner

"Job's three friends felt it was so important to affirm the teachings of their childhood that they had to deny the third — a classic case of blaming the victim."

This is the same argument used against rape and Holocaust victims, he said — that a woman shouldn't have gone out alone at night or dressed the way she was, and that German Jews shouldn't have been so successful financially.

Job, he said, couldn't accept that, saying that while he may not have been perfect, he wasn't worse than anyone else.

This premise, he said, also denies that God is good or that He acts fairly.

"That's terrible," Rabbi Kushner said. "If God isn't committed to justice and compassion, where do we get those attitudes?"

He slammed those who claimed he just couldn't understand God's ways. "That's not an issue. We do understand — we understand when a drunk driver kills someone or when a toddler drowns. And it's not fair."

The only conclusion he could come to is that God is not all-powerful. And that is perfectly acceptable to him. "If I am compelled to choose between a God who is righteous but not all-powerful, or one who is powerful and not righteous, I will take the first one."

Why then do these things happen?

Rabbi Kushner's explanations, he admitted, are "unconventional."

First, he said, God withheld from nature a gift He gave to human beings: the ability to tell the difference between good and bad. "A falling rock and a flawed airplane don't care what kind of person you are — they are obeying the laws of physics."

Much the same issue arises about tragedies caused by other people. He slammed those who ask why God allowed the Holocaust to happen. "The question isn't how God could allow it, but how people could be so evil.

"To even hint that God had a part in it, hints at a God so evil, why would we worship Him?"

God is present when we suffer, Rabbi Kushner said. "That's where He was at Auschwitz," the rabbi said, quoting German thinker Dorothy Sola. "God was at the side of the victims, grieving and suffering with them."

Then too, he said, the explanation can be a matter of priorities.

"When we are ready to spend as much on cancer research as on cigarettes or give more to research than we do to football quarterbacks, then diseases will be conquered."

When a friend or relative is suffering, the rabbi advised, reach out. "Why me is not a question, it is a cry of pain. Respond by easing that pain, by being ready to listen, holding hands or hugging."

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director and rosh yeshivah of Kolel, said that she and her family decided to organize this yearly lecture to "celebrate the life and honor the memory" of her sister, Marsha Goldstein Quiles, who died five years ago at the age of 40.

Tapes from the lecture are available from Kolel. Telephone 905-764-1329.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS AT WORK

At Associated Hebrew Schools' Grade 8 Science Fair, Sean Ostro, left, and Jonathan Laski demonstrate the swabbing technique they used while comparing the effectiveness of different mouthwashes. The boys tout Oral-B for reducing bacteria, but say Listerine is best at controlling odor. Other projects included a sophisticated airplane wing redesign and a dog training experiment using an innovative student-designed feeding apparatus. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Despite apparent prosperity, Eilat's welfare rolls high

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eilat, Israel's Red Sea resort, is a study in paradox.

Prosperous by all appearances, with virtually no unemployment, Eilat is nonetheless struggling with an onerous welfare roll.

It's admittedly an odd situation, Eilat's mayor, Gabi Kadosh, acknowledged in an interview last week.

Driven by a hotel building boom valued at $850 million (US), Eilat's population has grown from 35,000 to 50,000 in the past three years.

The majority of the newcomers are from economically depressed areas in the Negev, and the jobs they usually land in Eilat's booming tourist industry pay minimum wages.

As a result, Kadosh explained, they find it necessary to supplement their meagre salaries with welfare payments.

"We have 2,100 welfare cases," he said. "It's well above the national average."

Kadosh, who has been mayor since 1993, hopes that an innovative Jewish Agency program, Partnership 2000, will alleviate some of Eilat's social problems.

Launched in 1995 in cooperation with the United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod, Partnership 2000 pairs 28 regions in Israel with scores of Jewish communities in North America, including Toronto.

Its broad goals are to develop the Negev and the Galilee, encourage personal investment in Israel and create people-to-people contacts between Israel and the Diaspora.

Toronto is paired with Eilat and the neighboring Eilot region, with its 10 kibbutzim and one community village.

The Partnership 2000 program for Toronto and Eilat consists of about a dozen projects, primarily in the fields of welfare, supplementary education and economic development.

Partnership 2000 evolved from Toronto's relationship with Eilat in Project Renewal, explained Kadosh. Due to be phased out in three years, Project Renewal is basically concerned with urban renewal.

Kadosh said that Eilat's ills stem in part from the fact that it has a lot of single-parent households and has absorbed 6,000 new immigrants, mainly from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, in the last few years.

Partnership 2000, he noted, is expected to help such people.

Turning to Eilat's vital tourism sector, which generated $350 million in revenue last year, Kadosh said that each new hotel room creates at least one new job. And judging from projections, many more jobs will come on line over the next several years.

Eilat has 32 hotels and 8,000 rooms today. Within three years, there will be 12,000 rooms. By the year 2010, Eilat will reach its saturation point of 46 to 48 hotels and 17,000 rooms, he said.

In 1996, Eilat attracted 320,000 tourists, equally divided between foreigners and Israelis, and the figure is steadily rising. In his estimation, 500,000 tourists will visit Eilat within the year 2000.

Eilat has not been affected by the spate of terrorism which has convulsed Israel since 1996. Kadosh said. "We market Eilat separately from Israel."

However, due to the still simmering controversy over dormant Jewish bank accounts in Switzerland, Swiss companies have cancelled direct charter flights to Eilat, with a net loss of 800 visitors per week.

"This has caused great damage," lamented Kadosh.

Political tensions between Israel and Jordan have not affected commerce, he said. A plan for a joint airport in Eilat and the adjacent Jordanian port of Aqaba is in the works. Barring technical glitches, the facility may be ready as early as next winter, Kadosh disclosed.

The proposed airport would incorporate current and yet-to-be-built features of both airports: Aqaba's present runway and Eilat's new terminal.

Kadosh said he is currently working with Jordanian, Palestinian and Egyptian officials on a special tour package. It would encompass Eilat, Petra, Jericho and Egypt.

Although tourism is the bedrock of Eilat's economy, Kadosh is trying to diversify it by building a hi-tech industrial park.

As well, Kadosh wants the Israeli government to extend a rail line to Eilat which now ends in Oron, a phosphate production centre in the heart of the Negev. "We're missing only 175 kilometres of track," he said.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon appears interested in the extension and has allocated funds for a study.

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The award was created by the Baycrest Women's Auxiliary to honor women who have generously given their time, skills and commitment to enrich the lives of others.

This year's gala will take place May 26 at 6 p.m. at The Docks, located at the Toronto harbor.

For ticket information, phone 416-785-2500, ext. 2049.

Arab paper claims Jews planning 'Holocaust'

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An Arab-language newspaper based in Montreal has published an article claiming Jewish organizations are planning a Holocaust against Arabs living in North America.

The article, which appeared in the March 5 issue of *Al-Miraat* (*The Mirror*), repeats a number of allegations historically associated with neo-Nazi propaganda, including that they have control of the media and control over the highest U.S. political leadership, and wrongfully seek compensation for the Holocaust. The article describes Jewish organizations as greedy and spiteful and claims they are conspiring for a "Jewish jihad to legislate hate in America."

The article, written by Farid Habshi, ostensibly begins with a critique of a proposal by U.S. Vice-President Al Gore for legislation to allow airport security personnel "to isolate passengers who fit the description of [or look like] terrorists."

Criticism of that proposal quickly led to a wide-ranging attack on Jews, who, the article claims, are behind the proposal and who allegedly, with a loyal media in tow, have linked Arabs with terrorism.

The article accuses Zionist organizations of waging "jihad to legislate spite against the Arabs in America."

In a rambling and often incoherent rush of allegations, the article downplays the Nazi propaganda assault against Jews and goes on to ask: "If he [Nazi propaganda minister Josef Goebbels] could with Hitler achieve all that, why have the Jewish organizations failed through the years to turn the Arabs living in Canada and America to burning ashes? ...

"And knowing that the Jewish organizations in Canada and America [control] thousands of radios and television stations and it has thousands of newspapers, magazines and book printers and it has films, video, disk and Internet and other propaganda facilities that work 24 hours a day under the supervision of the best professionals and flood the world with spite poisons against the Arabs?"

The article then states that "Jewish thinkers" ran out of excuses to blame the world for their tragedies; so they turned to "hate merchants to find a solution for this problem."

The "hate merchants" in turn, "chose 'the autocratic solution' of tampering with the U.S. administration and legislative system to introduce tyrannic laws similar to Nazi and fascist laws. They involved the vice-president and the president in their conspiracies and...the aim is to prove to the world that it is in their ability to take up Gore and [Bill] Clinton by hand in order to behave like Goebbels and Hitler, and explode in America a Holocaust against the Arabs like the Holocaust which the Jews had suffered in Europe.

"We are expecting this experience in the chain of experiences which the Jewish organizations are doing in the frame of social engineering to design the world, but the opinion here is that the experience will end like the previous ones when the innocent Jews will be the ones that will be burned and not the Arabs in the flames of spite and greed, which are in their organizations."

The article was translated from Arabic by Sasson Mayer, an Iraqi-born Jew who reads several Arab newspapers each week.

In January, Mayer provided *The CJN* with translations from other articles carried in the *Al-Miraat* and *Al-Orouba* newspapers. An Oct. 9, 1996 article in *Al-Miraat* focused on the opening of the controversial Jerusalem tunnel. Among the statements contained in the article is that "history has taught us that you cannot trust their side."

A poem that ran in the paper's May 15, 1996 edition compared Israelis to Nazis. (*CJN* Jan. 16).

Meanwhile, an article in *Al-Orouba* was even more inflammatory. It said the Holocaust was a lie, it called Jews spiteful, it argued that Jews control the media and that Jews exert a "wicked and poisonous" influence over the world.

After meeting with a delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress, the editor of *Al-Orouba* agreed to run an apology; however, the newspaper has not been published since that meeting.

David Sultan, director of community relations for Congress' Quebec region, called the *Al-Miraat* article "hate literature" and "just straight, plain anti-Semitism."

He said he would seek a meeting with the paper's editor, Saadi Al-Malih, in which he will call for a public apology to be run in the same place in the paper in which the offending article was carried.

"I'm ready to go to the press council if the meeting is unsuccessful," he added.

Al-Malih declined to comment.

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Hilton halachah

"It is prohibited to pray in a non-Orthodox temple at any time...Therefore, we call upon all Jews to discontinue to pray any time in a Conservative or Reform temple."

Thus began the halachic ruling stating "Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all, but another religion" proclaimed by the Agudath Harabonim 10 days ago at a press conference in the swanky Clinton Suite, second floor of the New York Hilton Hotel, a rather unusually secular setting for so unusually religious a ruling.

But then, there was much that was unusual about the declaration. For example, in an effort to lend it both halachic and moral authority, the Agudath Harabonim invoked the names of four of the greatest sages of this century: Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Israel and the Lubavitcher Rebbe. But never, *while they were alive,* (our emphasis) did Agudath Harabonim ever publish such a declaration.

Nor can we recall any instance in living memory of Torah sages hiring a public relations firm to issue a press release to the non-Jewish media announcing the impending ruling of a "historic halachic declaration."

Nor indeed, is a press conference at the Hilton, or at any hotel, the usual method of issuing a halachic ruling, historic or otherwise.

Timed to coincide with the vote in the Knesset over the controversial conversion bill, the Hilton halachic ruling was more about politics than about religion, and thus in most eyes, bereft of any religious or moral authority the Agudath Harabonim so craved.

Without denying their differences of opinion with Conservative and Reform Jews, "on core theological issues," the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (OU) quickly and unequivocally repudiated the declaration. "It does not reflect the sentiments of mainstream Orthodox Jewish thought since it implies the disenfranchisement of Jews as Jews. This hurtful public pronouncement flies in the face of Jewish peoplehood," they said in a joint press release.

Agudath Israel of America, more "right wing" in outlook than the RCA and the OU, also repudiated the Hilton ruling. "It is crucial that the public realize that Orthodox Jews' principled refusal to accept the idea of "multiple Judaisms" is in no way whatsoever a rejection of any of our beloved fellow Jews."

Even so, with the majority of the entire Jewish world critical of the "historic halachic declaration," it nevertheless caused considerable pain and distress, stabbing at the sensibilities of deeply devoted and deeply committed Jews, and attempting to cut an excisory swath through the inter-communal, interdependent and interrelated fabric of the Jewish people.

At a time when the justice of the Jewish claim to all of Jerusalem is being challenged in both the eastern Muslim world and in the western Christian world, when Jewish lives around the globe are threatened by radical Islamic fundamentalist terrorists, when an increasing number of Jews are turning away from any form of Judaism and when the memory of an assassinated Jewish leader still aches, one wonders about the integrity of the ruling.

We conclude with the wise words of the RCA and of the OU, "To recklessly emphasize the issues that divide and thus seemingly delegitimize large numbers of Jews, harms the efforts of all who seek resolution to the difficult issues facing world Jewry."

The only "ecumenical" cause *The CJN* will ever support is one which promotes the unity of the Jewish people. The ill-advised, "historic" Hilton ruling promotes division. It therefore deserves to be ignored.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Nowhere is the coming of the Jews so promptly noted as in the historic home...for the very reason that it is the historic home...The immigration of Jews signifies an...accession of strength for the land which is now so poor..."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

ON THIS SIDE... PALESTINIAN RIOTS, DECLARATIONS OF WAR, TERRORIST BOMBINGS OF INNOCENTS AND INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE.
ON THIS SIDE... ISRAEL OPENS AN ARCHEOLOGICAL TUNNEL AND PLANS RESIDENTIAL HOUSING ON A BARREN HILL.
ENVELOPE PLEASE?
...AND THE MEDIA AWARD FOR "ENEMY OF WORLD PEACE" GOES TO...

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
April 9, 1934 Arthur L. Kitz, the first Jewish mayor of Halifax, was born.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Was our reporter (tomato) sauced?

Your news report by Frances Kraft (*CJN*, March 20) entitled "Israeli Tomatoes Help Fight Assimilation," unfortunately contains many errors which should be publicly corrected.

You have wrongly identified the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care as carrying out the research in question; the correct name is the Baykrecht Centre. The 95-year-old patient who sang *Havah Nagilah* following a meal of spaghetti and tomato sauce (her true age was 98) did in fact did give the clue that led researchers to isolating the active substance, but the ingredient was contained in the flour from which the spaghetti was prepared, not in the tomatoes.

Investigation revealed that the kibbutz that grew the wheat from which the flour was made was downwind from the Dimona Atomic Station. Radioactive material, accidentally released from the station, contaminated the grain, causing the remarkable effects that were reported. Kraft is not aware that the chimpanzees in question have progressed from the Hebrew sign language to the level required to operate appliances and fixtures on the Sabbath, a practice approved in a ruling by Rabbi Ovadia Yosef which was recently reported in your journal.

Although not confirmed, other reports indicate that cows grazing on contaminated fields were seen dancing a horah, and that cucumbers grown in the kibbutz garden, when pickled, led to a greatly increased thirst for Jewish lore, as evidenced by an unprecedented demand for the single copy of the Talmud in the kibbutz library.

It would be well for Kraft to be more sure of her facts before setting them forth in print.

David Reich
Montreal

Secular Jews do their part

In a recent issue of *The CJN*, when a group of students were discussing intermarriage and various other aspects of growing up Jewish, a young Orthodox Jew said he felt that the existence of Orthodoxy (or the existence of Orthodox Jews) enabled secular Jews to exist.

Oh, the arrogance of youth! A young Orthodox Jew feels that the existence of his Orthodoxy is what enables secular Jews to exist. On my 22nd trip to Israel, I flew with a plane full of Orthodox Jews who were coming from New York to influence the election. I felt, watching them, that my secular daughter and her secular husband, he a sabra, she an Israeli of 25 years, bringing up two sons, are perhaps providing the strength that enables Orthodox Jews to live safely in New York, while secular Jews are fighting their battles in Israel.

Elsa Rosenberg
Hamilton

CJN editor respected small communities

As a member of the Montreal Jewish community I took my Judaism for granted. When you live in such a large and vibrant community, you assume that the feeling of inclusion is common to all Jewish communities, even those in small and remote places that we only read about in *The CJN*. After moving to Victoria in 1990, I discovered that my Jewish experience was in for a small-community shock. The level of apathy and assimilation was worse than I experienced in Montreal and I was falling into that trap.

Then I met Maurice Lucow, an unassuming man, sitting quietly in the front row of every event in our community, his steno pad always ready to note any comment later to be used for a story that put Victoria and British Columbia at the centre of Jewish issues in Canada.

Today Maurice is gone. I miss his quiet presence and his biting wit. I worry that without him, the unique feeling of inclusion I developed in my small community will waver and die. Through his work, I know that we are all an important part of the worldwide Jewish community, no matter where or how few of us live in any one community.

That is Maurice Lucow's legacy to me and to all of us who live in small communities everywhere.

Michael M. Peters
Victoria

Don't shelter war criminals in Canada

I watched with horror the CBC documentary broadcast on *The National* on Jan. 30. The heel-dragging on the part of the Canadian government in taking up the issue of Nazi war criminals in Canada denigrates the unimaginable suffering and memory of those whose lives were destroyed and altered forever as a result of their experience of dehumanization and oppression during the war.

As a Canadian of Polish descent, I am not unfamiliar with the horrors of the Holocaust. The circle of my family's acquaintances included many men and women who bore the tattoos of their oppression on their forearms. Their lives, like that of the Jewish survivor in the documentary, have been transformed forever. The suggestion that the atrocities be forgotten and forgiven represents a type of rationality which is the first step towards the revision of historical facts to promulgate the view that the Holocaust and genocide of non-Jews did not occur. This is deeply disturbing.

This past summer I visited Auschwitz; the experience left me shaken in ways which words cannot express. I as a Canadian, publicly voice my support for the ongoing efforts of the Canadian Jewish Congress to bring to light the issue of Nazi war criminals in Canada. The complicity of the Canadian government is shameful indeed.

P. Milewski
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A Montrealer's cri de coeur

By STANLEY K. PLOTNICK
Special to The CJN

There is probably no people that has a deeper understanding of, or commitment to, the concept of collective responsibility than we, the Jewish people. The sense that each of us is responsible for the other is "bred in our bones," to paraphrase Robertson Davies. Indeed, as history has proven, our very survival too frequently has been dependent upon unquestioned commitment to each other.

Stanley K. Plotnick

There is no shortage of recent manifestations of this unquestioned commitment to each other: The Six Day War, Operation Exodus, Operation Solomon, and the rescue and resettlement of the Jews in the former Soviet Union. These examples, of course, dealt with "overseas" situations, when our commitment to each other was mobilized for the sake of our brethren in far-off homes who faced physical peril.

But there is a situation much closer to home, without the aspect of physical peril, but still with its own urgency, that calls upon us as a people to invoke that same unquestioned commitment to each other.

I am referring to the "situation" facing the Jews of Montreal. This is a cri de coeur, a call from the heart, to our fellow Jews across Canada.

We, the 101,000 Jews of Montreal, love living here, want to stay here and hope to continue to prosper, as we have in the past. Virtually every member of the community wants to be part of Canada. But we face difficult challenges every day, because many Quebecers want Quebec to leave Canada, and many other Canadians are indifferent.

We want to stay here — as most people want to stay in the place of their birth, the place they know best — whether it is for the unique quality of life in Montreal, the strength, closeness and splendid multicultural dimension of our community, the lifetime of family and friends, the comfort of home, or simply because it feels right.

We are saddened therefore, and occasionally frustrated, that others across Canada seem unable to understand the unique stress and anxiety that we face in our day-to-day lives, as individuals and as a community.

It is, possibly, difficult to understand our situation because it is even difficult to explain it. But we must nevertheless try.

How can one fully convey the anger, discomfort and for some, even the fear we endured on referendum night as the results slowly moved from bare Yes to bare No? How can one fully convey the sinking feeling of listening to those infamous words of Jacques Parizeau, blaming the referendum loss on "money and the ethnic vote"? How can we explain our frustration, after playing such a vital role in the development of Quebec, to no longer be unquestionably regarded as at least equals amongst all its citizens?

And if we cannot fully convey what we felt, how can the Jews in the rest of Canada fully understand?

Can anyone outside Montreal understand that we are even reluctant to read the local news in the *Gazette* or watch the local news on TV, knowing that we are constantly confronting new challenges to our rights and roles, or new restrictions on the use of the English language?

Imagine the feeling of watching our Montreal, once the country's most outstanding city, a beautiful tapestry of cultures and languages, and an economic hub, slowly diminishing.

Imagine the feeling of seeing our children move away to avoid this extraordinary stress and to find a place of perceived greater economic potential for themselves and for their own growing families.

Imagine knowing that when they leave, their hearts are as sad as ours, because once, they too had planned to live their lives in Montreal.

The Jewish community of Montreal was once the pre-eminent Jewish community in Canada, stable, multigenerational, caring, vigorous and creative. Today, our Shabbat tables are a lot emptier. Those of us who can, spend many weekends in Toronto or Vancouver or Miami or Chicago or Boston or Seattle, where many of our children now live.

But many of us cannot be at our children's tables on Shabbat.

Not surprisingly, the economic infrastructure of the community is threatened as people leave, or even think of leaving.

The leadership of the community in Montreal must deal with the situation: existential, emotional, psychological and economic. And the Montreal leadership is dealing with these issues — it is committed to underscoring the unique values of Jewish life in Montreal; finding jobs for young graduates who want to stay; and working with the government to protect Jewish institutions.

And yet despite everything, despite the stress and the anxiety, we remain deeply dedicated to our distinctive lives as part of an exemplary Jewish community in this incredibly beautiful, exciting city in Quebec, in Canada.

It is out of this deeply rooted sense of belonging to Quebec and to Canada that we direct our eyes to our fellow Jews throughout the country, hoping that they will respond to the invocation of that same unquestioned commitment to each other.

It is incomprehensible to most of us that so many Canadians, especially Jewish Canadians, do not see the impact that separation would have upon each of them individually and, in fact, on all of Canada.

It is even more disappointing, however, that so many Canadians, especially Jewish Canadians, seem willing to ignore the impact that separation would have upon us, their fellow Jews — virtually all deeply committed Canadians like themselves — whom they would be abandoning in an independent Quebec.

Is it not part of our attachment as Jews, one to the other, that Jews across the country would be deeply and openly concerned about our hopes, our dreams and our futures, compassionate for the anxieties we face?

If only for these reasons, would not Jews across the country be supportive of every effort to keep Quebec and us, the Montreal Jewish community, within Canada?

We find it sad and painful that Jews across the country find it difficult to distinguish between the needs of the Montreal Jewish community and the frustrations we all share with the separatist policies of the government of Quebec.

Perhaps most Canadians do not recognize that more than 70 percent of Quebecers are proud of Canadian achievements, that 65 percent think of themselves, in varying degrees, as Canadians, and over 80 percent want to reconcile with the rest of Canada and put the unity issue behind them.

But Quebecers want a renewed federalism, not a status quo.

There is, therefore, a very important role for the Canadian Jewish community to play in helping bring about beneficial changes to that status quo. It will help not only the Jews of Quebec, but all Canadians.

It is a role of understanding the aspirations of Quebecers, a role of appreciating, as we should be able to do, the needs of French Quebecers to protect their language and their culture and their distinctiveness. Certainly we, the Jewish people, should be sensitive to these desires.

The Montreal Jewish community looks to the Jews of Canada to play an active role in maintaining the unity of our country and to promote the type of change within Canada that will accommodate the understandable and legitimate aspirations of Quebecers and ease the irrational hardening of attitudes.

We must fight against anti-Quebec sentiment. We must convince others that making reasonable compromises would not only be fair, but would benefit the entire country. We must raise our voices, because, as our history has proven, we can and we must make a difference.

There are a number of steps we can advocate and adopt within our own respective communities across the country:

- We must support open dialogue, understanding and reasonable compromise.
- We must become involved in Canadian unity groups and encourage others to do so.
- We must travel to each other's communities and stimulate our children to do so, in order to understand and explain the special value of Quebec and the people of Quebec to Canada.
- We must remember that Montreal was an early stepping stone for Canadian Jewry and continues to play a critical role in providing leadership to our national and international Jewish organizations.
- We must individually and as organizations and communities get involved, speak up and commit to making a difference.

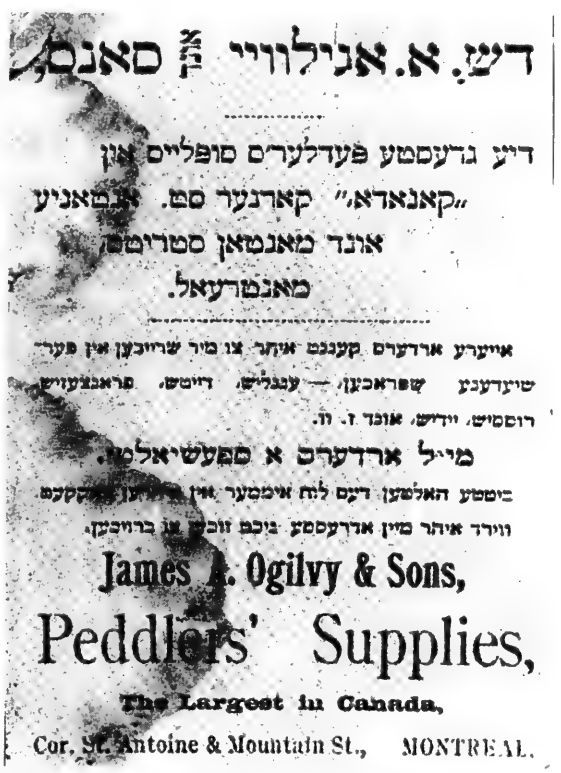
After all, if our collective responsibility as Jews can span oceans and continents, can it not easily span mountains and wheat fields, fishing coves and large cities, *a mari usque ad mare*, from one Canadian coast to the other?

We have survived as a people, partially because we have cared about each other. We have responded when called upon, no matter where in the world.

Now is the time for all of us to look more closely to home and respond to that call, at home.

We, the Jews of Montreal, look to you, the Jews across the country, to care about us, to do everything possible to help keep our country and our communities together.

We, the Jews of Montreal, seek and hope to find, with an open, understanding and caring heart, the sense of collective responsibility that has so distinguished us a people throughout our history.



The Jewish arrival in Quebec dates to the mid 1700s. Seen in this photo is an advertisement from an 1897 Yiddish calendar inviting Jewish pedlars to order their supplies from James A. Ogilvy & Sons of Montreal.
[Canadian Jewish Congress National Archives, Montreal]

Opinions

Unity government again on agenda

It's on the agenda again...or maybe it was never off. Will Labor join the Likud government to form a national unity coalition? Recent political developments have made the question relevant once more, but the basic considerations on either side have not changed much in the last few months.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Shimon Peres declared his interest in a national unity government as long ago as his defeat in the May 1996 election. His stated motive is to preserve the peace process in two ways — by forcing a rearticulation of the government's guidelines as the price for bringing him in, and by providing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with a broad public base of support for continued negotiations. Peres' personal interest in a seat at the cabinet table — an unspoken, but key motivation — has become even more urgent as June 3 approaches. On that day, the Labor party will elect its successor for leader of the party. Ehud Barak, former chief of staff of the IDF, is the likely winner in a race against three credible, popular politicians (Yossi Beilin, Efraim Sneh and Shlomo Ben-Ami). Peres knows that if he succeeds in joining the cabinet before June 3, he will retain his cabinet seat even after the leadership vote. But if he is out on June 3, he will find it much harder to get in after that date.

The Labor party is divided on the issue. Some argue that relinquishing their opposition role is a necessary price for ensuring the continuity of the peace negotiations. Others believe that a constructive opposition role is Labor's greatest contribution at this time, and that if Netanyahu cannot deliver on his own, he should be allowed to fail on his own. Barak is publicly opposed to the concept. A national unity government seriously weakens his chance of a victory against Netanyahu in the election for prime minister in the year 2000. Only a distinct role and voice between now and election day will provide Barak with the chance to mount a campaign that differentiates between his candidacy and that of the incumbent.

Netanyahu, for his part, has apparently been considering the option of a national unity government more seriously than in the past. If he goes ahead and invites Labor in, he will be in a different and stronger position as prime minister than his predecessors, Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres, who rotated the prime ministership in their unity governments. Netanyahu will not share his seat with anyone, since in the new electoral system, he was elected directly by the people.

However, if he decides to move ahead with the talks, he may lose his parliamentary majority due to defections on the right. If he defers to his right wing, he may not be able to deliver on his promise to the centrist voters who elected him, on a promise of peace with security, in a belief that pragmatism would prevail over ideology in his government. A national unity government, based on a joint platform of peace, would give him the necessary public base for proceeding while enjoying a parliamentary majority. Netanyahu knows, as does as his rival Barak, that success on the peace front provides him a strong chance of success in the next election.

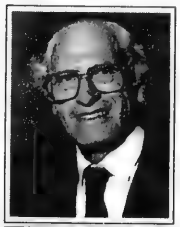
But it isn't so simple...Not only is Netanyahu naturally reticent to concede to Labor in any way, but he faces opposition in his own ranks. Two senior ministers, Yitzhak Mordechai, the minister of defence, and David Levy, the minister of foreign affairs, are also rivals in the constant political popularity contest. These portfolios might be on the block in a shared government arrangement. Mordechai, who has emerged as a strong, effective, moderate minister, has made it clear that he is not trading. It may be impossible for Netanyahu to proceed with a unity government, even if he wants one, because of these internal constraints.

To complicate things even further, a new public council, likely to be headed by Netanyahu's political mentor, Moshe Arens, has declared as its goal the reversal of the direct election of prime minister — the very system that gave Netanyahu power. Arens, who has long opposed the system, argues that rather than weakening bargaining power of the small parties, the new system has exacerbated the inherent difficulties of the coalition negotiation process. A spirited public debate that questions the role of prime minister in the existing system can only create a further challenge to the process of governance at this time.

If Netanyahu decides that a unity government is in his best interest, he and Peres may find themselves isolated from their natural political allies as they look for a way to strike the deal.

A glimmer of hope

When, some 30 years ago, I made a study of Austrian text books, I found the country to be in a state of denial with regard to its past. High school and other text books, when they came to the modern era and the world war, stated in a shorthand fashion: "During that time we were occupied by the Germans and much suffering ensued." Not a word about the fact that Austria welcomed Hitler in 1938 with open arms, and that in fact Hitler himself was an Austrian by birth. Nothing was said about the suffering of Austria's Jews, most of whom were murdered in the Holocaust.



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In fact, the nation has had trouble facing the realities of the Nazi era, and for many years it did nothing to compensate the victims of its racial mania. Only lately has action been undertaken. Although Austria has had a prime minister of Jewish descent, its general treatment of Jews was something less than forthcoming. But some changes have taken place.

To be sure the old pre-war days can never be recovered — a Vienna with 59 synagogues, several rabbinic seminaries and world-renowned Jewish teachers, and its panoply of famous artists and writers, to say nothing of men like Sigmund Freud and, of course, the incomparable Theodor Herzl. That era is gone, but there are some glimmers of hope that Austria is recovering something of its erstwhile character.

It seems that many of its citizens have become alarmed over the persistence of anti-Semitism in the country and have taken initiatives to do something for Jews and to demonstrate that there is another Austria ready to face the sins of the past.

For several years now volunteers from all parts of the country and especially from Vienna have undertaken to restore the Jewish cemeteries that up till now have been in a generally dreadful condition. People from all walks of life, schoolchildren, policemen, soldiers and adults of various religions have given money and, even more important, their time and labor, to clear away the rubble and to restore the monuments and gravestones. So far some 10,000 graves have been refurbished and their inscriptions renewed. Commercial companies and other institutions have contributed of their funds, and in a number of instances paths have been cleared and trees have been donated and planted to give to the cemeteries once again an atmosphere of dignity and quiet beauty.

An organization entitled Schalom has the support of many citizens, led by federal president, Thomas Klestil. Meanwhile, Vienna's Jewish community is small and struggling. As yet, there is no bridge between yesterday and today. Some restitution payments have been made, but the kind of Jewish-gentile cooperation that for many years has taken place across Germany, is only in its first stages.

A glimmer of hope is now in evidence, and it may indeed be a kind of tragic irony that it is the dead and their resting places that have convinced growing numbers of Austrians that they must look at the past in order to secure their future.

Mysteries of Jewish identity

There is a broad spectrum of Jewish identity operating among North American Jews. Most Jews cluster around a large middle range. They are more, or less, observant; more, or less, involved with the community; more, or less, concerned with Israel; more, or less, interested in Jewish culture, and so on.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

These Jews form the core of the community and are the battleground for the struggle of continuity. Not so for the Jews on the extremes. For those who are, let us say, to the "right" of modern Orthodox and extending towards chassidic groups, Jewish continuity is not an issue, at least for the next generation. Their children and likely their grandchildren will be Jews.

At the other end of the spectrum we have those Jews — and they would all identify as Jews (we ignore converts out of Judaism) — who have essentially broken off ties with the community. Most might be involved in mixed marriages. Both Judaism — whether as synagogue attendance or family ritual — and the organized Jewish community are no longer important to them.

They do not raise or educate their children as Jews. They would score low on most scales of Jewish identity. Here too there is no struggle. By and large (there are exceptions) they and most of their children will be lost to organized Jewish life in the future.

But as a social scientist who studies Jewish life, I find these two groups of Jews fascinating to ponder. While there is a substantial research tradition devoted to the study of chassidic Jews, much less effort has been devoted to studying the more numerous marginal, assimilated Jews. The "non-Jewish Jews" are intriguing precisely because in many cases, even as they are on their way out of the community, they retain vestigial or oblique ties to their Jewish identity and heritage. Thus the question to pose is: Why can't they just let go?

And even those who try to let go, to eradicate all Jewish ties, may often not quite make it. Indeed this is one of the staples of Jewish humor: "A wealthy but totally assimilated — in the closet — Jew never gave a dime to the Appeal. The top canvasser is sent to his home. The Jew vociferously and self-righteously denies his Jewishness. "I am not Jewish, my wife is not Jewish, my children are not Jewish, and even my late father, alav ha'shalom, was not Jewish.'"

Bob is a New Yorker, who had a bar mitzvah in an Orthodox synagogue and proudly identifies as a Jew. But since then, he has had no Jewish involvements at all. He married a non-Jewish woman, observes no Jewish holidays in any way and has no ties of any kind to organized Jewish life. Yet whenever we communicate by phone or e-mail, or when we meet at conferences, he displays a concerned familiarity with current Jewish issues and controversies. There is no *New York Times* article on a Jewish topic or on Israel, that Bob would not read. This is clearly Bob's way of not letting go.

Some Jews might argue that assimilation can never really be complete. Their view is that Jewishness is primordial and at worst will lie dormant, a spark which can burst into flame at the right time. (The 1967 war played such a catalytic role for some Jews.) Thus they have a hard time believing that technical non-Jews with Jewish ancestry, like American Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, do not share some bond with Jewish experience. Even their denial is seen as a form of Jewish expression! We should realize that at root those kinds of beliefs reflect a racial or biological view of Jewish life and identity.

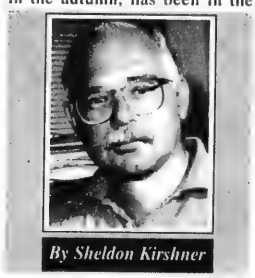
This is the attraction behind efforts at "outreach" aimed at Jews who have strayed from the community. Each such person is a potential baal tshuvah awaiting the right connection to return to the fold. Despite the many attempts by Jewish communal organizations to launch successful outreach programs, there is no hard evidence about the numbers of Jews, such as partners in mixed marriages who have made a deliberate return back to Jewish life.

But it is worth an effort, since many such Jews have left the door slightly open. They may be fond of some element of Jewish culture or Jewish food. They may find themselves with a larger than expected number of Jewish friends. They may be hypersensitive about anti-Semitism. Some simply like the "idea" that they are of Jewish origin.

These Jews are worthy of more study by researchers of modern Jewish life. Most readers of this column know such Jews. They are as likely as anyone to be exemplary human beings. But we should not romanticize their potential as contributors to the struggle for Jewish survival.

The Kirshner File

Le Pen steeped in pathology of anti-Semitism



By Sheldon Kirshner

The far-right National Front (NF), which marks the 25th anniversary of its founding in the autumn, has been in the news of late.

Last November, the mayor of Toulon, a member of the NF, triggered an uproar by refusing to honor Marek Halter — a Jewish writer and a Holocaust survivor — at a local book fair.

Less than two months later, the NF won control of Vitrolles, a suburb of Marseilles, the fourth municipality in southern France to fall into its hands.

In early March, Jean Marie Le Pen, the leader of the NF, was quoted as having said in a new book that President Jacques Chirac was controlled by Jewish organizations, particularly the B'nai B'rith.

Last week, the NF held its 10th congress in Strasbourg, the Alsatian capital where 25 percent of the population voted for Le Pen in the last French presidential election two years ago.

In that election, Le Pen won 15 percent of the vote, a feat which established him as a force to be reckoned with in French politics. And although Le Pen's chances of winning the presidency outright are exceedingly slim, his xenophobic party is already a major player on the local, regional and national scene.

Harvey Simmons, the chair of York University's political science department, does not underestimate Le Pen's appeal. In a recently-published book, *The French National Front* (Westview Press, $19.95 US), he describes it as "the most popular and dangerous extreme right political party in Western Europe" today.

To Simmons, a Socialist and a Jew, the ideology of the NF is permeated by anti-Semitism, racism and hostility to parliamentary democracy. Its rhetoric, he believes, has contributed to growing public hostility to Muslim and African immigrants and caused deep-seated concern among Jews.

Despite his denials, Le Pen is a visceral anti-Semite, and "he lies when he claims he isn't," declared Simmons in an interview. "What do you say about a man whose closest friends are anti-Semites?"

And as Simmons points out in his thoroughly-researched book, the NF wraps its anti-Semitism in a "fog of code words and coded phrases."

In his instructive survey of the NF, Simmons places it within the continuum of the French radical right, and Le Pen in a line of demogogues from Edouard Drumont to Charles Maurras.

The extreme right flourished in the late 19th century and early 20th century and reached its apotheosis during the Vichy period. In the wake of World War II, the ideology was marginalized by disclosures about the Holocaust. But attitudes began to change after the Six Day War in 1967, when, at a celebrated press conference, President Charles de Gaulle referred to Jews as "an elite people, sure of itself and dominating."

Founded several years after his infamous performance, the NF has traded on de Gaulle's insinuations, though not always openly. And according to Simmons, the NF's essential message is rooted in traditional anti-Semitism.

In the eyes of its supporters and sympathizers, Simmons writes, "the Jew stood for modernity as opposed to tradition, the Republic as opposed to monarchy, equality as opposed to hierarchy, cosmopolitanism as opposed to rootedness, parliamentary democracy as opposed to authoritarianism, and capitalism as opposed to corporatism."

Le Pen has consistently rejected accusations of anti-Semitism. But in fact, as Simmons proves, he is steeped in its pathology. He associates with some of France's most notorious anti-Semites, some of whom are members in good standing of the NF, and he has not bothered to distance himself from their anti-Jewish diatribes.

More to the point, Le Pen has never been loathe to vent his feelings about Jews. Two of his closest friends, his personal physicians, have accused him of anti-Semitism. And his ex-wife, Pierette, has quoted him as saying: "Hitler was a jerk with his gas chambers. He fouled up. For the Jews, I would have used giant crushers; it would have been quicker and final."

Much earlier in his career, Le Pen said: "Everybody has a right to a country, and each people must have a nation. But that doesn't imply the takeover of French politics by lobbies. Israel must exist, not the Jewish lobby. The large number of Jews in the areas of information and politics implies a certain pressure of a cosmopolitan tendency. Thus, contrary to national interests, these people always oppose nationalism and the idea of nation."

Le Pen's view of the Holocaust is just as disturbing. "I don't say that the gas chambers didn't exist," he said in 1987. "I wasn't able to see them myself. I haven't especially studied the question.

Jean Marie Le Pen

But I believe that it (the gas chambers) is a point of detail in the history of the Second World War."

Not surprisingly, Le Pen has few kind words for Israel. In 1992 he accused "those who demand secure and recognized frontiers for Israel" of wanting to "destroy those of France." And in a previous statement, he called Israel an "artificial state" created by American and British oil interests.

(Le Pen's ignorance is abysmal. Had he exhibited even an inkling of knowledge, he would have realized that Western oil companies were staunchly pro-Arab and firmly opposed to Israel's creation. But that, too, I suppose, is a mere "detail.")

Le Pen's associates labor under similar prejudices. During the 1991 Gulf War, Jean-Claude Martinez, a member of the NF's political bureau, commented: "The American intervention was done to assure Israel's survival and Israeli domination over the region."

Being a cynical anti-Semite like Le Pen, Martinez glosses over Washington's vital interest in preserving its unimpeded access to Middle Eastern oil supplies, the sole reason for its declaration of war against Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Simmons does not know whether the majority of NF voters are anti-Semites. But his data suggests that 53 percent of its electorate is male, while 39 percent is between the ages of 18 to 34. Twenty four percent, he adds, identify themselves as either middle-level professionals or employees, 26 percent as workers and 21 percent as inactive or retired.

Two additional features distinguish the typical NF voter. Fifty nine percent consider themselves non-practising Catholics and 60 percent view immigration as an integral issue. (With France's unemployment rate running at almost 13 percent, Le Pen has exploited this issue to the hilt, having forced the government to crack down on illegal immigration.)

Barring drastic circumstances, the NF is doomed to remain in opposition. But if it wins national power, Simmons foresees turmoil. As he puts it: "As we look to the future, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that an NF government would destabilize democracy."

And, he notes, a regime headed by Le Pen would have an extremely negative impact on French Jews, probably prompting some to emigrate.

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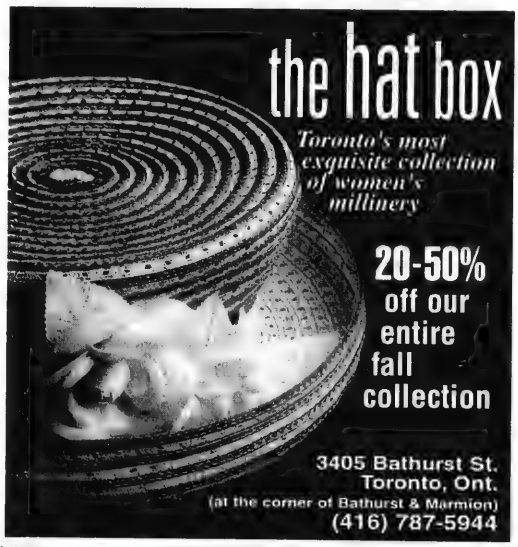
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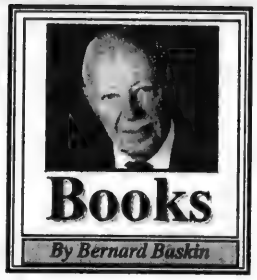


Understanding the past

***The Oxford Companion to Archaeology*, edited by Brian Fagan (Oxford University Press, $59.95).**
***Eyewitness to Discovery*, edited by Brian Fagan (Oxford University Press, $34.95).**

Archeology conjures up in our minds a world of adventure and romance, a clutch of spectacular finds: the legendary city of Troy, Tutankhamen's golden tomb, the Dead Sea Scrolls, the mile high city at Machu Picchu and Ninevah of the Assyrians.

The image of the archeologist as a person who searches for lost cities in the depths of the jungle and uncovers ancient tombs buried in the desert has provided Hollywood with spectacular material including Dr. Indiana Jones in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* or the *Temple of Doom.*

A historian once wrote that "the past is a foreign country; they do things differently there." Archeology is an attempt to understand that past — often across vast stretches of time — and to discover how things were done differently by diverse peoples in many corners of the globe. It attempts by scientific methods to recover and study material evidence of life and culture from previous ages.

This is assuredly one of humanity's most intriguing pursuits and *The Oxford Companion to Archeology* must be the ultimate reference work on the subject. The range of material covered in this volume of 800 pages is astonishing: everything from the domestication of the camel to Egyptian hieroglyphics, from the ruins of Pompeii, the mystery of Stonehenge and the strangeness of Easter Island to the Pyramids of Giza, Maya civilization, Greek art and architecture, the Great Wall of China and the origin of human speech and language.

An article on ancient synagogues reveals that the oldest known structure dates from the first century BCE on the Greek island of Delos. Two of the most singular Diaspora synagogues are located at Dura Europos in Syria and at Sardis in modern Turkey. In Dura Europos (3rd century CE) the walls were covered with elaborate paintings depicting biblical scenes.

At Sardis, the influential Jewish community from the fourth to the fifth centuries CE, built a monumental structure within a Roman bath and a gymnasium complex.

The lengthy article on Jerusalem describes archeological evidences in the city from the reign of David to the expulsion of the Crusaders by Saladin in the 12th Century.

The 700 articles provide a colorful and informative journey into the human past, as well as a necessary introduction to the community roots of human beings, their similarities and differences, and of societies, past and present.

In *Eyewitness to Discovery* the editor has gathered 55 vivid accounts of some of the world's greatest archeological discoveries, told by the men and women who made them. They include the following:

• In 1867, Charles Warren excavated under the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. This was the first scientific research of this kind carried out in the Holy City.

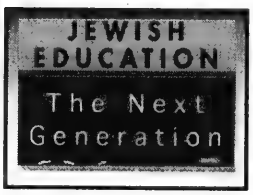
• From 1922-1934, Leonard Wooley excavated the Royal Cemetery at Ur (Iraq), birthplace of Abraham, which was in its heyday in the 3rd millennium BCE.

• Donald Johnson, in 1974, came upon the fragmentary bones in Ethiopia of "Lucy," a discovery that pushed back the boundaries of human evolution to a time 3 million years ago.

• A Bedouin youth in 1947, searching for a lost goat, entered a cave full of jars containing scrolls wrapped in linen cloth, near Quaran by the Dead Sea.

• Two bikers, in 1991, in the Tyrolian Alps, stumbled upon 5,000 year old Otzi, the Ice Man, the earliest European corpse to survive. It revealed a mine of information about Bronze Age diet, disease and genetic makeup.

Fascinated readers will find excitement in the astonishing and varied discoveries and as they are brought face-to-face with the triumphs and tragedies of those who have gone before.



Values begin at home

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

Witness the following account by the sociologist David Schoem, who sat in on a class in a Jewish afternoon school in an upper-middle class American community:

"In what was a typical classroom lesson, a seventh grade teacher asked the students to describe in what ways the Sabbath differed from other days of the week. In response to a student's answer that 'on the Sabbath we pray,' the teacher said, 'but you pray every day.'

"In this case, not only was the teacher's response completely detached from reality, but the student who answered was also speaking in theoretical terms. Many of the students in the class had not been to a prayer service on the Sabbath for up to six months or more.

"When the teacher, who managed a restaurant on Friday evenings, then began to speak about why we don't work on the Sabbath, the students giggled incredulously because of the question's absurdity. Clearly, this lesson that was being discussed in first person terms was, in the student's minds, about a people that was far removed from their own reality."

Schoem spent one year observing classes. His recording of the comments of the students is very telling: "They teach you the same thing over again and over again and over again and over again." "I think Hebrew school is dumb. I mean we don't learn anything."

As the Talmud notes, much of what a child says can ultimately be traced to their parents' influence, an idea perfectly exemplified in this description by a very influential board member of the school in question: "Hebrew school is a boring thing. The goal is the bar mitzvah. And when they stand on the bimah, you don't want them to embarrass you or themselves. Okay? That's where it really is."

Although you might argue that such schools are an extreme example of Jewish alienation, I tend to think that they are far more the rule than we'd like to think.

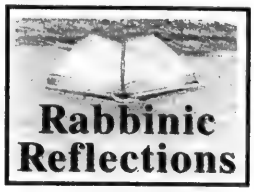
It is very in vogue today to talk about how kids who receive a Jewish — especially a day school — education have a better shot at maintaining their Jewish identities than their peers. This is often true but in a complex way. A day school education can help stave off assimilation down the road, but it requires more than that to ensure a committed next generation.

Ask your children how many of them intend to continue a regular form of Torah study — once a week? once a month? — after they leave afternoon school or even day school. If they say they're not sure, then you've already been handed the sad facts — all those years of Jewish education and they're still not certain it's worth it.

Schools work best when they mirror an ethic of serious Jewish involvement and study that is stressed in the child's home. Without the sense in a child's mind that the values he/she receives at school are echoed in the home environment, a Jewish education can often be a bitter parody, a comic satire of the real facts of the child's Jewish existence. If something is important for our children to have, then it's important for us to have as parents. I call on every parent reading this column to resume or continue to pursue your Jewish education on a weekly basis, starting immediately.

Hey kids, it's midnight on the assimilation clock. Do you know where your parents are?

Jewish Life



Passover a symbol of universal freedom

By RABBI LAWRENCE M. COLTON

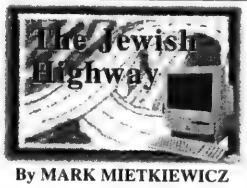
In the episode retelling of the deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt, the Passover saga presents to the world the paradigm for the hope of all. Passover becomes the symbol of a universal freedom that can be idealized, stylized and transformed into a redemptive act. Can any group, no matter how well intended, internalize, actualize and define that object feeling felt at the precise moment "...of the going forth from slavery into freedom?"

It seems that the constant retelling from year to year might have just the opposite effect. The collective eye grows dim, the imagination wanes and the experience which motivates the Passover seder is easily shunned aside. In an age of impersonal impulses, economic uncertainty and politicized expediency, the only way one can relive Passover is to actually will himself into the business of human empathy, understanding and honesty. It is not just a vain attempt to say. "Look at me, I care!" It is not just hyperbole to lay claim to taking upon your shoulders the social responsibility of those prophets of old of our sages who extorted us to really sample the distress of others.

Passover, with all of its saintly preparations, *halachot* and *issurim*, occupies a central place in the motif of Jewish existence. It is the knowledge that one can be enslaved by many forms of slavery that worries and unsettles the critically thinking human being. Psychologists and sociologists call *living* the game of *one-upmanship*. In the game of the mastery of one over another the temptation to be in control is very great. I submit, don't we all play the game at one time or another? The great impulse to think only in global terms of a slavery obviates and makes foolish the need to understand what we are seeking to preserve. Slavery takes place one soul at a time. The fact that others are imprisoned matters little to the hurt and broken soul who is put down, denied and abused. We enslave others daily in the marketplace of our business world, our families, in the classroom and even, I dare say, in the highest centres of Jewish institutionalism.

"This year we are slaves; next year may we be free." Where does it all begin? As the Midrash teaches, just as the Red (Reed) Sea did not split until the Israelites stepped into it, so redemption (human empathy) cannot come unless you take the first step.

Rabbi Colton is the spiritual leader of Congregation Temple Sinai in Toronto.



Holiday has special relationship with cleaning and food

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Every Jewish holiday has a unique tie to its own festive food, but nothing rivals Passover's obsession with food, from cleaning and shopping to cooking and eating. Today, we'll look at this special relationship with food as we travel the Jewish Highway.

One of the rituals that unites Jews everywhere is the endless cleaning, scrubbing and scouring that means Pesach is almost upon us. But do we ever stop to think about what we are really trying to get rid of?

Yisrael Rice's Passover Lantern **[http://linex.com/~yrice/passover.html]** offers several insights into ridding ourselves of chametz, both philosophical and practical. You'll also find a clear explanation of where chametz can lurk in your home and how to get rid of it.

If you're looking for cleaning help from your children, then have them read the tips at Kids Klean for Pesach **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/pesach/home.htm]** This well-designed site is practically guaranteed to motivate your children to pitch in and tackle the massive clean-up. (Well, we can dream, can't we?)

No matter how great a housecleaner you are, it's impossible to get rid of *all* your chametz. So there is a tradition to sell your remaining chametz to a non-Jew during Passover. In a very clever move, Yisrael Rice offers an electronic Chametz Contract **[http://linex.com/~yrice/chamcont.html]** so you can sell your leaven on-line.

Shopping for Passover can be a confusing and frustrating experience. Two recommended sites which try to explain what to look for are Kashrus Conscience **[http://www.jewish.org/kashrut.bulletin.html]** and the Orthodox Union's Passover Directory **[http://www.ou.org/chagim/pesach/pesachguide/]**.

Now that the house is clean and the shopping has been done, it's time to cook. Let's start with some basics. If you're searching for classic recipes for gefilte fish, chicken soup or matzah balls (knaidlach), you can find them at Passover on the Net **[http://www.holidays.net/passover/recipes.htm]**.

But there are also many sites that are much more daring. Kosher Express **[http://www.marketnet.com/kosher/recipes.html]** will tell you how to prepare Passover cupcake blintzes, quick pan-fried spinach frittatas, Passover jam buttons and much more. For some Sephardi vegetarian recipes, don't miss A Sephardic Passover Seder **[http://www.vegkitchen.com/sephardic.shtml]**. (Please note that some of these recipes include ingredients such as peas which traditionally are not eaten by Ashkenazi Jews during Passover **[http://www.jewish.org/kashrut.bulletin.html#kitniyos]**.)

For more unconventional dishes, try the gigantic Jewish-Food Passover Archives **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/pasindex.htm]** where you can help yourself to recipes for chicken with sun-dried tomatoes and shiitake mushrooms, Corsican paupiettes, and 14 varieties of charoset including California, Egyptian, pear and raisin, Venetian and Yemenite, and seven-fruit charoset from Surinam. I guess after sampling 14 varieties of charoset, it might be time to try the weight watcher matzah souffle **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/passouf.htm]**.

Actually, you *can* escape the mega-oil mega-egg fat laden dishes if you cook creatively. (Even Philip Goldwasser's mother doesn't buy 20 dozen eggs like she used to **[http://www.jcn18.com/food/bt10.htm]**.) At Vegetarian Fatfree Passover Recipes **[http://web.mit.edu/yaron/www/passover.html]** you'll find out how to make healthy brownies, cabbage souffle pudding and English trifle.

But if you are still looking for the ultimate salt-free, fat-free, almost-everything-free food, there's always matzah. While most of us get ours from the supermarket, David L. Kline has outlined the complicated and stringent halachot that must be followed in order to bake kosher for Passover matzot **[http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/la/la002/matsah.html]**.

So now that the house is clean, the shopping is done, the cooking is underway and the matzah is ready, what's left? Next week in my final pre-Pesach column...we drink!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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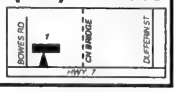

Mazel Tov

Lynda and Chuck Weinberg
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Diane and David Miller
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Lisa Jay
to
Jonathan Paul

Grandparents are Rose & Archie Persin,
Pearl Weinberg and Ann Miller

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Greater Toronto Area

Silver leaves 'legacy of tzedakah' behind

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Nathan Silver, philanthropist, Toronto builder and developer and founder of Metro Ontario Ltd., died March 30 at his home in Jerusalem at the age of 82. He devoted his life to Jewish communal service.

Obituary

Born in Warsaw, Silver arrived in Canada in 1934, where he sold dried mushrooms and cutlery imported from Poland.

During World War II, he served in the Canadian Army as a gunner in an artillery division. On his return to Toronto, he entered a partnership with builder and land developer Louis Shields. In the 1950s, he started his own construction and land development business.

"There wasn't a nicer or more honest and down to earth person than Nat," said Ralph Fromer, whose friendship with Silver goes back to 1935.

"Even as a boy, when he didn't have a penny to his name, he had a lot of self-confidence and was always there to help his friends."

Fromer recalls that during the war, Silver was instrumental in helping Jewish former internees who were living under difficult conditions in Canada. "He helped place them in homes and found jobs for them."

Lewis Moses, who was Silver's accountant and friend, said Silver raised large amounts of money for Israel and served as president of the Zionist Revisionist Organization of Canada. He was also active in the Zionist youth organization, Betar.

"Nat was one of the most dedicated Jews I ever knew," said Moses.

"He participated in all segments of the Jewish community. He and his wife Lily were one of the most dedicated Jewish couples in both Canada and Israel, giving generously of themselves and their means."

Nat and Lily Silver were associates and close personal friends of Menachem Begin and his wife Aliza.

Silver served as campaign chair of the United Jewish Appeal, headed the State of Israel Bonds campaign and was the honoree at the Jewish National Fund's 1967 Negev Dinner. He served on many boards, including those at Beth Tzedec Congregation and the Zionist Organization of Canada. He was a generous supporter of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital in Israel and a strong supporter of Jewish education.

"Nat was one of the stalwarts of the Canadian Zionist family," said Kurt Rothschild, president of the Canadian Zionist Federation. "His loyalty to Israel, his courageous stand, his aliyah and his great generosity all made him one of our outstanding leaders and made him a great Zionist."

Nathan Silver [File photo]

The Silvers made aliyah in the early 1970s. Their home in Jerusalem was a meeting place for politicians, communal leaders, business associates and friends. In Israel, the Silvers continued their communal service and charitable work. On their frequent trips to Toronto, they remained involved with numerous causes.

Harry Wolle, chair of the central region of Likud Canada, recalled Silver as "a dedicated family man, a mentsh in every sense of the word for family, community and as a world citizen. Nat was a very special person. I've never heard anyone either in his business world or the Jewish community say a negative thing about him. He loved Israel and he played a very important part in the Herut organization both in Canada and in Israel, even before it became the Likud Party."

Steven Ain, executive vice-president of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, said Silver was "one of the most committed people to Israel and to world Jewry that I have ever met."

He is mourned by his wife Lily, sister Charlotte Silverberg, children Shoel and Eileen, Debra and Yossi Karta, Joey, and Bonnie and Eyal Ranen and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services and shivah were held in Israel. Among those attending the funeral were Knesset members Benny Begin, Uzi Landau, Reuven Rivlin, Rabbi Abraham Feder, former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Shamir; Moshe Arens, Zev Bielski, mayor of Ra'ananna; Pinchas Wallerstein, chairman of the Council of Settlements of Judea, Samaria and Gaza; Leo Goldhar, chair of Toronto's UJA campaign; and Ted Sokolsky, Toronto UJA campaign director.

In the eulogy to his father, Shoel Silver said "We, his children and grandchildren, have been left a legacy of tzedakah and gemilut chassidim. We pledge to carry it on, to honor his memory and the shem tov which he earned, and which will endure."

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Soban joins Thornhill race

VAUGHAN — Sid Soban, a retired teacher and small businessman, has announced he will run as an independent in the new riding of Thornhill in the next federal election.

And the Reform party this week is expected to announce that Aurel David will be their candidate in Thornhill.

Soban, 60, says he's running as an independent because both federal Tory leader Jean Charest and Finance Minister Paul Martin have adopted the same policies of former prime minister Brian Mulroney that they had criticized while in opposition.

Soban's platform includes job creation; restoring and strengthening Canada's social safety net, health care and education systems; and a fairer tax structure.

David, a Romanian-born dentist, was expected to be acclaimed as Reform's hopeful in Thornhill following an uncontested nomination race.

He and Soban will run against Liberal candidate Elinor Caplan, a former Ontario cabinet minister; and Tory hopeful Bill Fisch, a Markham councillor.

The NDP has yet to announce a date for a nomination meeting in Thornhill.

The new riding is expected to be 25 to 35 percent Jewish.

7:36 P.M.
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Saturday, April 19, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
Watch next CJN for details.
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Bonds to honor Pachter

TORONTO — Sara Pachter will be honored by State of Israel Bonds on May 21, at 7 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst Street.

The evening will celebrate the travel agent and community activist's long service to Israel. It will feature the Three Cantors, an exhibit of photographs from trips to Israel, celebrity guests and a catered dinner. Special guest is Moshe Katsav, deputy minister and minister for tourism.

Pachter has led 132 trips to Israel, and has been honored by El Al and the Israel government. She was the only Canadian sent to Israel after the Six Day War, and led three groups during the Gulf War. Among her achievements is introducing the children and grandchildren of her earlier clients to Israel.

Tickets are $54. Call Rose Shapiro at 416-789-3351. Dietary laws will be observed and families are welcome. Admission is by individual investment of a 1997 State of Israel Bond and a new bond investment is eligible for a draw for two round trip tickets to Israel, courtesy of El Al Airlines.

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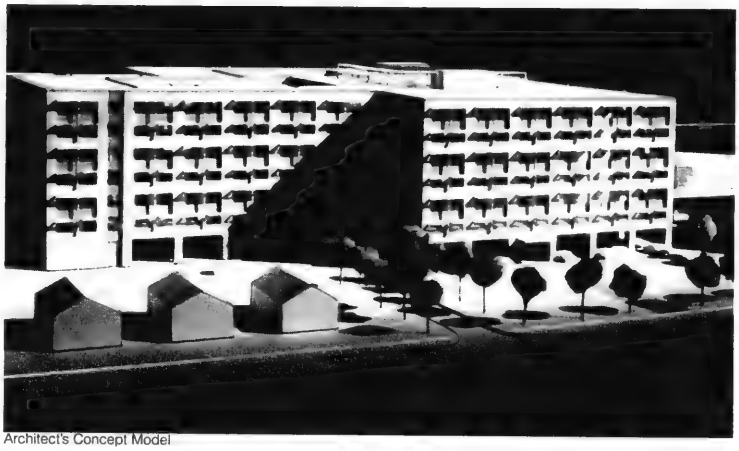

Architect's Concept Model

The new Apotex Centre,
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To Build a Living Room
So residents and family can meet and relax.
There will be 36 living rooms each costing **$36,000**

To Furnish Each Living Room **$15,000**

To Build a Conference Room
For social workers and doctors
to meet with families privately.
There will be 6 conference rooms each costing **$25,000**

To Furnish Each Conference Room **$10,000**

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can sit and talk privately. **$36,000**

To Furnish Each Family Room **$10,000**

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Community Matters

MANDEL LEADS 1998 WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

Agi Mandel is the new Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign. She was officially installed with the other 1998 executive members last week.

Outgoing Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell handed over the top leadership position to Mandel, a veteran UJA Federation volunteer and 1997 Vice-Chair.

In bidding farewell, Campbell spoke proudly of the nearly $4 million raised by Women's Campaign and the close to 500 new gifts collected for the 1997 Campaign.

"The feelings, passions and dreams I fulfilled throughout this year," Campbell said, "will always be a great source of joy and pride to me."

Mandel recounted her family's heroic story of emigration from Czechoslovakia to the West in 1950. "My community involvement is the direct result of the values I learned at home," she explained. The new Chair expressed her deep appreciation for her new role. "It is an honour to associate my name with the good works of UJA Federation," she said.

Marlene Axmith, past Chair of Women's Campaign installed the 1998 Board and Portfolio Coordinators Maura Cooperberg, Rosalie Flomen, Cheryl Jackson and Carole Sterling. Axmith also installed Judy Engel as the 1998 Women's Campaign Vice-Chair.

Jill Reitman, who is carrying out the second year of her term as President of Jewish Women's Federation, thanked the 1997 Women's Campaign executive for forging closer ties with JWF. She also congratulated JWF Vice-Presidents Danita Dubinsky Aziza, Janice Langer, Susan Michaels and Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth for their commitment and dedication in representing thousands of Jewish women.

(standing from left) Vicki Campbell, Glennie Lindenberg, Marlene Axmith, Judy Engel. (seated from left) Agi Mandel and Jill Reitman.

A Matter of Class

A Matter of Class is a regular column profiling Jewish supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation.

The secret to the success of Shaar Shalom School is the philosophy that learning can and should be fun.

"Kids really like coming here because we provide them with creative ways to explore Judaism," says Principal Karen Goodis. "We try to make learning enjoyable and that makes our students want to come to class."

The school, which runs from kindergarten to grade 8 and operates out of Thornhill Secondary School has a formal curriculum which includes Hebrew prayer and reading, Tanach stories, holidays and Jewish community. In addition, students can take part in special programs such as a four week art course open to grades three through seven, focusing on Jewish heroes. Goodis says the program, which runs through the month of February, "is a great way to beat the February blahs."

A special grade four class explores the Jewish community from synagogues to social agencies, and as a follow-up, grade five students can take part in a mini-mission to experience the community first-hand.

Shaar Shalom students Cassie Crangle (right) and Monica Smiley beat the February blahs.

Family education is also a Shaar Shalom feature. Parents are invited to participate in at least one program a year up to grade five and four programs in grades six and seven.

Goodis emphasizes that students of different ages often mix through these special events. "Kids really enjoy having the opportunity to relate to people outside the class," explains Goodis. "The teachers like the change too."

A new pilot project being launched next year in grade seven will prepare bar and bat mitzva students for Jewish adulthood. In addition to regular weekly classes, the group will meet on Shabbat for congregational prayer. "Instead of just learning about praying the kids will get to apply what they've learned in a real setting," notes Goodis.

Supplementary Schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education include:

Adath Israel Religious School, Beaches Hebrew Institute, Beit Rayim, Bet Sefer Solel, Beth Habonim Religious School, Beth Sholom Congregational School, Beth Tikvah Congregational School, Beth Tzedec Congregational School, B'nai Shalom Hebrew School, Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, Darchei Noam Hebrew School, Downtown Jewish Community School, Har Tikvah Congregational School, Hillel Children's Workshop, Holy Blossom Religious School, Jewish Russian Centre Hebrew School, Kadima School, Ohalei Yosef Yitzchak, Orah School, Oraynu, Petach Tikvah Talmud Torah, Shaar Shalom School, Temple Emanu-El School, Temple Har Zion School, Temple Kol Ami School, Temple Sinai School, Tikvat Hayim, United Congregational Schools, Village Shul, West Toronto Jewish School.

For further information contact the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation at (416) 633-7770.

YOM HASHOAH V'HAGVURAH
Holocaust Commemorative Service
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1997

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July 7-17, 1997

This is the Israel you've never experienced!

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7:30 p.m.
Lipa Green Building
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UJA FEDERATION

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Community Matters

COMMUNITY LOSES WELL LOVED LEADER

Nathan Silver, known for his charity, modesty and kindness, recently passed away at his home in Jerusalem at age 82.

Although he and his wife Lil made aliya more than 25 years ago, Silver's unrelenting commitment to Toronto's Jewish community will be remembered for years to come.

During the 50's and 60's, Silver, a real estate developer who founded the Metrontario Group, served for several years as a board member and in 1969 as chairman of United Jewish Appeal, the predecessor to UJA Federation. He was also president of Herut Canada, the Canadian counterpart of Israel's Likud Party, the national vice-president of the Jewish National Fund and the 1967 JNF Negev Dinner honouree. After moving to Israel with his wife and three of his four children in 1974, Silver remained active as chairman of United Israel Appeal's Residents Committee - a body which oversees UIA/UJA Federation funded projects in Israel.

Silver's close Likud ties nurtured a very warm relationship with former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. In fact, Begin considered Silver one of his closest friends and confidants.

Here in Toronto, Silver will be remembered for his strong commitment and contribution to Jewish education. He was instrumental in building the Finch Avenue branch of Associated Hebrew Schools, served on several school committees and was honoured as a lifetime member of the Associated board of directors.

Nathan Silver

"Even when he moved to Israel he remained completely devoted," recalls Arthur Tannenbaum, former executive director of Associated Hebrew Schools. "The man never said the word *no!*"

Silver also made a major contribution to the adult education program at Beth Tzedec Congregation, where he and his wife were members for more than 40 years.

"Silver was a mensch in the true sense of the word," notes Harry Wolle, who became friends with him while they were both members of the Betar Zionist Youth Organization. "Nat always brought out the best in people."

Dr. Arnold Epstein, a fellow United Jewish Welfare Fund volunteer, called Silver an "ardent Zionist, excellent community member and a good friend."

Many prominent dignitaries, including former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and ex-Defence Minister Moshe Arens, attended Silver's funeral in Beit Shemesh. Among many Torontonians present were UJA Federation Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar and Campaign Director Ted Sokolsky.

Menachem Begin's son Benny, a close family friend, delivered the eulogy and Rabbi Avraham Feder, formerly of Toronto's Beth Tikvah Synagogue conducted prayers.

Silver is survived by his wife Lil, sister Charlotte and children Shoel, Debra, Joey and Bonnie.

Walk offers 4 tickets to Israel

Participants in this year's UJA Federation Walk for Israel on Sunday, May 25 and the community Festival that follows will have a chance to win four round trip tickets to Israel.

Two tickets on El Al Israel Airlines will be awarded to an individual whose name is drawn from among those who raise at least $100 for the Walk. A participant's name will be entered in the draw for every $100 collected.

In addition, five dollar raffle tickets, which offer an opportunity to win an Air Canada flight for two to Israel are being sold now. The winning entry will be drawn at the Festival. Tickets can be purchased by calling (416) 631-5700.

This year's Walk features two separate routes at two separate times, which is expected to bring out more people to the community's most popular annual event.

1996 Walk participants enjoy a sunny spring day as they make their way down Bathurst Street towards Centennial Centre.

Route one leaves the Promenade Shopping Centre (Bathurst, north of Clark) at 10:30 a.m., with the second departing from the Bathurst Jewish Centre (Bathurst north of Sheppard) at 12:30 p.m. Both routes will end at North York's Centennial Centre on Finch, west of Bathurst, where the Festival will run from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"This year's Stepping Out for Israel Festival, which is free for everyone, will be even better than last year's," predicts Marcy Kroach, who is co-chairing the event with Corey Mandell and Tracy Rain.

Mandell, who has been lending his company's support to the Festival for 7 years, thinks it's "a really great way to bring the whole community together."

Among the new Festival attractions are virtual reality machines, a Sony Play Station and the biggest line-up of live main stage entertainment in Festival history provided by Mandell Entertainment Group.

Funds raised at the Walk go to new immigrant children arriving in Israel. Last year more than 7,000 participants turned out for the Walk and Festival.

Steppin' Out For Israel
UJA Federation
Walk '97

Eilat mayor praises local community

The Mayor of Eilat was in Toronto recently for a crash course on the inner workings of Toronto's Jewish community. He liked what he saw.

Gabi Kadosh was accompanied by Bilu Mishori, Chairman of the Eilot Regional Council, Leah Golan, a planner with the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency and Amnon Shinar, Director of the United Israel Appeal office in Israel.

During the last ten years Toronto's Jewish community, through UJA Federation's Project Renewal and Partnership 2000 initiatives, has sponsored many important projects in Eilat and the surrounding Eilot region. This was the first time the Israeli Partnership 2000 Steering Committee came to Toronto.

Kadosh said support from Toronto's Jewish community has "significantly improved the quality of life for thousands of Eilat residents." The mayor attributed a zero drop out rate in the city's elementary school system to student support programs funded by UJA Federation.

After visiting several agencies, schools and synagogues, Kadosh commented on the "outstanding infrastructure" of Toronto's Jewish community and the "high quality" of the Jewish education system.

Additional cooperation between Toronto and Eilat-Eilot is being planned in areas such as curriculum sharing and environmental studies programs for Toronto students at the Eilat College.

(left to right) Randy Shiff, co-chair of Toronto's Partnership 2000 committee, Bilu Mishori, Partnership 2000 co-chair Bill Kassel, Gabi Kadosh and (below) Leah Golan.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, April 14, is deadline for April 24 issue. Due to the Passover holidays, Thursday, April 17, is deadline for May 1 issue and Thursday, April 24 is deadline for May 8. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, April 12

JUSTICE SHABBAT

Guest speaker during Beth Tzedec Congregation's Shabbat morning services for Justice Shabbat is Ontario Attorney General **Charles Harnick.**

SHABBAT LUNCH AND LEARN

Beth Haminyan Congregation Shabbat morning services followed by pre-Pesach workshop, Slavery, Licence and Freedom in Running the Seder, led by **Nancy Wallack**, editor of *A Different Night Haggadah* published by Shalom Hartman Institute. Bring a Haggadah and stories about your seder experiences, 9:30 a.m., West Prepatory School, 70 Ridge Hill Dr. **Bella Shupac** 785-3655.

Sunday, April 13

SHEKELS AND DIMES

Shekels and Dimes: The Impact of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement panel discussion with Minister of International Trade **Art Eggleton;** Israeli Trade Commissioner and Economic Consul **Yael Varsano-Barzilay**; **Lawrence Davis**, Price Waterhouse; 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Sponsored by the Young Business Network of UJA Federation. $18 in advance, $20 at door. To reserve, **Olga Zelmanovitch,** 635-2883, ext. 107.

YIDDISH THEATRE

Friends of Yiddish and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation present **Bernard Mendelovitch** , star of London's Yiddish theatre in his British Yiddish show, *The World of Yiddish Theatre in Story and Song*, 7:30 p.m. at the synagogue. 633-5500.

ZIMRIYAH

Board of Jewish Education (BJE) annual Zimriyah at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. with performances by 12 choirs. The theme is From Dream to Reality: 100 Years of Zionism. Adult $3. BJE 633-7770.

TEA AND FASHIONS

Temple Har Zion Sisterhood Spring Fantasy Tea and Fashion Show, 1:30 p.m. Proceeds go to breast cancer research and the temple. Tickets $18 at office. **Liz Kalmanson** 905-731-1377 or **Lorie Sadowski** 905-731-3212.

PESACH FAMILY FUN DAY

At Beth Tzedec Synagogue:

For Grown-Ups: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tantalizing Topics in the Haggadah, **Rabbi Tanenbaum;** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Passover Melodies, **Cantor Gabriel;** 12:30-1:30 p.m., Making Your Seder "kid friendly" **Rabbi Frydman-Kohl.**

For the Kids: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., fom JK-Grade 7, lunch followed by songs, stories, games, crafts.

ASSISTED SUICIDE

Assisted Suicide — Is It Right? is discussed by, **Rabbi Michael Dolgin, Dr. Martin Blackstein** and lawyer **Neil Abramson**, 10 a.m. Temple Sinai.

PASSOVER FUN DAY

Student show, art exhibit, arts and crafts activities presented by Beit Rayim Hebrew School, 12:30-4:30 p.m. at Promenade Shopping Centre. 905-884-8400.

PESACH SEMINAR

Pesach Seminar at Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. Registration 7:30p.m., lecture 8 p.m. 631-9395.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Come listen, come tell, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-9814 or 440-1330.

FASHION SHOW/TEA

Hadassah-WIZO Adirah chapter, (Brampton/Mississauga) spring fashion show tea, 2 p.m., Brampton Golf and Country Club. Proceeds to Youth Aliyah. **Yvonne** 905-877-0003.

Monday, April 14

ELDER ABUSE PROGRAM

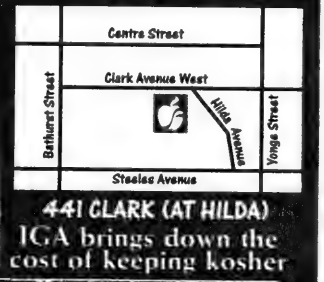
Tikvah chapter of Jewish Women International, presents a play written and performed by volunteers of Bernard Betel Centre. **Sharyn** 631-7585.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish

[Cont'd. on page 19]

IGA Kosher
Happy Passover!
WIN A TRIP FOR 2 TO ISRAEL
APPROX. RETAIL VALUE $3000.
FLIGHT COURTESY OF EL AL AIRLINES
ELAL
ACCOMODATION FOR 1 WEEK COURTESY OF THE SHERATON JERUSALEM PLAZA
Contest closes May 2, 1997. Contest draw date Monday, May 5, 1997. Some restrictions (blackout periods) apply. See store for details



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Creamy Coleslaw Salad
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Ocean Perch Fillets
Fresh!
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Hamantashen
From The Bakery
pkg. of 4
299

Honey Cake
Fresh From the Bakery
450 g
349

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Family & Child Service, 6th floor Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth,** 763-9111

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, general meeting, 7:30 p.m. Pride of Israel Synagogue. Gemmologist **Larry Cohen** speaks on Are Diamonds a Girl's Best Friend? **Joy** 905-770-9086 or **Jo** 480-2538.

Tuesday, April 15

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Adath Israel Congregation Children's Theatre presents *The Wizard of Oz*, executive producer **Rabbi Sheldon Korn**, directed by **Rachel Mechanic**, produced by **Malka Hollinger**, music by **Shmuel Krausz**, 7:30 p.m.

YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

Na'amat Canada seminar, The Young Offenders Act — Who is the Victim?, **Mary Birdsell**, community development lawyer for Justice for Children and Youth, 7:45 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave.

Wednesday, April 16

KLASSICS TO KLEZMER

In celebration of Beth Tikvah Synagogue's 30th anniversary, Musica Beth Tikvah presents The Contrasts Trio, **Pauline Minevich**, clarinet; **Leslie De'Ath**, piano, and **Eduard Minevich**, violin, in From the Klassics to Klezmer, 8 p.m. 221-3433.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Guest speaker gemmologist **Larry Cohen** discusses The Mystique of Gemstones – Myths and Magic at Holy Blossom Temple's Lunch and Learn in Retirement, at noon. Bring lunch; tea, coffee and cookies provided.

A MODEL SEDER

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich hosts a model seder, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Thursday, April 17

WOMEN IN JEWISH HISTORY

Prof. Judith Baskin, chair of Jewish Studies at State University of New York at Albany, lectures on Discovering Jewish Women in Jewish History, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Young Leadership Network, B'nai Brith League of Human Rights fundraiser /clothing drive to raise money and awareness for Toronto's homeless, 7 p.m., The Whitehouse, 744 Queen St. E. Drop boxes at the Whitehouse or B'nai Brith office, 15 Hove St. Clothing to be distributed to various organizations. 633-6224, ext. 300.

YAD BEYAD

Adult volunteers needed in Israel to teach conversational English to new immigrants in July. Orientation evening 8 p.m., 87 Montressor Dr. **Katy** 221-7384 or **Sheila** 445-4554.

And What Else Is New

MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT

Beth Tzedec Men's Club Shabbat, Saturday, April 26, guest speaker **Rabbi Baruch Levine** of New York University, son-in-law of honoree **Bert Godfrey**, honorary president of Beth Tzedec. Special Passover luncheon following services. $15. RSVP by Wednesday, April 16. 781-3511, ext. 10.

AT BETH RADOM

Beth Radom Congregation, 18 Reiner Rd. 636-3451 — Pre-Passover workshop: laws and customs, melodies, recipes, questions to the rabbi, Monday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.; Lozmir Zingen Yiddish session with **Cantor David Bagley**, Tuesday. April 15, 8 p.m.

ORAYNU SEDER

Oraynu family Pesach seder, ceremony, optional pot luck dinner following, Saturday, April 19, 4:45 p.m., North York Community Memorial Hall. RSVP by April 13 to **Julian Appel** 590-0968.

NIAGARA CASINO

Toronto chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel fundraising day trip to Niagara Casino, Thursday, May 1, **Sadie Bloom** 905-709-0869, **Sybil Berley** 449-6065, MDA 780-0034.

ZAREINU DOLLARS

Zareinu Educational Centre, a Jewish school for special needs children, has gift certificates in denominations of $10, $20 and $50. These dollars are purchased at par. The 100 merchants participating donate a percentage back to the school. 787-8278.

ARTS PLUS

It's a great summer at Arts Plus offering Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and much more for ages 8-14, at Koffler Centre of the Arts. 636-1880, ext. 359.

JUDAICA CRAFTSPEOPLE

The organizers of Askenaz '97 Festival invite Judaica craftspeople to participate in the Ashkenartz Marketplace at Harbourfront, Labor Day Weekend (Aug. 31-Sept. 1). Booths available for rental to display and sell Judaica. Application deadline May 1. **Michael Shapiro** 924-6997.

COSMETIC SURGERY

Davida chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, presents Cosmetic and Laser Surgery with **Dr. Steve E. Samuel**, plastic surgeon, and **Dr. Daniel Schachter,** dermatologist, Thursday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Proceeds to Youth Aliyah. $20.

SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp at Shaarei Shomayim for ages 2½-3½, four days a week, 9 a.m. to noon, starting week of July 7. Program mixes traditional Jewish singing and arts and crafts with fun, games, storytelling, snacks. Register now! **Ellise** 785-6638.

TWO RELIGIONS

Jewish Family & Child Service six-week workshop series, One Marriage: Two Religions – Dealing With the Differences, for couples where one partner is Jewish, to discuss impact of interfaith backgrounds on relationships, raising children, celebrating holidays and belonging to community. Begins May 6. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext 215.

HEBREW CLASSES

Hebrew made fun and easy with **Yael Lev**, conversational Hebrew classes (ulpan method), all levels, daytime or evening. Special Hebrew and Heritage classes for parents with children in Jewish schools. Spring term classes start the week of May 5 at Associated Hebrew School (Atkinson), Beth Tikvah Synagogue and Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogue. 225-6151.

DONATE SURPLUS BOOKS

Clean those book shelves for Peasch by donating your surplus books to the annual University College Book Sale, University of Toronto. Proceeds to UC Library. For pick-up, UC Alumni office 978-0372.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Single Parenting begins May 5; Take the Guesswork Out of Parenting, for parents of teens, school-age and pre-school, begins May 14; Step-parenting, coping with "His, Hers and Mine" begins April 23; Looking Ahead for people who have recently separated, begins May 6. Pat Lieberman, 638-7800, ext. 215.

DESIGNER CLOTHING SALE

Bloor JCC and Tom's Place host the second annual Why Pay Retail? Sale April 10-13 at Bloor JCC. Men's and women's designer fashions at 60 percent to 80 percent off Tom's already low discount prices. A portion of the proceeds go to Bloor JCC capital campaign L'Chaim.

SEDER INFORMATION

Jewish Information Service can assist with details about catered synagogue and organizational seders offered in the community. Also with basic questions about the holiday. 635-5600.

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Yorkminstrels production *Singin' in the Rain* goes on stage at Leah Polsuns Theatre April 12, 13, 16, 17, 20 (matinee), 622-1971.

FOR SENIORS

Good Fellowship Lodge Seniors Summer Program: Exploring Yiddish, June 29-July 4; Cards and Other Leisure Pursuits, July 4-July 8; Good Fellowship Lodge, July 10-July 22. All programs at Maple Lake resort and Conference Centre near Parry Sound. Register Jewish Camp Council 630-1180.

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order presents Press Clippings, focusing on current issues, facilitated by **Eileen Chud** Monday, April 14, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Program preceded by light lunch. 789-5502.

LZA Seniors Club luncheon Wednesday, April 16, Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Information and registration for trips to Stage West for *Shirley Valentine* June 25 and Stratford for *Camelot* Sept. 3 will take place at the luncheon. Ladies Folk-dancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 1, Avon Cosmetics demonstration; May 4, Spring Fair; May 5, Thornhill Square; May 13-18, Ottawa Tulip Festival; May 21, Casino Rama; May 22, group discussion, media celebrity **Leonard Rubinstein** on Taking Charge; May 29, Markville Mall, bring lunch, 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). April 17 entertainment, *Herschele*, with **Mike Borsteen**. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: *Dames at Sea*, Buffalo, June 1; *Camelot*, Stratford, Sept. 17; *Barnum* ArtPark. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Sunrise Group Casino Niagara trip plus shopping in Niagara Falls, U.S., May 5. $20. **Esther** 223-9165.

Spring Fashion '97, clothing for seniors, Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m., Pine Villa, 1035 Eglinton Ave. W. Reserve. 787-5626.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Prof. Norman Ender, York University, lectures on Stress, Anxiety and Coping, Thursday, April 17, 1 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group, Tuesday, April 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Video, *Osteoporosis Basic Exercise Program*, developed at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, followed by discussion. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. April 16 program is bingo. **Anna.**

The movie, *Pillow Talk*, Sunday, April 13, 2:15 p.m.

Sunday dance party April 13, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Russian Golden Age Club Choir performs Wednesday, April 16, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

April 10-13, Bloor JCC and Tom's Place Why Pay Retail? Sale. Check item in What Else Is New for details.

Between Stages Playwrights Reading Series features *A Winter in Paris*, a new play by **Colleen Craig**, directed by **Michael Waller,** produced by **Sandy Gruenwald**, Monday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Tuesday, April 15, Containers of Beauty exhibition on Decorative Containers for plants and flowers, 2 p.m.; Thursday, April 17, All About Massage Therapy – How It can Help You, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

September registration for Tic Tac Two, Nursery, Junior ,Senior Kindergarten, daycare. Nursery, JK and SK programs include Hebrew instruction. Full day children enjoy weekly swim time. Ext. 248.

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Support for national unity government high: researcher

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The time has come for a national unity government in Israel, a Tel Aviv University researcher said here recently.

"Sixty percent of Israelis support a national unity government according to recent polls," said Dr. Joshua Teitelbaum of the Moshe Dayan Centre for Middle Eastern and African Studies.

"Within Israel, the two main parties must stop bickering. We need a united front."

A distinction should be made between "peace" with Arab countries and "normalization," Teitelbaum said, adding that there cannot be peace without the benefits of normal relations. "That's the way it is with Egypt and I can live with that."

He said there are signs that Arabs are changing their attitudes to Israel for the better and in any case, "we must take risks" for peace.

"I have doubts whether Palestinians in the street are as reconciled to Israel as are its [Palestinian] leaders ," he said. "This is where Canadians can help. Please support projects with Arab components. I encourage you to study Arabic as well as Hebrew. You'll be amazed at the similarities."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was not elected because Israelis were opposed to the peace process, "but because they wanted to slow it down."

He was optimistic about common ground between the Likud and Labor parties, pointing out that well respected leaders of both, acting with the government's knowledge, have already come to an agreement that a Palestinian state could have a governing centre in a suburb of Jerusalem. They also agree to the partition of greater Israel, he said.

Responding to questions, Teitelbaum said, "we have to make it in Arafat's interest to crack down on the militants, because obviously he has lifted the lid a little."

Any attempt by the Palestinian Authority to use weapons against Israel would be answered by "massive" retaliation by Israel, he said.

Asked about the decision to go ahead with the Har Choma housing project, he said a Labor government under Shimon Peres would have delayed it. "Netanyahu succumbed to domestic internal political pressure."

The far-right, religious and secular supporters of the government and settlers are disappointed that the government has not been able to curb terrorism, but the majority of voters who supported Netanyahu are not disappointed with its record.

The address was sponsored by the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

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Joan resides at a Lifestyle Retirement Community in British Columbia.

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Jews cannot control hatred against them: Wisse

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Arab-Israeli conflict has nothing to do with Israel's size, says a professor of Yiddish and comparative literature at Harvard University.

"The war has to do with Israel's sovereign presence, not with how much land it occupies," Ruth Wisse said at a recent lecture sponsored by the new leadership division of State of Israel Bonds.

It is "terrifying," she said, that Jews have no control of the hatred against them. "If the hatred is directed at our existence then there is no way we can change anything except to cease to exist."

Although she is not against negotiations with the Arabs, Wisse said "any sane person can see that a small Israel would be a greater temptation than a larger Israel."

Wisse, author of *If I Am Not For Myself: The Liberal Betrayal of the Jews*, spoke on Liberalism or Judaism: A Time to Choose.

She said that as a sovereign people, Jews have "built a magnificent society, which has become a model nation risen from the ashes. They achieved this miracle by placing trust in themselves. [This] is what Jews can do when they place trust in themselves, instead of in their enemies."

Asking Jews to find a solution to Arab aggression "is like blaming them for the aggression against them. Where is our sense of outrage? How dare Arabs blame Jews for their problems when they brought on their own problems?...It is extraordinary that we are in the position to have Arabs dictate what we should do in Jerusalem."

Anti-Semitism, said Wisse, is the "organization of politics" around the presence of Jews, and it is a very powerful political force. "Anti-Semitism projects an image of Jews that has nothing to do with reality. Jews' lack of political authority and their small size make them a no-fail enemy. Hatred of Jews on university campuses is rising because of the Arab hatred of Jews. We can see subtle forms of anti-Israel sentiments on these campuses. When a liberal is faced with irrational hatred, he has to make a choice between remaining a liberal and defending a Jew. To a liberal, everything is good but if he thinks this way, than he is holding Jews responsible for the aggression against them."

The perfect manifestation of this, said Wisse, is when "Leah Rabin embraced Yasser Arafat in her home [after her husband's death]. She does not hate him yet she would not shake hands with Benjamin Netanyahu. By making friends with an enemy, we are making fellow Jews responsible for the hatred against them."

The question for Israel "is how to fend off war. The only way things will change is when the Arabs change. If Israel is willing to give back land, there is always someone to take it...Eventually one has to hold on."

Greater Toronto Area

Eitz Chaim takes part in space research project

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Space research has come to a Toronto day school.

Canola seeds taken on board the June 1996 flight of the space shuttle Columbia by Canadian astronaut Robert Thirsk have been distributed to elementary schools around the country willing to conduct an experiment to compare the growth of seeds that travelled in space with that of seeds that stayed on earth. The cross-Canada project is called Canolab.

Sandy Crone's Grade six class at Eitz Chaim Schools Spring Farm Campus took up the challenge. Encouraged by school vice-principal and science co-ordinator Anita Wein, the girls helped build special equipment to grow the seeds indoors, including a watering system and adjustable lighting.

The girls spoke to *The CJN* with enthusiasm, showing their plants and scientific journals and discussing their methodology and findings.

The seeds that had flown in space sprouted first, but those that had remained on earth quickly caught up and surpassed them, the students discovered. Theories offered included radiation, gases in space and the weightless conditions in the space shuttle.

The results will be sent to NASA, and will be collated with results from other school experiments with the canola seeds.

One student explained that "in a few years, we might have to live on [different] planets, if the earth gets too polluted. We have to know if, for instance, gravity affects growing plants."

While most of the students thought that living and working in space would be "cool", they recognized potential problems, such as building a totally new economy, and creating new infrastructure such as hospitals and buildings.

"I would like to try it out first," one girl confided.

"It would be a whole new life," noted another, and "we are not ready yet. We have to start learning."

Another student felt that we really don't need to worry — that by the time we are ready to live in space or on space ships we will have worked out those problems.

The consideration that "it's hard to be a Jew" surfaced during the conversation, with one student wondering how we would keep Shabbat.

Wein explained that the Canadian Space Agency sent full instructions to those participating in the project. The object of the exercise was to encourage the development of research skills, as well as to wet the students' interest in science.

Penina Weiss (left) and Messica Kadoche, grade 6 students at Eitz Chaim Spring Farm campus, adjust the water and light for the Canolab project. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Topol to aid spinal research

TORONTO — The 25th anniversary of *Fiddler on the Roof* will be screened on April 17, as part of a fundraising initiative to support the Canadian Spinal Research Organization (CSRO).

Hosted by director and producer Norman Jewison and chaired by Michelle Levy, the gala's special guest will be Chaim Topol, who portrayed Tevye the Milkman, in the classic tale.

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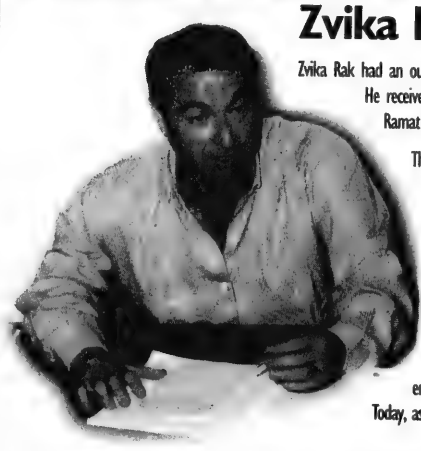

Zvika Rak had an outstanding military career. During the Six Day War he fought in the Sinai, El Arish and the Suez Canal. He received a medal during the Yom Kippur War and in 1972 was the Commander of the tank division in the Ramat H'golan area.

Then his life changed. He was seriously injured, his right arm severed from his body, his left arm completely mangled. 'When I look back, I think of how lucky I was. The rehabilitation and assistance from the Beit Halochem Centre in Haifa gave me the courage to feel strong and self-confident, not that the path to recovery was easy.'

Zvika then entered university to study public relations. When he graduated, he began Military College in Haifa., and was appointed Head of the Haifa Army District. Currently he is the chief auditor of Haifa.

'Today, as a family, we travel extensively, in and out of Israel. I have been able to shrug off any embarrassment swimming without my arm. Each person goes through rehabilitation in their own way. Today, as a Beit Halochem member, I help younger disabled soldiers.'

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Greater Toronto Area

Former skinhead now helps fight racism

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — From skinhead street brawler to anti-racism advocate, Tom Leyden has turned his life around 180 degrees. But he's had to pay a steep price to do it.

In the two years since he began to distance himself from the racist movement, his wife left him, he sees his two children only six days a month, he lost almost all his (racist) friends and he's received death threats from his former ideological soul mates.

Despite all that, Leyden, 30, wouldn't have it any other way. He has no regrets about leaving the militant skinhead movement where he was an active member for half his life.

Leyden was in Toronto last week to tell his story at the Beth Tzedec Synagogue at a lecture sponsored by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC). Leyden has been associated with the Los Angeles-based head office of the SWC for the past year or so and he credits the organization with helping him make the transition from an advocate of racial separation to a speaker on behalf of racial cooperation.

In an interview prior to his speaking engagement, Leyden described his years in the movement and its links to Canadian racists. He offered surprising revelations about the close cooperation between white supremacists and the Nation of Islam (NOI), the black pride organization headed by Louis Farrakhan.

Back in the days when he was in the U.S. military, he developed a working relationship with NOI marines at a base in Hawaii. The two sides colluded to foment racist violence, as part of a long term goal to make life between the races so uncomfortable they would opt for racial separation, Leyden said.

During the three years he was a marine, Leyden would write anti-white racist slogans on bathroom walls in bars frequented by GIs. The NOI would do the same with anti-Black slogans. Ordinary soldiers would see the graffiti and hold their fellow marines responsible. After a few drinks, brawls would often break out and the racists would fight alongside the whites in the hope of eventually winning them over to their ideology, he said.

After leaving the military, he employed the same tactic in high schools, Leyden said.

Contrary to perceptions that skinheads and the NOI could be mortal enemies, they share the belief that the enemy of my enemy is my friend and both sides see Jews as their enemy.

"The NOI sees Jews as a gutter white religion and the white racists don't see them as white at all," he said.

When he entered the skinhead movement as a teenager, Leyden didn't harbor any particular racist views that he had picked up at home. In fact, "my mom didn't tolerate racism at all."

But he was full of anger and frustration at the divorce of his parents, and so he turned to the punk music movement to vent his rage. It was the early '80s and he joined other teens in mosh pits where young people would slam

Tom Leyden

dance to the sounds of racist bands like Screwdriver and Brutal Attack.

Even today, racist bands are a potent inducement to entice angry young people to a racist ideology, he said, pointing to Resistance Records, run by Canadian white supremacist George Burdi, as a major label on the scene. (Burdi is in jail for assault.)

Back then, most of his friends enjoyed the same music and they absorbed its message together. "We all became Nazis and skinheads together. We were all friends, listened to the same music and became a kind of family," he said.

Getting support from his gang/community, Leyden and his friends would go out looking for trouble. Ninety percent of their victims were whites, he said: guys with ponytails who were seen as drug addicts; preppies who were seen as "fags." Labelling them in that way was usually enough to bring on a beating, or "a boot party," as skinheads called it.

"We were like the outcasts fighting the in-crowd," he said.

On one occasion, he and others beat someone so badly they broke his ribs, nose and jaw and separated his shoulder.

The victim, fearing further retaliation, didn't press charges but over the years, Leyden accumulated five disorderly conduct convictions and one for possessing a concealed weapon. Along the way, he also managed to keep tattoo parlors in business, covering his body with 30 tattoos. Twenty-nine are racist in nature and three feature swastikas. Despite a long sleeve turtleneck, tattoos are visible on his neck and on his hand.

Leyden's violent phase slowed down when he got married, but not his racist attitudes. His wife, whom he married after knowing her for two weeks, held the same belief system and they brought up their children as racists.

Ironically, fatherhood was one of the factors that pushed Leyden away from the skinhead movement. On one occasion when he and his three-year-old son were watching cartoons, the boy shut off the set, saying, "Daddy, you know you're not supposed to watch anything with niggers."

Even at that tender age, his son gave the Nazi salute to any flag and hated the government. "He was a much bigger racist at three than I was at 28," Leyden said.

An incident at the Aryan Nations (AN) compound in Idaho further cemented his resolve to leave the movement. When he asked an AN member what the world would be like if it magically became all-white, "the guy said, 'TJ, we're starting on hair color next.' Sooner or later, it'll be everybody next," Leyden said.

With visions of his son living a dead-end lifestyle as a teenage skinhead, Leyden tried to move away from the movement. His wife, however, would not abandon those beliefs. After he snatched his children and went through court cases, a divorce court awarded her custody, knowing her racist views. The judge even said she could take the boys to Ku Klux Klan rallies as long as they were probably supervised, Leyden said.

When he left the movement, his mother suggested he contact the SWC to tell his story. He did so over the course of two weeks and later, unexpectedly, was invited to meet organization officials. They asked him to speak out against hate and "since July, I've been talking my head off."

He's addressed people at the Pentagon, members of the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms bureau, the FBI, local law enforcement agencies and students. He warns young people about racist recruitment and for those already caught up in the skinhead movement, he tells them to get out "because eventually every skinhead I know ended up in jail, dead or paralyzed."

Leyden is not optimistic about the future. The Order is becoming even more extreme, believing violence will lead to racial war, and skinheads who broke away from old-line racist groups three years ago are also becoming more radical.

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On Campus

University student group prepares for conference

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Less than a year after its inception, Kol Hastudentim is preparing for a major leadership conference.

The group, an Ontario-wide independent council of Jewish university students, was organized last summer following the cessation of activity by Network Canada, precipitated by a withdrawal of its funding by the Council of Jewish Federations Canada.

For the record, Kol Hastudentim, with representatives from 19 campuses, is not a resurrected Network, stressed Jason Young, the group's chair, in a recent interview.

"Network was Canada; we're Ontario. Network was politically motivated; Kol is not. Our focus is completely Jewish development and leadership development," he said. In fact, former Networkers constitute less than one-quarter of Kol's council membership, noted the University of Toronto biomedical engineering student.

Like Network, however, Kol takes a firm stand on being student-run. As a past president (1995-96) of the Jewish Students' Union at the University of Western Ontario who attributes his involvement to "good role models," Young believes that student leaders can bond with and inspire other student leaders in a way that paid professionals can't.

Not that he's against campus professionals, a number of whom will speak at the upcoming conference. Unlike his Network predecessors, Young said Kol Hastudentim is "working very hard to work with the community. We're working toward the same goals."

"If anything, they're strengthening what the established Jewish community has set out," confirmed Jennifer Turack, director of community services and youth activities for Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. "The connection between the smaller campuses is much stronger now, because they have a personal connection."

Like Network — actually, like just about any organization these days — Kol has faced an ongoing struggle to obtain funding. Donations from individual and corporate donors have brought them close to their annual budgetary needs of $15,000. Kol is on its way to becoming a charitable organization, said Young, and can issue tax receipts.

Over the past academic year, Kol Hastudentim activities have included trips to Boston and Washington, D.C., a ski trip, a Shabbaton at the University of Guelph and a Purim party at the University of Western Ontario.

The latter event, for which students were bussed in from McMaster and Waterloo, benefitted "all the [Highway] 401 schools" within driving distance of London, said Young.

Aside from regional Kol Hastudentim events, the only opportunity for Ontario students to come together is the annual Council of University Presidents (CUP) conference run by Canadian Jewish Congress, said Young. There has never actually been a "CUP," however, although the executive of Kol is made up of presidents of Jewish student organizations.

Last summer, student leaders meeting in Toronto decided that Kol Hastudentim would focus on developing student leadership, strengthening the individual campus groups and serving as a link between Ontario campuses.

The upcoming conference, called the MEGA-Leadership Conference '97, will be held May 15 to 18 at Maple Lake Resort. The fee for those who have not yet registered is $125. Speakers will include student leaders and campus professionals as well as *CJN* columnist Elliott Malamet of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Ralph Benmergui of CBC Newsworld will be a special guest.

Topics to be addressed include Intro to Leadership Styles, Engaging Students on Campus, and Time Management and Listening Skills. Elections will be held and students will plan for the coming year.

"We don't deal with only-big or only-small campus issues, because that would isolate people," said Young.

For further information about the upcoming conference or Kol Hastudentim, contact Young by phone at 905-731-6349, by e-mail at [jyoung@ibme.utoronto.ca], write Kol Hastudentim, 45 Prince Edward Blvd., Thornhill, Ontario L3T 7G1, or contact your local campus representative.

Western JSU launches petition

LONDON, Ont. — Members of the Jewish Students' Union (JSU) at the University of Western Ontario have launched a petition calling for action by the Canadian government in prosecuting known Nazi war criminals living in this country.

They are asking students from universities across Ontario to sign their student numbers, as opposed to their names.

The use of student numbers sends a message that the government's inactivity diminishes the memory of those who perished in Nazi concentration camps after being reduced to the numbers tattooed on their arms.

The petition was the brainchild of two JSU members, Amanda Blitz and Evan Propst.

Spurred on by a stream of reports about the difficulties of the Justice Ministry in seeking out and prosecuting Nazi war criminals, Blitz and Propst launched this petition as an integral part of the JSU's day-long vigil, Unto Every Person There is a Name.

Gabriel Meranda, director of the JSU at Western, says that this petition will provide university students with an opportunity to make a clear and poignant statement to the Canadian government about this very serious and pressing issue.

The petition has already made its way to a number of Ontario universities, and plans have been made to collate all student numbers gathered at the Kol Hastudentim Mega-Leadership conference in May.

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מתנחלים מזויות אחרת - ישרם פרוצק'

משא כבד ירד מעל תושבי ישראל כאשר סוף סוף נחתם הסכם על פינוי חברון, וכך הוסר האיום שאמריקה תסגור את הברז. ובינתיים העיתונאים והאנשים היפים אשר יושבים בשנקין על כוס קפה ועוגה ומשלמים עבור התענוג סכום שהיה מביא מיתון על משפחות מתנחלים בחברון, שכחו שאבותיהם המציאו את הציונות בגלל מערת המכפלה, יריחו, בית אל, ירושלים השלמה ועוד גבעות קדושות. ההבדל בין טרומפלדור והבילויים למתנחלי השטחים הוא שבימים ההם טלביזיה עדיין לא היתה בחיתולים וגייסות עיתונאים, צלמים, ועוד פונקציונרים אמיצים התפרנסו מעיסוקים אמיתיים. כך שישובים כמו ראש פינה, יסוד המעלה, פתח תקווה ואפילו תל-אביב יכלו לקום חדשות לבקרים. למזלם הרע של המתנחלים החדשים, מצלמות הטלביזיה וצבא השדרנים שינו סדרי בראשית וכך הפכו הם מחלוצים אמיצים ומקריבים לאויבי דמוקרטיה פאטיים, מכובשי שממה תמימים למסכלי שלום מופרעים. וכשחלוקת ירושלים תעמוד על הפרק שוב נכנע לאיום סגירת הברז, ואחרי שירושלים תחולק ומדינה פלשתינאית תיוולד, יבקשו ערביי הגליל והמשולש אוטונומיה, ושוב יהיה קשה לעמוד בלחץ. ואז יגיע התור של עכו, צפת, יפו וחיפה. אחרי הכל מה זה כמה אלפים של היסטוריה לעומת החיים הטובים והזדמנות להיות אור לגויים.

פרפרים:

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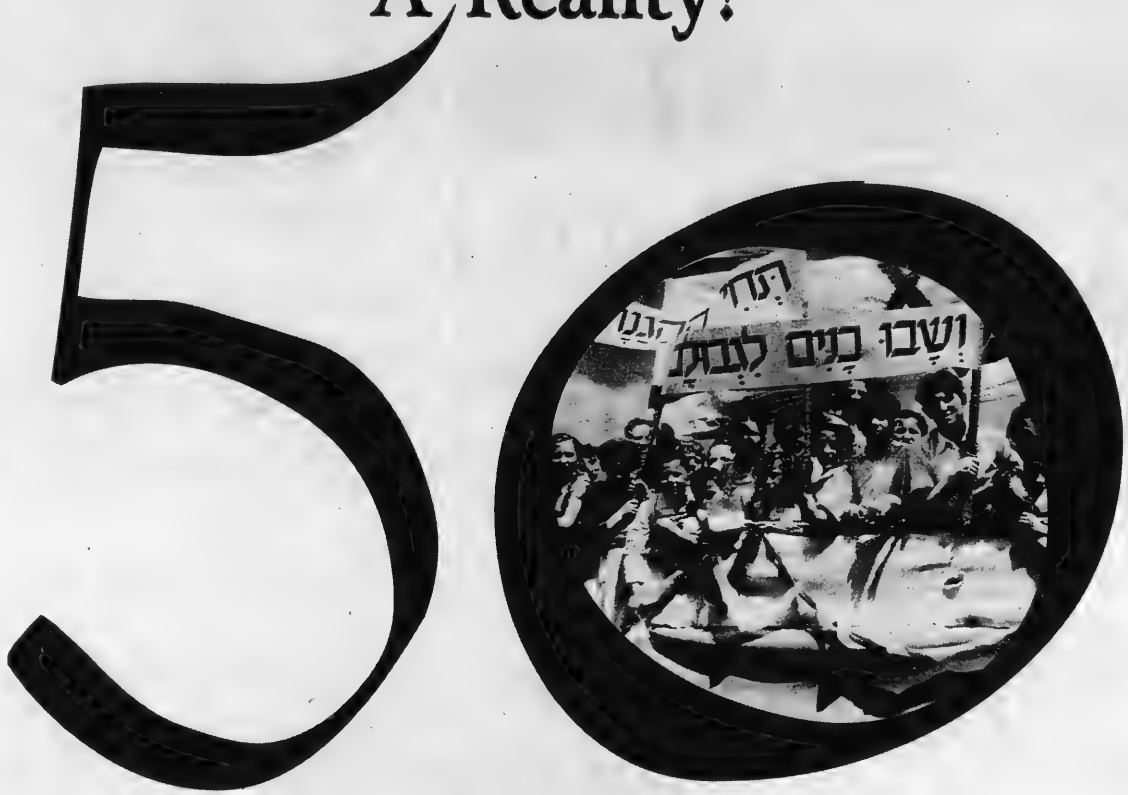

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Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Normal deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date. Due to holidays, the deadline for the May 1 issue is Monday, April 21 at 10 a.m.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

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Eco-Zionism conference a unique experience

By SAMANTHA BERMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In March, I spent a weekend at the eco-Zionism conference in Marin County, Calif.

When I heard about it last year from a friend who went to the eco-Zionism conference in Arizona, I was a little dubious — I had barely even considered the possibility of a connection between environmentalism and Judaism.

Comment

But while attending a Tu b'Shvat seder organized by the Jewish Student Federation and the JNF on Campus group at York University, I heard about it again and changed my mind. In retrospect, I realize that being a part of the 1997 conference has been a life-changing experience.

Sponsored by the JNF on Campus in the United States, the eco-Zionism conference offers Jewish university students from all over North America a chance to discuss their connections to the earth from a Jewish perspective. With a view of the ocean and surrounded by mountains, we spent the weekend praying, dancing, singing Jewish niggunim, sharing old Jewish tales, hiking in Northern California, studying Torah and star-gazing.

The only two labels that I have ever identified with (actually, insisted on) are that I'm a Jew and an environmentalist. Never did it cross my mind that these two beliefs could have a symbiotic relationship. Yet that weekend, sitting with Jewish environmental educators and studying Torah, I learned that Judaism has strong ties to the land and a deep regard for its continuity.

What I remember from my previous Jewish education was that humans were put on this earth to have dominion over all other beings (Genesis, 1:128). In other words, nature was given to humans simply for their advantage.

This new understanding made me realize that Judaism and environmentalism are not mutually exclusive and enabled me to fuse my two selves into one whole spiritually fulfilled and environmentally conscious person.

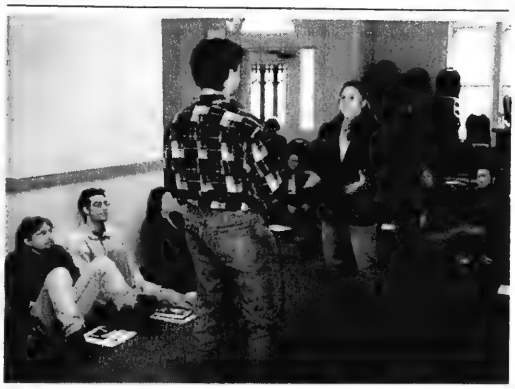
Even more gratifying was the new inclusion of G-d in my appreciation and connection with the environment. When camping or hiking, I often wander off alone to commune with nature. But recognizing the presence of a Divine Creator as responsible for all this beauty and opening up my eyes to see G-d in each of nature's gifts, literally brought me to tears.

Later at a Jewish liturgy workshop, we were given a number of Hebrew blessings to say during different experiences with nature, equipping me with a Jewish way to say thanks to G-d. And participating in Minchah on the beach, raising our voices over the roar of the ocean while breathing in the fresh sea air was one of the most meaningful experiences I have ever had.

Most importantly, the weekend in California helped me recover the sense of Zionism I had lost while living in Israel two years ago. Seeing how industrialized and populated Israel had become, I felt that I was not especially needed there. Yet, after thinking about what eco-Zionism meant to me, I finally was able to reconcile modern day Israel and Zionism from an ecological point of view. Before we turn the Land of Milk and Honey into the Land of Concrete paved over by highways, with hotels and other buildings, eco-Zionism encourages us to reclaim Israel from this industrialization.

In an age of advanced modern technology, there are ways to develop without causing environmental destruction — we just need the will.

As an eco-Zionist, I can envision a promising future for Israel and be assured of leaving a beautiful and thriving homeland for our children.



ROLE PLAYING ON CAMPUS

York University student Annie Ross and University of Toronto student Jason Young role play at a leadership development day run by Jewish Campus Services at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

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Pesach poultry recipes full of variety

Somehow, we never get tired of poultry. Even on Pesach there are many appetizing ways of making it.

BASQUE STYLE CHICKEN

1½ lb. chicken pieces — thighs, drumsticks or breast — or cut-up chicken
1 to 2 tbsp. olive oil
Salt and pepper
½ cup chicken broth
¼ cup dry kosher wine
½ tsp. crushed chili peppers
2 (or more) cloves garlic, sliced
1 cup sliced mushrooms
1 red pepper (or mixture red and green) seeded and cut into strips
½ cup green and black olives, halved
Chopped parsley

In large skillet, on medium-high heat, brown chicken in hot oil on all sides until golden. Remove chicken; season with salt and pepper. Drain fat from skillet; add chicken broth, wine, chili peppers and garlic, stir to loosen any pieces stuck to pan. Return chicken to skillet; cover and cook, turning chicken occasionally, 30 to 35 minutes until tender.

Remove cover, add mushrooms, pepper strips and olives. Stir and cook until vegetables are heated through and tender-crisp, about five minutes. Serve immediately, garnished with chopped parsley. Serves 4.

GLAZED CHICKEN

2 cut up chickens
1 pkg. onion soup mix
1 small jar apricot jam
⅔ cup ketchup

Combine onion soup mix, jam and ketchup. Pour over chicken. Bake at 300 degrees, covered, for 45 minutes. Uncover and bake for additional 30 minutes, basting to prevent drying out. Serves 8.

AROMATIC CHICKEN

3½ lbs. cut-up chicken
1 tbsp. oil
Salt, pepper, paprika
Lemon juice
Thyme
2 heads garlic, cloves peeled
20 shallots, peeled
6 small boiling onions
½ lb. mushrooms, quartered
2 doz. small red potatoes, unpeeled
½ cup dry red or white kosher wine

Rub chicken parts with mixture of oil, lemon juice and seasonings. Place in large roasting pan with remaining ingredients. Roast in 350-degree oven about one hour or until chicken and vegetables are brown. Serves 4 to 6.

APRICOT CHICKEN

3 cups dried apricots
3¾ cups water
9 tbsp. matzo meal
6 chicken quarters
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste

Soak the apricots in the water overnight. Drain the apricots and reserve the water.

Mix the matzah meal, salt and pepper. Coat the chicken pieces. Heat the oil and brown the chicken on all sides. Remove chicken from the pan. Add any remaining flour to the pan and cook for one minute. Stir in the reserved water and bring to a boil. Return the chicken pieces to the pan and add the apricots. Cover and simmer. Serves 6.

And for something really special:

POULTRY PAPRIKASH
(Foodland Ontario)

1 tbsp. pareve margarine
1 tbsp. Passover vegetable oil
1 onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, chopped
Cake meal
2 to 3 lb. cut Cornish hens in serving pieces or small chickens
1 large tomato, peeled, seeded and chopped
1 sweet pepper (red, green or yellow), cut in strips
½ lb. mushrooms, halved
1 tbsp. paprika (sweet or hot)
1 tsp. salt
½ cup tomato juice

In heavy frying pan, melt margarine with oil. Add onion and garlic; cook, covered, over low heat about 10 minutes or until onion is softened but not browned. Remove with slotted spoon; set aside.

Lightly dust hens

Increase heat to medium-high. Lightly dust hens with meal, add to pan and brown evenly, about 5 minutes on each side. Remove hens, set aside. Drain off excess fat. Add tomato, sweet pepper, mushrooms, reserved onion mixture, paprika and salt. Stir-fry 1 to 2 minutes. Add tomato juice and bring to boil, stirring well. Snuggle poultry pieces into sauce. Simmer, covered, 1¼ hour or until hens are cooked through and fork-tender, turning pieces once or twice during cooking.

Remove poultry and vegetables to platter and keep warm. Reduce liquid in pan over high heat until thickened, about 5 minutes. Spoon over hens. Serves 4.

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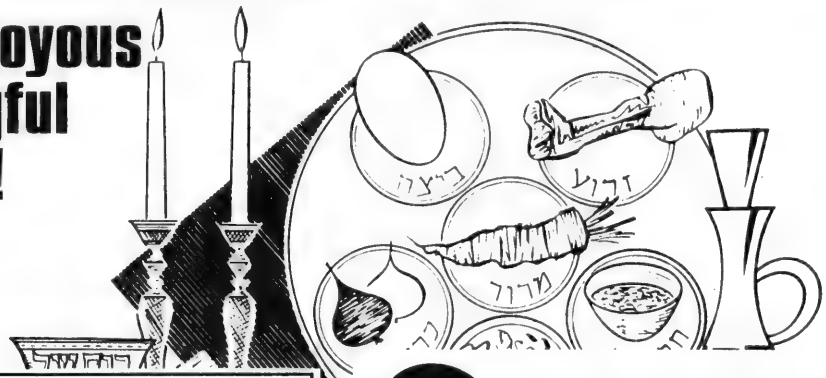

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Passover Foods

It's time to stop Passover egg-stravaganza

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

It is with equal parts delight and dread that I anticipate Pesach. Delight comes from being with family and friends for two food-filled seders and dread from having to clean my house from top to bottom.

Did I forget to mention that I also have to peel dozens of eggs, no matter how many people are actually coming for the seder? For some reason I always seem to worry there won't be enough.

Eggs are the one thing, besides matzah, on which we tend to go overboard during Pesach. There are conflicting reports as to how many eggs a week are good for you, but during Passover we all tend to consume too many. Because of their leavening ability we throw them in everything from breakfast to dessert. I say stop the egg-stravagance.

The following recipes don't contain eggs. You can use them during the week or as side dishes and desserts for the seder or Shabbat meals.

AVOCADO AND GRAPEFRUIT SALAD WITH HONEY DRESSING

4 large grapefruits, peeled and segmented
4 large avocados, peeled and sliced
1 small red onion, sliced thin
½ head iceberg lettuce, shredded
½ head red leaf lettuce, shredded
¼ cup sunflower seeds
Dressing:
1 cup Passover vinegar
½ cup kosher wine
½ cup sugar
6 tsp. honey

Place all dressing ingredients in food processor or jar. Blend well and set aside. For salad: combine lettuce in large salad bowl. Add grapefruit, avocado, and onion. Toss gently. Pour desired amount of dressing on top of salad and toss. Sprinkle sunflower seeds over the top of salad. Serves 10 to 12.

LYONNAISE HOT POTATO SALAD

3 tbsp. Passover oil
2 tbsp. chicken broth
2 tbsp. dry white wine
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. Passover vinegar
¼ tsp. salt
black pepper
potatoes, peeled and sliced
2 tsp. green onions chopped
1 tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped

Cover potatoes with water and cook in a large sauce pan until tender (15 to 20 minutes) then drain. Place in large bowl. While potatoes are cooking, combine green onions and parsley and set aside. Place remaining ingredients in sauce pan and bring to boil. Remove dressing from heat and pour over potatoes. Toss gently. Sprinkle with green onions and parsley. Serves 8 to 10.

[Cont'd. on page 32]

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MUNCHING CHRUNCHY MATZAH
A young girl munches and crunches on matzah at the Balint Jewish Community Centre in Budapest. [Roy Mittelman photo]

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BAKING MATZAH I

Boxing freshly-baked matzah at a matzah factory in Jerusalem, 1978.

Egg-stravaganza ends here

[Cont'd. from page 30]

LACE COOKIES

½ cup sugar
1½ tsp. potato starch
2 tbsp. milk
¼ cup finely chopped almonds
1 stick unsalted butter
cake meal
butter

Combine sugar and potato starch in a sauce pan. Stir in milk. Add remaining ingredients and bring to boil over medium heat. Stir constantly. Cook for approximately 1 minute at a boil and then remove from heat. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Preheat oven to 350. Cover 2 cookie sheets with foil, grease and sprinkle cake meal. Drop dough by teaspoon onto cookie sheets, making sure cookies are at least 3 inches apart. Bake 6 to 7 minutes. Let cool, remove foil from cookie sheet and gently remove cookies. Makes 15 to 18 cookies.

CHOCOLATE MARSHMALLOW SURPRISE

¼ cup butter
3½ cups Passover marshmallows
1 cup chopped nuts
5 cups matzah farfel
1 cup raisins
½ tsp. cinnamon
6 oz. semi sweet chocolate

Grease a 9x13 pan and set aside. In a saucepan, melt butter over low heat. Stir in marshmallows until just melted. Remove from heat. Add half chopped nuts to melted marshmallows. Stir. Add farfel, raisins and cinnamon to marshmallow nut mixture. When everything is combined, spread mixture evenly into greased pan. Wet hands when patting it down to help spread evenly. Sprinkle remaining nuts on top. Press into mixture to set. Refrigerate 15 or 20 minutes until chocolate has set. Cut into squares.

CREAM OF CANTALOUPE SOUP

2 cups cantaloupes cut into small pieces
1 cup orange juice
½ cup lemon juice
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ cup heavy cream
2 tbsp. honey
16 oz. lemon, peach, or vanilla yogurt
Fresh sliced strawberries

In a food processor or blender, blend cantaloupe for 10 to 15 seconds. Add orange juice, lemon juice, and cinnamon. Process for additional 10 seconds. Add cream and honey. Scrape down sides and process additional 10 seconds. Pour cantaloupe mixture into bowl and fold in yogurt. Refrigerate for several hours. To serve, place in bowl and garnish with fresh strawberries. Serves 6 to 8.

PASSOVER BRISKET WITH SPINACH AND CARROT STUFFING

4 lb. brisket
2 tbsp. oil
2 tsp. minced garlic
6 green onions chopped
1¾ lbs. fresh spinach, washed and stemmed
1 cup matzah farfel
1 tsp. salt
¼ cup oil
¾ tsp. ground pepper
6 medium carrots, peeled, 4 in ½ rounds, 2 sliced thin, lengthwise
2 large onions, sliced
¾ cup dry kosher wine
¾ cup beef or chicken stock

Have butcher cut a pocket horizontally along one side of brisket, leaving a ½ inch border around three sides.

In large saucepan, heat oil. Add garlic and cook over moderate heat for 30 seconds, stirring constantly. Add green onions and cook 2 minutes longer. Transfer onion and garlic to a large bowl.

Add spinach into saucepan and cook until barely wilted and still bright green (about 2 minutes). Set aside to cool slightly, then squeeze dry. Chop spinach coarsely and squeeze out remaining liquid. Place spinach in bowl with green onions and garlic. Stir in oil, farfel, salt and pepper.

Place 4 yards of kitchen string in a small bowl of water to soak. Place half of the thin sliced carrots in brisket pocker in a layer going against the grain of the meat. Spread spinach stuffing on top of carrots and arrange remaining thin carro: slices on top of stuffing.

Using kitchen string, tie brisket at one-inch intervals to secure stuffing. Scatter sliced onions and remaining carrot rounds over bottom of pan. Place brisket on top of vegetables. Season brisket with salt and pepper. Cook uncovered for 15 minutes at 425 in a preheated oven.

Pour wine and stock into roasting pan and cover tightly with foil. Reduce oven to 325 and cook until meat is fork tender (3½ to 5 hours). Remove from oven, loosen foil, and let brisket rest for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, strain liquid from pan, remove any fat and strain again. If less than ¾ cup of liquid, add stock or water. Place carrots and onions in food processer, add liquid and purée. Reheat in a small pan. Season to taste. Slice in thick slices against the grain and serve with sauce on the side. This can be made ahead of time and reheated just before serving. Serves 10 to 12.

Passover Foods

BAKING MATZAH II
Inspecting the matzah shmurah at the matzah factory at Kfar Habad. [IPPA photo]

Scrumptuous soups a feel good food

Soups don't have to exhaust you before you have something scrumptuous — real feel good food.

Try these from Foodland Ontario — tasty, healthy, and attractive — what more do you want?

WINTER VEGETABLE SOUP

1 onion, chopped
2 carrots, peeled and diced
2 beets, peeled and diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
5 cups vegetable or chicken broth
3 medium parsnips, peeled and sliced
3 cups chopped green cabbage
½ tsp. dried Passover marjoram leaves
½ tsp. dried Passover thyme leaves
Salt and pepper
2 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley

In large saucepan, combine onion, carrots, beets, garlic and broth. Cover and bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, covered, 10 minutes.

Add parsnips, cabbage, marjoram and thyme; cook until vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with parsley. Makes 8 cups

QUICK AND COLORFUL VEGETABLE SOUP

In medium saucepan, combine 1 chopped onion, 2 diced carrots, 1 medium peeled and diced potato and 4 cups chicken broth. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, covered, until vegetables are almost tender, about 10 minutes. Stir in 1½ cups each small broccoli and cauliflower florets, ¾ tsp. dried Passover thyme or oregano leaves and a pinch of pepper. Return to a boil and cook until broccoli and cauliflower are tender, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle each serving with chopped fresh parsley. Serves 4.

ONTARIO VEGETABLE BORSCHT

3 medium unpeeled beets
⅓ cup pareve Passover margarine
1½ cups coarsely chopped onions
1 can (28 oz.) tomatoes
4 cups beef stock
5 medium potatoes, peeled
1 tsp. caraway seeds
1 cup coarsely diced carrots
1 cup coarsely diced rutabaga
1 tsp. salt
3 cups finely sliced green cabbage
2 cups finely sliced red cabbage
2 tsp. dried dillweed
pepper

Keeping roots and stems intact, rinse beets thoroughly; set aside.

In Dutch oven, melt half the margarine over medium heat; cook onions until softened. Add tomatoes (breaking up with fork), stock, beets, 4 of the potatoes and caraway seeds; bring to boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 30 minutes. Remove potatoes to bowl; mash until smooth and set aside. Cook vegetables 15 to 20 minutes longer or until beets are tender. Remove beets; slip off skins under cold running water. Grate into bowl; set aside.

Stir mashed potatoes into pan. Cut remaining potato into large dice; add to pan along with carrots, rutabaga, grated beets and salt. Cover and simmer until vegetables are cooked through, 8 to 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, melt remaining margarine over medium heat; cook green cabbage until brightened. Add to soup and cook, uncovered, 3 minutes. Add red cabbage and dillweed; cook 3 minutes or just until cabbage is tendercrisp. Taste and add more salt if desired and pepper. Serves 12.

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❑ Coleslaw-/lb.....4.50
❑ Dressings-/ltr.....9.00

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Low cholesterol eating a holiday challenge

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Healthy low cholesterol eating can be especially challenging at Passover, says Sharon Gottlieb, a registered dietitian nutritionist in private practice at The Fitness Institute.

Gottlieb, who counsels individuals and groups on adjusting diets to live a healthier lifestyle says, "At Passover, the tendency is to rely on an abundance of eggs and animal protein foods." To help her clients, she has prepared some information and tips for those who must control their cholesterol.

There are many misconceptions about cholesterol and managing cholesterol, she says, and people can improve their heart health by becoming better informed about what they can do to reduce their cholesterol levels.

The body's production of cholesterol is influenced by genetic and dietary factors. There are two serum cholesterols. A "good" cholesterol, HDL (high density lipoprotein) gathers up the excess cholesterol in the bloodstream and carries it back to the liver to be excreted by the body.

The LDL (low density lipoprotein) is the "bad" cholesterol because this is the one that can build up in the artery wall. Dietary cholesterol is found in foods of animal origin such as meat, dairy products, egg yolks, poultry, and organ meats. "Dietary cholesterol can affect serum cholesterol in some people but the amount and type of fat consumed is far more significant."

An elevated level of serum cholesterol is associated with an increased risk of coronary artery disease. Clogged arteries increase the risk of heart attack. Other risk factors include smoking, obesity, sedentary lifestyle, diabetes and stress, she says.

Gottlieb advises a reduction in the intake of total fat to less than 30 per cent of calories.

"Use a non-hydrogenated soft tub margarine instead of butter, increase your intake of soluble fibre, aim at two or three fish meals a week, keep meat portions to a 3-ounce serving size, limit your intake of processed food, and limit your intake of egg yolks by substituting two egg whites for a whole egg."

Gottlieb says consumers should become knowledgeable about substituting healthy ingredients for higher cholesterol and higher fat products.

Simply Egg Whites, she says, is a new fresh egg product that has no additives or preservatives and can be used in many recipes calling for whole eggs.

Produced in Vancouver and distributed by Disley's Egg Distributors, Simply Egg Whites is under kashruth supervision and designated dairy throughout the year, but produced pareve for Passover.

Here is one of Gottlieb's low cholesterol recipes for Passover.

PASSOVER MUSHROOM FARFEL KUGEL

16 oz matzah farfel
4 cups defatted chicken broth
1 Spanish onion, chopped
½ lb mushrooms, sliced
½ green pepper, chopped
1 carrot, grated
½ cup Simply Egg Whites beaten
salt, black pepper, garlic powder to taste
vegetable oil cooking spray

In a large mixing bowl, combine matzah farfel and heated chicken stock. Set aside.

On medium high heat, sauté onion in a large skillet sprayed with Passover cooking spray and a little water. Add green peppers, carrot and mushrooms and continue to sauté vegetables until softened.

Combine vegetables with matzah farfel mixture. Add beaten egg whites, salt, pepper, and Passover garlic powder to taste. Turn mixture into a 9 x 12 casserole sprayed with Passover cooking spray. Bake at 350 for one hour or until golden brown. Serves 16.

Nutritional Information (approximate per serving)
Energy — 124 calories
Fat — 0.5 g
Carbohydrate — 26 g
Protein — 4 g

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Symbolic foods a Pesach staple

In springtime each year, Jewish families and friends in Toronto and around the globe observe the Passover holiday.

The central service revolves around the Passover seder, which is replete with symbolic foods and drink. Salt water is served to recall the tears of slavery. Bitter herbs are eaten to identify with the plight of the ancient Hebrew slaves. And red wine is used because it symbolizes the shedding of innocent blood during those years of bondage, and because it is considered the most festive kind of wine.

The family assembles around the seder table for the first two evenings of Passover. The table is set with the finest tableware, cuisine and quality wine. This festive yet solemn dinner begins with the drinking of the first of four glasses of red wine. The second goblet is consumed prior to the meal, the third glass immediately after grace is recited and the fourth and final glass is sipped after chanting the Psalms. A fifth goblet of wine, which is not consumed, is poured for the prophet: Elijah.

It is also customary to eat a mixture of nuts, apples and red wine, known as "charoset," which is prepared in a manner that resembles mortar. The symbolism is not lost on the participants, who discuss the manner in which the Hebrew slaves used mortar to construct pharaoh's cities. To prepare charoset; mix peeled and chopped apples with chopped walnuts and cinnamon – and whatever else your family traditionally uses. Add Kedem Cream Red Concord, suggests Jack Tewel of Mazel Wines, (available at the LCBO, ask for CSPC #206953), and stir until it looks like mortar.

Tewel recommends the following kosher for Passover wines:

Baron Edmund Benjamin de Rothschild Haute-Medoc 1993. Richly textured and silky smooth red wine, from France.

2. Herzog Selection, Beaujolais Villages 1995. Bright red wine made from Gamay Noir grapes, from France.

3. Baron Herzog Wine Cellars, Zinfandel 1993. This rare kosher red zinfandel is bursting with flavors of blackberries, raspberries and plums. From California.

4. Baron Herzog Wine Cellars, Gamay 1995. This award winning red is aromatic with tones of cotton candy, spice and berries.

5. Weinstock Cellars, Cabernet Sauvignon 1993. This California Cabernet was chosen an all-star and best buy in the prestigious *Wine Spectator* magazine. This medium bodied red wine abounds with cherry flavors and herbaceous aromas. Aged in oak barrels.

6. Baron Herzog Wine Cellars, Chenin Blanc 1995). For those who must have a white wine, this wine was voted "The Best Of The Year" in the January 1997 issue of *Bon Appetit* magazine. It was described as "Peachy and fresh with spice and lingering flavors."

A NEAR-NORTHERN ONTARIO SEDER
A family celebrates Passover in Burk's Falls, Ontario, 1912
[Ontario Jewish Archives]

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Potato soufflé a sweet dish

Every holiday, the Kosher Information Service of the Kashruth Council of Toronto offers special yom tov recipes. Pesach is no exception.

A press release from the Kosher Information Service notes that "the preparations, the special foods and the gathering of family and friends make this a memorable time — a time to discuss past and present. A time to express our gratitude for the blessings in life."

ZUCCHINI AND PEPPER (Salad)
Or use your favorite vegetables

2 zucchini, skin on, sliced
2 red peppers, cut into strips
2 red onions, thinly sliced
½ cup sour cream or yogurt
Salt and pepper to taste
Sprigs of flat-leafed parsley

Place vegetables in a salad bowl. Before serving, drizzle with sour cream or yogurt. Add salt and pepper to taste. Toss and sprinkle with parsley. Yields 6-8 servings.

Notes: French dressing also goes well with this salad. Use English cucumber slices instead of zucchini.

SWEET POTATO SOUFFLÉ (Dairy)

6 medium sweet potatoes
½ cup milk
2 tbsp. butter or margarine
½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. grated orange peel
⅛ tsp. Passover cinnamon
2 egg yolks
2 egg whites

Cook potatoes in boiling salted water until tender. Drain, peel and mash. In a large mixing bowl, combine mashed potatoes with milk, butter, salt, orange peel and cinnamon. Beat until fluffy. Add egg yolks; beat well. Beat egg whites to stiff peaks; fold into potato mixture. Turn into ungreased 1-quart soufflé dish. Bake in preheated 350 F oven about 55-60 minutes. Top with lots of butter or margarine if desired. Serves 6.

PEACH TRIFLE (Dairy)

2 packages instant vanilla or chocolate pudding mix prepared according to package directions. Set aside.
1 sponge cake, cut in ¾-inch slices
Strawberry or raspberry jam
½ cup wine or orange juice
2 cups diced fresh fruit of your choice
Reserve some for garnish

Garnish: Toasted slivered almonds and fresh fruit.

Arrange ⅓ of the cake slices in bottom of a large trifle or glass bowl. Spread with jam and drizzle with ⅓ of the wine or orange juice. Cover with ⅓ of the pudding mixture. Top with half of the fresh fruit. Repeat layers ending with the pudding mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Before serving, garnish with toasted slivered almonds and fresh fruit. Yield 10 to 12 servings.

Variation: Use jelly roll slices, omit the jam.

PACKAGING MATZAH SMHURAH
Georgian Jews prepare parcels of matzah shmurah at Kfar Chabad. [file photo]

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A real gefilte fish story

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Most people wouldn't dream of serving anything at the seder but home-made chicken soup, made from family recipes handed down from one generation to the next. But not so with gefilte fish. These days it's a rarity to get the real-McCoy homemade stuff. Few people have qualms about serving the store bought varieties from the caterer or the jar.

The sad truth is gefilte fish making, so bound with the lore of our past, is a dying art. There are many great gefilte fish stories. Who hasn't heard tales about carp swimming in bathtubs? Our bubbies certainly liked their fish fresh.

Lawyer Donald Carr who grew up in Leeds (England) recalls walking through the Jewish quarter at Pesach and hearing a tapping noise — the sound of fish being chopped in wooden bowls — emanating from every house in the neighborhood.

Our grandmothers and great grandmothers would chop and mince the fish by hand using a large single blade chopper with a large wooden bowl or pestle and mortar. They would painstakingly form the fish mixed with eggs and matzah meal into balls and patties, place them into huge pots and cook the fish in a stock made of fish heads and bones, carrots and other vegetables.

The Romanians, however would save the skin of the fish, stuff it and cook it whole, which is how the dish got its name: gefilte fish means stuffed fish. Julie Lewis who works for the Lotto Corp., remembers her late Romanian grandmother, Bianca Lefton, serving the gefilte fish whole in a pike skin — head intact — with parsley between the teeth of the fish, she says. "It looked like it was smiling." Lewis adds that her former boss, cooking maven Bonnie Stern, was so intrigued she actually came to watch Lefton make her fish.

In the old days you could track a person's origins by the type of gefilte fish they served. The Romanian whole fish and the English-style fried gefilte fish are dead give-a-ways. But more subtle is the differentiation between the peppery/ salty/ savory and the sweet-tasting balls or patties. They say Litvaks (Jews of Russian origin) made a saltier fish while the sweeter variety was linked to Jews from Poland.

With this generation abandoning the art of gefilte fish making many recipes, in families for generations, have been lost. But homemaker Bernice Mukamal, a former New Yorker whose mother grew up in England, did uphold the family tradition — British style — and has furnished *The CJN* with her mother's fried gefilte fish recipe.

Mukamal makes her fried gefilte fish recipe with seven or eight pounds of fish at one time at yontif because there is such a big demand for it from family and friends. She sends a hot batch to Donald Carr with a jar of home-made horseradish every holiday. He says her fish tastes as good as the gefilte fish his mother used to make back in Leeds.

Ingredients

1 lb. of ground fish — white fish, yellow pike, pickerel, and if available a small piece of pike or salmon trout
1 medium onion — hand-cut very fine
2 eggs
1 tbsp. matzah meal
¼ cup ice water
¾ tsp. salt
¾ tsp. white pepper

Mix the ingredients. Form into patties. Put one inch of oil in the frying pan. Let it heat up to high. Fry the patties until brown on one side. Flip them over and cook until

[Cont'd. on page 39]

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AN EASTERN EUROPEAN SEDER

An elaborate, lavish seder in a home in Eastern Europe as depicted by Arthur Szyk [RNS 1994]

A gefilte fish story

[Cont'd. from page 38]

second side is brown. The oil might need to be changed after two or three sets of patties.

This is a refined version of John Katz's grandmother's (Bubbie Katz) gefilte fish recipe. It's sweet, but not too sweet, he says.

Ingredients

2½ lb. each carp and white fish
Have the fish boned and filleted and ask the fishmonger to save the bones, tail and head in a separate bag
2 cups of water
7 carrots sliced diagonally
4 onions
2 stocks of celery
10 cloves of garlic
2 cups of matzah meal
6 tsp. of salt
¼ cup sugar
3 eggs
1 tsp. pepper

In food processor, chop fish to a medium grind, making sure all the bones are out. (The food processor predates Bubbie Katz).

Find a large pot for stock. Put in 2 cups of water, add carrots, celery, onions, 3 tablespoons of salt. Bring to boil. Add 2 more cups of water and simmer 40 minutes.

Mix ground fish with eggs, pepper, salt, sugar, matzah meal, 10 cloves of mashed garlic. Refrigerate. Let sit for an hour. Wet hands. Shape fish in 3 inch oblong balls.

Remove carrots from the pot, put some fish heads and tails on the bottom of the pot. Place a layer of fish balls. Cover them with carrots. Add another layer of fish head and tails, fish balls layer, and carrots. Continue layering the fish. The top layer should be fish heads and tails.

Boil on medium heat covered. Simmer for three hours. Turn it off. Let sit for half an hour. Drain. Remove fish balls and carrots. Refrigerate. Tastes better the next day. Serve garnished with carrots.

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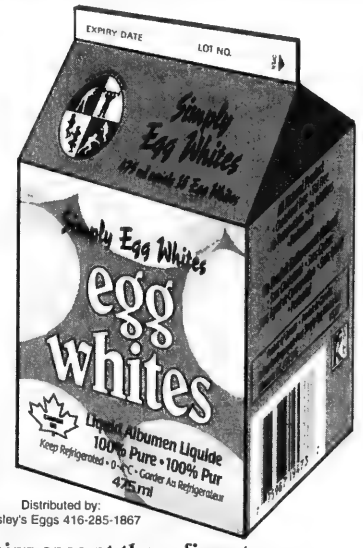

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Dietician urges diabetics to 'think veggies' at Pesach

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Life goes on for diabetics, even on Pesach, dietician Marsha Rosen told a meeting of the Jewish chapter of the Canadian Diabetes Association.

"Most of the food is there for you to plan a proper diet. It may be more challenging [to plan properly], but the food is there."

It is all a question of "being in control of your own destiny," Rosen said.

The new Canada's Food Guide is a good basis for planning meals, she said, with its emphasis on starches, vegetables and fruits, and finally dairy and protein foods.

She reminded the audience to "think veggies," as fruits are carbohydrates, which have to be monitored. "Even vegetables are not unlimited" in the diabetic diet, Rosen noted.

The seder is a special challenge, Rosen said. Often too much protein is consumed, she said, using as an example the boiled egg, gefilte fish and brisket.

"While protein is essential to provide raw material for enzymes and hormones to work properly, it is also one of the biggest contributors of fat to the diet."

Balance and variety are the bywords, Rosen said. For instance, she suggested dealing with the lateness of the seder meal by having a snack of a fruit and a starch, and leaving the protein allowance for the seder.

The snack is important because "it is important to prevent your blood sugar from taking a nose dive," she said.

Other snacks might be farfel and milk, or nuts, "but remember that nuts are high in fats."

At the seder, you can have just about anything you are offered, she said, but in limited quantities. "You can have stewed fruit, for instance — but not three cups of it."

Key rule: limit quantities

Wine is a problem for diabetics at the seder, since one-third cup of sweet wine is one sugar exchange, and the ritual requirements are for four cups. According to an information sheet given out at the program, the total amount of wine that must be drunk by diabetics is 6.4 oz., which can be achieved by diluting grape juice or wine with water.

The sheet notes that one's doctor and rabbi should be consulted for accurate medical and halachic rules.

Matzah is also an issue that should be discussed with your doctor and rabbi. While the healthy person is obligated to eat a substantial amount of matzah (the exact amounts vary slightly according to the rabbinic source used), the sheet suggests that the Rambam allows two-thirds of a hand baked matzah or one whole machine-baked matzah over the entire seder.

"The secret is to enjoy Pesach — but in moderation."

The chapter gave out several Pesach recipes. One is for matzah cheese apple treat, that gives one protein choice, 1½ starchy choice, 1½ fruit and vegetable choice and one fat and oil per serving.

MATZAH CHEESE APPLE TREAT

1 cup water
½ tsp. cinnamon
1 small apple, cored, peeled and thinly sliced
1 matzah
1 oz. cheese slice

Preheat oven to broil.

Add water to small saucepan. Add cinnamon and apple slices. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer until apple is tender. Drain.

Wet matzah with warm water on both sides. Place under preheated broiler (second rung from top). Broil for one minute on first side. Turn and broil for 30 seconds on second side.

Place drained apples on matzah. Top with cheese. Broil until cheese melts.

Serves one

Something new with potatoes

Try something different, courtesy of Foodland Ontario.

CRISPY POTATO RÖSTI

4 large potatoes
1 medium onion, chopped
½ tsp. salt
⅛ tsp. pepper
½ tsp. nutmeg
4 tbsp. butter

Cook potatoes, covered, in 1 inch boiling water for only 10 minutes. Drain. Cool potatoes to room temperature, at least 2 hours. Grate potatoes by hand and mix with onion, salt, pepper and nutmeg.

Melt 2 tablespoons butter in 8-inch non-stick skillet. Add potato mixture and flatten to cover bottom of skillet. Over medium heat, pan fry for 10 minutes, or until bottom surface is well browned. Shake pan frequently to prevent sticking. Slide rösti, all in one piece, onto large plate. Cover with plate of identical size and carefully flip. Melt remaining butter in skillet. Slide rösti, browned side up, back into skillet. Cook the same as for first side. Slide onto serving platter and cut into wedges. Serves 4.

SAVORY STUFFED ONIONS

8 large cooking onions
¼ tsp. salt
1 can tomatoes
½ lb. ground beef
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
1 tsp. dried parsley
½ tsp. dried basil leaves
¼ tsp. dried oregano leaves
¼ tsp. salt
⅛ tsp. pepper

Slice top off onions and peel. In large saucepan, sprinkle onions with ¼ tsp. salt, cover with boiling water and simmer, covered, 10 minutes. Drain and cool.

Carefully cut centres from onions, leaving shells ½-inch thick. Chop onion centres by hand or in a food processor.

Drain canned tomatoes, reserving juice. In large skillet, brown beef. Drain off fat. Add chopped onion, drained tomatoes, garlic, parsley, basil, oregano, salt and pepper. Cook 10 minutes over medium heat.

Stuff filling into onion shells. Place in flat casserole or baking dish. Pour reserved tomato juice around stuffed onions. Bake at 350 15 to 20 minutes until onions are tender.

Meat loaf is the original comfort food — this is a little different:

POTATO MEAT LOAF

2 lb. ground meat
1 cup tomato juice
1 chopped onion
2 cups shredded raw potato
1 tbsp. chopped parsley
1 shredded carrot
2 beaten eggs

Mix all ingredients together and shape into a 9 inch loaf pan. Bake at 375 degrees for one hour or until done. Serves 6.

Passover Foods

Helpful hints make cooking easier on Pesach

PASSOVER HINTS

• To kosher a microwave: Wash all surfaces thoroughly. Dry well. Do not use for 24 hours. Microwave 2 cups water on high for 10 minutes. Wipe oven dry. Line bottom of oven with parchment paper. It withstands temperatures to 400 F.

• Many recipes can be adapted for Passover use. Use matzah meal for bread or cracker crumbs; ground mandlach for a nice golden color to coat chicken. To substitute graham cracker crumbs use cookie crumbs, eir kichlach or mandlebrot.

• To replace chocolate chips, use bittersweet Passover chocolate bars. Use equal amounts of white sugar in place of brown sugar. Use Passover liqueur such as Sabra to replace vanilla.

• Egg whites beat up quicker and with more volume if you bring them to room temperature before beating and add a pinch of salt and some lemon juice. They separate easier when taken from the refrigerator. Do not beat in a plastic bowl.

• Substitutions: ¼ cup matzah cake meal + ¾ cup potato starch = 1 cup flour; ⅓ cup sugar processed in blender or food processor + ½ tsp. potato starch = ⅓ cup confectioners sugar (icing sugar); 1 tbsp. potato starch = 1 tbsp. cornstarch; 3½ matzahs = 2 cups farfel.

• Run out of matzah meal? Process broken matzah or farfel in blender or food processor to medium or fine consistency.

• Run out of cake meal? Process matzah meal to a very fine consistency.

• To increase fibre, use whole wheat matzah and fresh fruits and vegetables.

BAKING MATZAH III

Sorting freshly-baked matzah at a matzah factory in Bnei Brak. **[Israel photo 1994]**

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The following products and services are under Passover supervision of the Toronto Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth when bearing a COR "Kosher For Passover" label:

Baked goods available at: Carmel Bakery; Hermes Bakery; Sweet York Desserts.

Beverages: Coca-Cola Beverages Ltd.: Coca-Cola Classic, Diet Coke; Pop Factory: Cola, Gingerale, Orange, Reinhart Seltzer.

Fruit salad and frozen ice desserts: Amber Foods Ltd.; C.A. Fruit Products Ltd.; Marcee's Sweets: Fruit Ices, Ice Cream; Metropolitan Ice Cream: Fruit Ices.

Honey and sugar: Billy Bee Honey Products Ltd.; Redpath Sugars.

Salt: The Canadian Salt Company Ltd. (Windsor Salt); Sifto Canada Inc.

Margarine/oil products: Vegarine (pareve).

Pickled and marinated products: Feature Foods Ltd.; Strub Brothers Ltd.

Dairy products: Astro Dairy Products Ltd.: Cream Cheese Spread, Pressed Cottage Bakers Cheese, Pressed Cottage Cheese, Sour Cream, Yogurt (plain and fruit); Ault Foods Ltd: Lactantia Pure Filter Milk, Sealtest Milk; Beatrice Foods Inc.: Milk, 10 percent Cream; Cheese Lovers Hard Cheeses; Fieldfresh Farms Inc.: Milk; Great Canadian Hard Cheeses; Kofman-Barenholtz Foods: Galilee Hard Cheeses; Lana Brand: Cream Cheese, Pressed Cottage Cheese, Sour Cream, Yogurt, Table Yogurt; Neilson Dairy: Half & Half Cream, Milk; Westhill Dairy Inc.: Birds Hill Sour Cream, Blue Bell Pressed Cottage Cheese, Old Country Butter; Mandels Brand: Cream Cheese, Pressed Cheese, Sour Cream; Western Brand: Mashlanka Buttermilk, Cream Cheese (regular, with chives, lite and bakers), Sour Cream, Yoggi, Yogurt.

Fish products: Central Smoked Fish Ltd.: Chopped Fish, Smoked Salmon; Feature Foods Ltd.; Smoked Fish Factory: Smoked Fish Products, Smoked Lox; Strub Brothers Ltd.

Fish markets: IGA, 441 Clark Ave. W.; Gershon's Fish Market, 3019 Bathurst St.; Hartman's Kosher Meats, 5974 Bathurst St.; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., 241 Wilmington Ave.

Airline meals: All meals served on the airlines during Pesach are specially sealed and stamped "COR Kosher L'Pesach." Peter Graben Caterers supplies Passover foods to arilines. *Kosher for Passover meals must be requested by your travel agent or airline in advance.*

Caterers and take-out foods: Adath Israel, Adath Catering Co.; Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, Miriam's Table; Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda, Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers; Beth Tzedec, Caterers York Ltd.; Shaar Shalom, Beverly Hills Caterers; Shaarei Tefillah, 'Rose Lazar Catering Services; Ely's Fine Foods; Perl's Meat Products Ltd.; Kosher Meats and Treats; Stroli's; L'echaim Caterers; Peter Graben Fine Foods; Malmar Catering/Tastefully Yours.

Butcher shops: IGA, Clark and Hilda; B. Goldstein Products, 308 Wilson Ave.; Hartman's Kosher Meats, 5974 Bathurst St.; Kosher Meats & Treats, 2825 Bathurst St.; Manor Kosher Meats, 662 Sheppard Ave.; Perl's Meat Products, 3015 Bathurst St.; Perl's Meat Products, 7700 Bathurst St.; Prime Kosher Meats, 270 Wilson Ave.; Stroli's Strictly Kosher Foods, 3459 Bathurst St.; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., 241 Wilmington Ave.

Fresh and frozen packaged meat/poultry (check all packaged meats for the COR symbol): Price Chopper, Bathurst and Steeles; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., Finch and Bathurst.

Meat/poultry wholesale services: Chai Kosher Poultry Inc.; Lazar Yitzchok; Marvid Poultry Packers; Empire Frozen Poultry.

Kosher food and novelty stores: Balloon Bash, 7077 Bathurst St.; Baskets n Stuf, 6237 Bathurst St.; Chocolate Charm, 3541 Bathurst St.; Happy Days Gift Baskets, 248 Steeles Ave.; Just In Cases, 3041 Bathurst St.; Kosher & Natural Foods, 3413 Bathurst St.; Kosher City, 3515 Bathurst St.; Kosher Food Warehouse, 75 Doncaster Ave.; Lieberman's Splendid Chocolates, 896 Eglinton Ave.

Wines: Wines, brandies, liqueurs and other such beverages certified by recognized rabbinical authorities are permissible. The label must indicate that the bottle has been prepared "Kosher L'Pesach." Galilee Wine Company 416-783-2516;

[Cont'd. on page 43]

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Passover Foods

No chametz in these non-food products

As a service to the community, the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR) has circulated a request to drug firms and other related manufacturers asking them to provide us with a list of ingredients in their products.

All products ingested during Passover should have a "Kosher for Passover" endorsement. If "Kosher for Passover" products are not available and there is a medical need for any of the products, these items should be used in separate utensils.

COR has not supervised the production of these products, but from the information received, there appears to be no chametz in the products listed here.

Generally, when taking medication during Passover, preference should be given to non-chewable tablets rather than liquids and chewable tablets. Many products contain ingredients that are only permitted to be used on Passover for medical reasons. A competent rabbi who is familiar with the information upon which this flyer is based must be consulted prior to the use of these products. If there is any item that you must take during Passover and it is not found with reliable Passover supervision, please contact your rabbi who may have additional information.

For prescription and over the counter medications, call the kashruth council or your rabbi.

Milk Enzyme: Lactaid Tablets, Caplets and Drops should not be used on Passover. In case of great need, lactose free milk should be purchased *before* Passover. Use separate utensils.

Infant Formula *(Kitnyos)*: All infant formulas listed below should be used in separate utensils. Formula is available in liquid and powder. Check each container for a hechsher, since not all forms are kosher endorsed. Alactamil, Enfalac, Isomil, Prosobee, Similac, Enfamil.

Nutritional Supplements *(Kitnyos)*: These products are not produced under Passover supervision. They should be used only when there is no alternative in consultation with a rabbi. Boost, Isocal, Ensure, Sustacal.

Oral Care: Kosher for Passover toothpaste is recommended. Johnston & Johnston dental floss (unwaxed and unflavored), Polident.

The following oral care products are kitnyos: Crest Regular, Crest Coolmint Gel, Crest For Kids Sparkle Gel; Colgate Regular, Colgate Superstar; Fasteeth; Poligrip; Corega.

Mouthwash: Listerine — Regular, Coolmint, Freshburst; Steri/Sol.

Aluminum Products: Special Passover certification is not required; any brand bearing kosher endorsement may be used.

Paper Products: Plates: Use plastic or styrofoam plates for foods that contain moisture. Paper plates are permissible for cold, dry foods. Parchment Paper: Peterson/Norscan Silicone Paper; Baker's Mate Cooking Parchment Paper.

Some napkins and paper towels may contain starch; therefore, some suggest that they not come in contact with wet foods, i.e. latkes. The following, however, are free from starch: Scott Clean, Ultra and Viva Paper Towels; Scott Napkins. In all cases, it is preferable not to use the first and last three sheets.

Miscellaneous Baby Products: All Alcohol Free Baby Wipes. Johnson's Baby Powder; Johnson's Baby Powder Pure Cornstarch.

Alcohol: Isopropyl rubbing alcohol (any).

Deodorants: Old Spice Stick Deodorant/High Endurance; Old Spice Solid Antiperspirant; Secret Aerosol (all); Mennen Stick (all scents); Lady Speed Stick (all scents); Crystal Clean Stick (all scents).

Hairspray: Vidal Sassoon; Pantene.

Fragrance: Charlie; Ciara; Enjoli; Jean Nate; Revlon Fragrances; Ultima II Fragrances.

Skin Care: Almay Time-Off Toner; Almay Time-Off Moisture Lotion; Almay Time-Off Cleanser; Revlon Results Day-Light Replenisher Moisture Lotion/Moisturizer Oil-Free Fluid; Moon Drops Nourishing/Soothing Moisture Lotion.

After Shave: Old Spice (regular and sensitive); Blue Stratos.

Shampoo and Conditioners: Head & Shoulders; Pert Plus; Ivory & Ivory Plus Shampoos; Vidal Sassoon; Pantene; Flex.

Cleansers: Spic and Span powder; Mr. Clean; Murphy's Oil Soap; Ajax powder.

Oven Cleaner: Any brand.

Spray Startch: Glide Liquid Starch.

Dishwasher Detergents: Palmolive Automatic Dishwasher Gel (all scents) with a hechsher; Manual dishwashing liquid (must bear an OU): Joy, Ivory and Dawn.

Coffee: All unflavored, regular and decaf. Nescafe and Hills Brothers instant coffees bearing COR 141 are acceptable without Passover certification. MJB ground roasted coffee (regular and decaf.) bearing COR 141 are acceptable as well. Maxwell House instant coffee bearing an MK may be used for Passover. Sanka bearing an MK may be used for Passover.

Artificial Sweeteners: Sweet n Low (powder) with an OU and Passover symbols is available.

Silver Polish: Hagerty Silver Polish with an OU may be used.

COR products listed

[Cont'd. from page 42]

Grafstein Wines Ltd., 416-256-0440; Hakerem Cellars (not mevushal) 416-429-2946/888-429-2946; Mazel Wines, 416-631-8071.

Public institutions: Kitchens of the institutions listed below have been prepared for Pesach by mashgichim under the direction and instruction of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth in accordance with the requirements for Passover. Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care: Baycrest Hospital, Baycrest Terrace, Jewish Home for the Aged, Joseph E. & Minnie Wagman Centre; Lincoln Place Nursing Home; The Mount Sinai Hospital (Kosher L'Pesach meals on request); Terrace Gardens, 3705 Bathurst St.; Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living (Association of Jewish Seniors is providing a second seder on April 22).

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Book offers international adventures in cooking

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

It's always fun to see cookbooks from other countries. Naturally, one looks at them with the realization that one's own mother prepared things better, and if you are conceited, you do too.

Ethnocentrism aside, few peoples are as adept at adapting foods of the countries in which they live as the Jews are. Not only do they pick up recipes, but they change them just enough to follow kosher guidelines. And somehow the food still tastes great.

Kosher Kettle; International Adventures in Jewish Cooking, edited by Sybil Ruth Kaplan (Five Star Publications, 1996) is a recent, and enjoyable addition to the international Jewish cooking genre. Kaplan has collected material from such diverse places as the Amish community in Pennsylvania, Romania, the southern United States, Indonesia, Israel, Russia and New Zealand.

She also includes a section for the different Jewish holidays.

A nice touch is the extensive selection of delightful-sounding drinks, from mulled wine to mocha cappacino.

TZIMMES

4 lb. brisket
2 onions, sliced
1 ¼ cups water
1 ½ tbsp. Passover brown sugar, or regular sugar
¼ tsp. Passover nutmeg
¼ cup apricots
¼ cup prunes
8 carrots, sliced
4 sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced
4 white potatoes, peeled and sliced

Preheat oven to 300. Pierce meat with fork. Place in roaster. Add onions and brown on top of stove.

Add water, sugar and nutmeg. Place in 300 oven. Allow 45 minutes per pound. One hour before done, add apricots, prunes, carrots and potatoes. Serves 10-12.

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Leftover ideas

You are bound to have leftover chicken after the seder, and sometimes it is hard to find interesting things to do with it. Enjoy these two suggestions.

CHICKEN STIR-FRY

2 tbsp. Passover olive oil
1 small red pepper, cut into 2-in. long, thin strips
4 green onions, cut into small rings
1 cup thinly sliced celery
1 cup sliced carrots
⅛ tsp. Passover paprika
2 finely minced garlic cloves
¼ tsp. Passover ginger
½ lb. sliced fresh mushrooms
other vegetables if desired, such as broccoli or cauliflower florets, zucchini sliced thin, or bok choy
pinch salt
3 cups cooked, diced chicken

In a large skillet, heat oil: add red pepper, green onions, celery, carrots, other vegetables if using, paprika and garlic. Saute until tender. Add ginger, salt and mushrooms, and cook for an additional five minutes. Lower the heat and add the chicken. Heat thoroughly.

Serve over farfel, or Passover noodles.

ASPARAGUS CHICKEN SALAD
(Foodland Ontario)

1 lb. asparagus, cut into 1-in. pieces
2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
2 cups diced cooked chicken
½ cup sliced radishes
¼ cup Passover oil
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. Passover mayonnaise
¾ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. dried Passover tarragon
4 leaf lettuce leaves (opt.)

Steam asparagus until tender-crisp. Drain and run under cold water to chill. Pat dry. In salad bowl, combine asparagus, eggs, chicken and radishes. Cover and chill.

In small bowl, whisk together remaining ingredients until smooth. Cover and chill.

Just before serving, pour dressing over salad and toss gently. Serve on lettuce leaves, if desired. Serves 4.

Apple salad a festive treat

FESTIVE APPLE SALAD
(Foodland Ontario)

Chunks of red delicious apples, tossed with a ginger lime dressing, make a light-tasting, refreshing salad. This is great as a side dish for a heavy meat meal, or add chunks of cheese to make it a lunch on its own.

Salad

4 red delicious apples, unpeeled, cored and cubed
½ cup sliced celery
½ cup halved, seedless green grapes
¼ cup slivered almonds, toasted

Dressing

2 tbsp. Passover oil
2 tbsp. Passover mayonnaise
½ tsp. grated lime rind
2 tbsp. lime juice
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. finely grated ginger root
¼ tsp. salt

In large bowl, combine all salad ingredients. Whisk together all dressing ingredients. Pour over salad and toss gently. Cover and chill at least one hour, to allow flavors to blend.

To toast almonds, place on baking sheet. Bake at 350 for 3 to 5 minutes or until golden brown. Serves 8.

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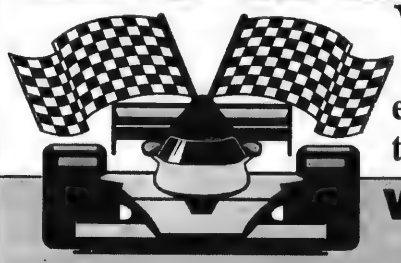

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2 tsp. grated orange rind
1/2 cup orange juice
1/2 cup liquid from apricots
1/2 cup brown sugar

Combine all ingredients. Bake, uncovered in greased three-quart casserole in 375 oven for 40 min. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup chopped nuts if desired. May be made ahead and chilled before baking. Serves 8 to 10.

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5 matzot
6 large eggs
2 red apples, shredded with peel
1 small pear, shredded with peel
¾ cup golden raisins
3 tbsp. sugar
grated peel of 1 lemon
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 tsp. Passover vanilla
2 tbsp. margarine, unsalted
2 tbsp. sugar mixed with ½ tsp. cinnamon
2 tbsp. Passover current jelly

Preheat oven to 325.

Break matzot into pieces in a bowl and cover with water. Soak 2 minutes and drain.

Beat eggs until fluffy. Stir in apples, pear, raisins, sugar, lemon peel, lemon juice, cinnamon and vanilla. Mix together. Add matzot and blend.

Place margarine in a 9 x 13 casserole and heat in a 325 oven until melted. Swish margarine around in pan so it is coated well. Pour excess margarine into matzot-fruit mixture. Stir, then pour into casserole, spreading evenly.

Mix sugar and cinnamon in a bowl and sprinkle on top of casserole. Top with jelly. Bake 45 min. Serves 10-12.

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From coast to coast

Fight against hate moves to the Internet

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — The "brave new world of cyberspace" has "raised the stakes" in the battle against hate on the Internet, says the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

In its 1996 annual report submitted to Parliament last month, the commission concedes that some Canadians "would say we have already passed the point when prevention [of cyber-hate] is feasible, let alone desirable."

Curbing hate on the Internet and via telephone messages "is not becoming any easier, as both the technologies and user-access develop," the commission notes in its 103-page report to Justice Minister Allan Rock.

Complaint against Zundel's web site

"No doubt," it states, "attempts to proscribe hate speech should be a tool of last resort."

The report gives a nod to the Internet's Nizkor Project, run by Ken McVay in British Columbia, which challenges Holocaust revisionists.

Last year, the commission was still trying to put a stop to telephone hate messages, "with somewhat mixed results." In November, it received two complaints that pro-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel's Internet Web site "could expose Jews to hatred or contempt."

The complaint was brought by the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Race Relations, and Sabina Citron, who launched earlier, unsuccessful criminal charges against Zundel.

Last month, the Federal Court of Canada denied a government motion to dismiss Zundel's application for a judicial review of the case. But at the same time, the court said it would not delay the commission's case against Zundel while the judicial review is dealt with.

The commission will begin preliminary hearings on the Web site May 26. It will be the first time a commission tribunal will consider a complaint involving messages on the Internet.

In its report, the commission notes the January 1996, Federal Court case involving Tony McAleer and the far-right Canadian Liberty Net, based on complaints that telephone messages on the group's hotline violated human rights laws.

The commission asked the court for an interim injunction to prevent the playing of the messages. The court obliged, but the Liberty Net then directed callers to a U.S. phone number.

The court found the group guilty of contempt and sentenced McAleer to jail. But the Liberty Net appealed both the injunction and the conviction.

Ultimately, the court sided with the Liberty Net, ruling that no one has the right to block any communication before its legality can be determined. But it upheld McAleer's contempt sentence.

The commission has been granted leave to appeal the matter of the injunction to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The lower court's overturning of the injunction "has limited our ability to attack the ongoing harm created by hate lines," the report says.

Also last year, the report said, the Federal Court dismissed the commission's application for a contempt of court order against the neo-Nazi Heritage Front, leader Wolfgang Droege and member June French.

The matter went back to 1994, when the Front agreed to an order to stop playing telephone messages. The complaint had been brought by Canadian Jewish Congress and the Native Canadian Centre.

In April 1995, based on a Heritage Hotline message, the commission asked the Federal Court for a contempt charge for ignoring the order.

The court declined, saying the 1995 message was not similar to the one covered by the 1994 court order. As well, the court was not satisfied that the later message was likely to promote hatred or contempt of the Jewish community, the report states.

Government backs Sharon Home project

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The 234-bed Sharon Home, Winnipeg's Jewish nursing home, has received the green light from the province to go ahead and replace 60 outdated beds.

The government announced its financial support of the program in its March 14 budget.

"We are very pleased that the government viewed our capital needs as a priority," says Daniel Ruth, the Sharon Home's executive director.

"Ours was one of only six health-care capital projects that the government approved in the budget."

The beds to be replaced are hostel-type beds which, Ruth says, are not up to the standards of Level 3 and 4 personal care home residents.

There is one catch in the government's support for the project, Ruth notes. That is that the community or organization involved has to come up with 20 percent of the capital cost to a maximum of $6 million. He estimates that the project will cost at most $6.5 million.

While the wing housing the 60 beds will be closed, Ruth reports that no decision has been made yet on whether to add the new beds to the current north Winnipeg facility or build a new extension of the residence in south Winnipeg.

"We are currently engaged in a fact finding process," he says. "We are exploring all of our options before we make any final decisions.

"Hopefully by the fall, we will have a clearer sense of the direction we will take."

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From coast to coast

Bronfman's comments surprise Quebec Jews

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Community leaders reacted with surprise to World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman's remarks that young Jews should leave Quebec if they fear anti-Semitism and that, if he was young, he wouldn't stay.

The quotes were from an interview Bronfman gave to the *Toronto Star*.

"Anti-Semitism is absolutely not an issue," insisted Laurence Paperman, a founder of ProMontreal, FEDERATION CJA's program to encourage youth to stay in Quebec, mainly by helping them find jobs. "It's not a factor in people's decision to leave."

Paperman said that any animosity among Quebec nationalists is directed at anglophones, not Jews as such. "Our only concern with nationalism is if it leads to separation."

He does not think the Bronfman story will have much impact on youth here.

"The impact is greater outside Quebec...People love to hear negative things about Quebec."

While this episode may not have a major impact, Robert Libman, regional director of B'nai Brith Canada, thinks "it's definitely not helpful.

"When people are weighing the pros and cons, this might be a small consideration. For people who already have one foot out the door, this will just confirm their will to leave."

Libman thinks Bronfman "exaggerated" the mood among Quebec Jews. "Montreal is still a great place for Jews. It's not a haven for anti-Semitism. Political uncertainty and the greater opportunity for employment elsewhere is what is making young Jews decide to leave.

"There are always trade-offs. Maybe there's more political stress here, but Montreal offers a great quality of life," he said.

Jack Jedwab, Quebec region director of Canadian Jewish Congress, said it should be remembered there was a big "if" in much of what Bronfman said.

"No study has found that Jews leave Quebec because of anti-Semitism, so it's difficult to come to that conclusion," he said.

Jedwab doubt the remarks will be "particularly damaging...Most people, youth included, have a good idea of what the issues are, and will make their decision on their own."

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- West End Jewish Community Association

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Nova Scotia Irishman leads klezmer band

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Bob McCarthy was once a Catholic priest. Now married and a professor at Acadia University's School of Music in Wolfville, N.S., the tall Irishman leads a five-piece klezmer band, Emerald Swing, in a variety of Jewish melodies for a Jewish audience at Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Halifax.

More than 150 men, women and children clap along with the upbeat music. A few dance, others sing at this celebration of Jewish Music Month.

The band shares the stage with a community choir, a dozen men and women who have trained under the local music maven Shirley Burnstein. They entertain with harmonic renditions of familiar Hebrew and Israeli songs.

"It's a home-grown program," says Jon Goldberg, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council which co-sponsored the concert with the synagogue. "When we discovered the klezmer band in Wolfville, it made sense to bring them to the city [100 kilometres] to perform along with our choir.

"We've been able to bring Jewish music to our people without a major cost. Hopefully, we can take our choir to other Atlantic centres to share their love of, and ability in, Jewish music."

McCarthy and various members of his group have played klezmer music for 10 years, "off and on. Last summer we did a bar mitzvah on a mountainside in the Annapolis Valley [of Nova Scotia]. An Israeli general who was attending called us 'the best Irish klezmer band I've heard.'"

The former priest calls this music "therapeutic. As a teacher, I don't get a chance to play that much, and particularly do this."

McCarthy plays clarinet and other reed instruments. William Bishop, a retired media person, plays bass. Ed Kuhn, a piano tuner by trade, plays keyboard. Music student Angie MacIvor plays saxophone and Ken Shorley, a professional percussionist, performs on drums.

The band plays *And The Angels Sing*, an old Benny Goodman standard, and McCarthy tells the audience the famous clarinetist and band leader is "the best example of one who has come out of this type of music. His improvisations really show klezmer-sounding riffs."

McCarthy leads the band in a short rendition of *Irish Washerwoman* and says, "Let's move to a minor key, and have a klezmer sound. We'll call it *Yiddishe Washerwoman*."

McCarthy talks of the history of klezmer music, tracing it briefly from Eastern Europe to a hiatus when many who had it in their blood came to North America but lost their identity.

"A bunch of kids in Boston 20 years or so ago thought the music of their parents and grandparents was hot and started playing it."

He laughs. "Now it has worked it's way down to a bunch of 'goys' from the Valley-Yiddishe Max and the klezmir Mountain Boys."

Cancellation

TORONTO – Café L'Europa, originally planned for Thursday, April 17, has been cancelled.

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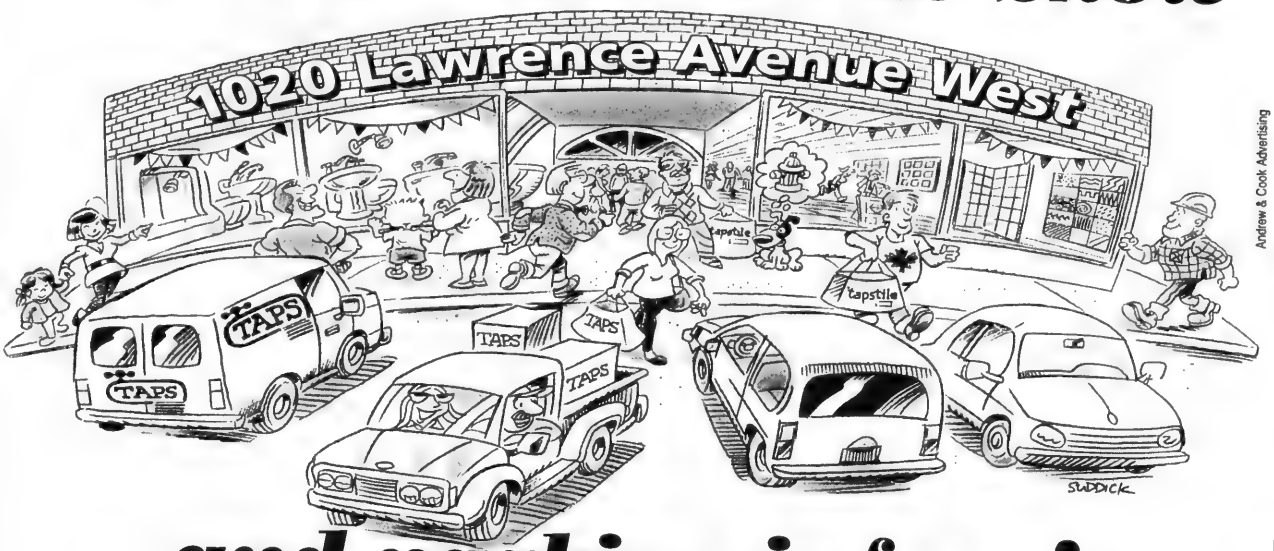

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From coast to coast

None Is Too Many premieres to enthusiastic audience

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — "I think it is a dynamite production," says Irving Abella of *None Is Too Many*, the stage play that premiered recently in Winnipeg, to an enthusiastic response.

"At the end, you are not sure whether to applaud or cry. The play delivers a strong and profound message. I hope it will go far beyond Winnipeg."

Adapted for the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre (WJT) by Toronto-based playwright Jason Sherman, *None Is Too Many* is based on the book of the same name written by Abella and Harold Troper in the 1980s. It is the story of Canada's deplorable wartime record of virtually closing the country's doors to European Jewry at the height of Nazi persecution and murder.

The WJT actually began working on the project in 1991. It wasn't until Sherman was brought in late in 1994 though that *None Is Too Many* began to take shape.

"It sounded like a great project," Sherman recalls. "The material was strong. It was a story that needed to be told. Another writer had dropped out of the project."

Sherman remembers that he was "airlifted" into Winnipeg. The WJT had actors and were ready to workshop *None Is Too Many*, but there was no writer. "We put it together in two weeks," Sherman says.

A year later, the play was revised and "workshopped" again. Sherman was actually still working on the finished product almost right up to curtain time.

Jason Sherman

'Jason is a bold writer'

"Jason is a bold writer not afraid to take risks," notes Kayla Gordon, the WJT's artistic director. "Once he determined to focus on Canadian Jewish Congress leader Saul Hayes as the main character, it all came together."

The time frame of the play is from Kristallnacht in November 1937 to 1946. It begins and ends with Hayes' presentation to a Senate committee in Ottawa condemning the Canadian government's inaction during the war and requesting that Canada open its doors to the survivors.

The body of the play is a series of confrontations between Hayes and Ottawa bureaucrats and politicians interspersed with vignettes in Europe, Montreal and Winnipeg which capture the history of the war as it affected Jews in Europe and Canadian Jewry's fruitless efforts to help.

The most riveting scene is an encounter between Hayes and Blair, the anti-Semitic head of the immigration department, over the question of bringing 1,000 Jewish orphans stuck in Vichy France to Canada. The viewer watches the two playing a game of cat and mouse, with Blair forcing Hayes to choose which 500 of the orphans to bring over. While he is mulling it over, Blair regretfully informs Hayes that the Nazis have occupied Vichy France and it is too late to help the children.

The play was mounted jointly by the WJT and the Manitoba Theatre Centre, Winnipeg's major theatre. Sherman felt that the production was well received by the opening night crowd. Gordon reports that there has been interest from other theatres in staging the play and there are hopes for a national tour.

BBYO HELPS UJA

The BBYO Toronto Area Council BBG president, Lindsay Wetstein and AZA vice-president, Avery Benmergui, presented a cheque to Allan Reitzes, executive vice-president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto to the United Jewish Appeal. The BBYO teens collected this money from one of the community dances.

Anti-Semitic incidents up slightly in '96 in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Police Service Hate Crimes unit has reported a slight increase in anti-Semitic incidents in 1996, compared to 1995.

Sgt. Norman Tchir says there were 12 incidents in 1996 (there were 10 the year before) ranging from vandalism and arson at a Jewish Child and Family Service group home for boys in North Winnipeg, to sprayed on graffiti, seven incidents of hate mail or literature and one phone message.

Arrests were made in two cases. No arrests have been made yet in the most serious incident involving the group home, where a worker's car was set on fire. The investigation is continuing.

So far this year, Tchir reports that there have been two incidents of anti-Semitic graffiti. The most recent one was March 20, when a furniture store had "Camp Auschwitz" spray-painted on one side of the building and "Die Jew Pig" on the other.

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From coast to coast

Online game combats hate, racism on Internet

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — An online game, Erasing The Hydra of Hate, was introduced by Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, chief commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) at a recent symposium.

The game, aimed at combating hate on the Internet, started as a poster and game called Stop the Hatred, developed by Choices, a Winnipeg social justice group.

The poster, decorated with snakes, features a quiz that tests young people's knowledge of discrimination and hate crimes. The reverse side is a game board with each square describing a positive or negative reaction to hate propaganda and the resulting reward or punishment.

The Internet version, which can be found at CHRC's Web site [www.chrc.ca], was created by Winnipeg graphic designer Steven Rosenberg for the CHRC after Choices invited the commission to get involved in the project.

Rosenberg was on hand at the symposium sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights to demonstrate how Erasing the Hydra of Hate works.

"This is an interactive game," he said. "The computer explains why your answers are correct or incorrect. If you answer incorrectly, you are given a second chance. The game is accessible to anyone with a modem."

Choices spokesperson, Randa Stewart, said that the game's development was spurred by two events — the beating of a Choices supporter by racists with whom he had gotten into an argument, and a report about neo-Nazis recruiting in Winnipeg elementary schools.

"Brochures and user guides will shortly be distributed to all elementary school teachers in Manitoba," Stewart said.

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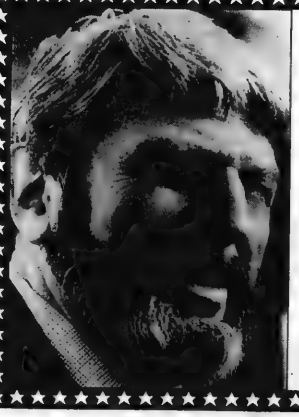

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Purim, Pesach teach lessons about survival, tolerance

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

Can different types of Jews be a part of the same community? According to a recent report, a fringe group of ultra-Orthodox rabbis known as the Union of Orthodox Rabbis declared Conservative and Reform movements to be "not Jewish." Although this pronouncement was made by a fringe group, we have to wonder, can different types of Jews be a part of the same community?

Guest Voices

"I'd like to approach this issue by examining some similarities shared by the holidays of Purim and Passover. (No, starting with the letter "P" doesn't count). Both these holidays celebrate the redemption of the Jewish people. And both teach lessons about the relationship between survival and tolerance.

One similarity between Purim and Passover is the emphasis on charity. For both holidays, there are specific charities to ensure that the poor can celebrate the holiday properly. On Purim, the book of Esther directs people to give *matanot l'evyonim,* gifts to the poor, which the poor can use to celebrate Purim properly. On Passover, the Mishnah (Pesachim 99b) tells us that even the poorest person was provided with four cups of wine for the seder. Even though wine is a luxury item that we wouldn't normally distribute to the poor, we provide it to poor people on the eve of Passover so that they can celebrate the seder properly.

Another similarity is that both holidays emphasize the involvement of children. On Purim, there is a custom to bring young children to hear the Megillah reading (Tur 689). Children dress in costumes and make noise with graggers when Haman's name is mentioned. On Passover, the entire seder is structured to get the children to ask questions (Pesachim 109a, 115b). The four questions which start the seder, are recited by the youngest child present. The afikomen game, where a piece of matzah is held "ransom" by the children of the home, is meant to keep the children involved and excited throughout the seder.

What is the meaning of these similarities? Since both Purim and Passover celebrate survival and redemption, we have large, festive meals. Great care is taken to include all members of the community. On both holidays, hospitality is featured. Even though children are not expected to participate in these holidays until they are older, an exciting, child-friendly atmosphere is created to involve them. The needy, who normally cannot afford these lavish holiday meals, are provided with all their needs. This is because survival includes the entire community, no matter what age or tax bracket. And when celebrating survival, we want to make sure we celebrate as a community, uniting everyone together.

However, if creating a sense of community is the theme of Purim and Passover, a final similarity is quite puzzling. Purim and Passover are the only Jewish holidays that are celebrated on different days by different groups. Purim is celebrated by most communities on the 14th of Adar and by communities in walled cities on the 15th of Adar. The Passover seder is celebrated on the 15th of Nissan. However, in ancient times if one could not bring a Passover sacrifice in time for the seder, they could bring it on the "Second Passover" which was observed a month later, on the 15th of Iyar.

If the purpose of these holidays is to create a sense of community, that every last person is included, than why do they allow for such division, for different groups to observe the holidays on different days?

I think the answer is that in order to have community, we must have tolerance. Unity is possible if we don't demand unanimity. Passover and Purim are community holidays, but we have to realize not everyone in the community is alike. And so the two holidays that emphasize community are the ones that emphasize diversity as well. Unity and tolerance go hand in hand.

This lesson about unity is profoundly important to our people today. As an Orthodox rabbi, I certainly have enormous disagreements with the Reform and Conservative movements. I do not accept the arguments of those who relativize the differences between our movements, and see us as two sides of the same coin. Realistically, the differences between Orthodoxy and the liberal movements are far too profound to be considered a minor dispute.

However, despite these large differences, we can still unite together as one people, if we treat each other with love and tolerance. Unanimity is impossible; people will always have many different opinions. However, we can disagree, without being disagreeable. This is the message of Purim and Passover: A real community must have the flexibility to encompass many types of people.

Rabbi Steinmetz is the spiritual leader of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Synagogue in Montreal.

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From left, Hayden Solomons, Toddy Rotman and Jeff Ross joined some 700 other revelers for the Reena Foundation's annual Mardi Gras Ball, held recently at Toronto's Hockey Hall of Fame. A charity casino, door prizes and a silent auction were featured. [Greg Dean Photo]

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Israel rejects EU intervention in peace process

By MICHAL YUDELMAN and HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — On the eve of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton, Israel rebuffed an attempt by the European Union (EU) to become more involved in the Middle East peace process, according to Israeli and European sources.

"We accept the principle that Europe can assist the process and we welcome the envoy's pragmatic input – he is a veteran and experienced diplomat," a senior government source said, after last week's visit by EU envoy Miguel Moratinos. "However, we will not agree to direct European intervention in either the political or economic process."

Meanwhile, the Clinton administration held consultations with the Palestinian Authority (PA) on approaches toward resolving the current stalemate. Special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross was scheduled to meet with PA representative Hanan Ashrawi.

Palestinian negotiators Saeb Erakat and Mahmoud Abbas were also reportedly scheduled to visit the United States.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat was en route to India to urge Non-Aligned Movement nations "to support Palestinian political rights and condemn the Israeli settlement activity," his adviser, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, told Reuters.

National security adviser Sandy Berger told CNN that it is "premature" to discuss a Camp David-like summit to repair the breach.

Berger added that the United States believes that final and interim status negotiations can proceed simultaneously.

"First of all, that's process over substance," he said of the summit possibility first mentioned by Netanyahu. "What we need to do first is focus on how we can get the parties back into direct negotiations, re-establish a basis of trust between the parties, so they can be dealing with both the remaining issues in the interim agreement, and get on with the fundamental issues of the final-status agreement.

"So, first things first. First things are back to negotiations, deal with the substance. Let's not worry about which camp we meet at."

Berger also said that the United States "wishes that [Har Choma] hadn't gone forward. We think that it erodes confidence in the process."

Foreign Minister David Levy last week rejected the EU's demand to "freeze" the settlements and the construction work on Har Choma and told Moratinos that if the Europeans insist on these issues and their own proposals, they would lose the status of honest brokers in the dispute.

After meeting with Levy, Moratinos said he is formulating a package deal to solve the crisis. His plan, which he intended to present to the EU heads in Brussels and the Americans this week, is based on hammering out a new "code of behavior" for the resumption of talks, based on stopping terrorism and violence on the Palestinian side and halting the settlements on Israel's.

Moratinos told Levy that he met Arafat, who reiterated his commitment to fight terrorism. Moratinos expressed optimism as to the chances of reviving the peace process.

Levy stressed that Israel does not accept the European conditions and objects to basing the final-status negotiations on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. He pointed out that while Europe's suggestions could be helpful, they must complement the American proposals, not replace them.

Levy said Arafat's commitment to fight terrorism must be reflected on the ground, and although certain positive acts have been carried out, Arafat still has a lot to do to stop the violence.

Palestinians favor bombings over peace process: poll

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Support for the peace process among Palestinians in Jerusalem, Hebron and Bethlehem is at an all-time low and support for suicide bombings is at an all-time high, according to a recently published poll.

Statistician Dr. Nabil Kukali of the Beit Sahur-based Palestinian Centre for Public Opinion conducted the poll among 470 adults. Its margin of error is 3.5 percent.

More of those asked preferred that Haidar Abdel-Shafi, known for his opposition to the Oslo Accords, lead final status talks than Mahmoud Abbas, the deputy of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The poll showed 30 percent favor continued negotiations, while 37 percent want to abandon the process and 19 percent want to continue it with new delegates.

Abbas received the support of only 9 percent as head of the delegation, while Abdel-Shafi received 16 percent, Faisal Husseini 11.6 percent, Saeb Erekat 10.5 percent, and Hanan Ashrawi 6.6 percent. This gave the four main local personalities at the pre-Oslo Washington talks almost 45 percent support, considerably more than the aggregate support for PLO officials formerly based in Tunis, who figured in the poll.

However, the poll was limited to towns where support for "inside" Palestinian delegates might be expected to be greatest.

The poll indicated growing support for Hamas, with 18 percent saying they would support it in local elections and 13 percent more supporting Islamic independents. Support for Fatah was 26.6 percent. Again, these three cities tend to show greater support for Hamas than the average.

Almost 49 percent support the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv on March 21 which killed three women and wounded dozens. This is an extremely high percentage, especially considering the question was about a particular attack and was not theoretical.

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Arbel weighs whether to levy charges in Bar On Affair

By LIAT COLLINS and RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Following a seven-hour meeting last weekend between prosecutors and the police team investigating the Bar-On Affair, the State Attorney's Office said it could not yet determine whether indictments would be filed, but would not rule out the possibility after "supplementary investigations."

A spokesperson for State Attorney Edna Arbel issued a terse statement saying that further meetings might be necessary and that it had been decided to carry out supplementary investigations, but "the State Attorney's Office is at the stage of formulating its conclusions.

"We are checking the material and considering whether there is reason to file indictments, but I will say no more than that."

It is a question not only of whether the evidence is sufficient to warrant charges, but also of whether it would stand up in a courtroom.

Arbel said the complementary investigations "would not change the general picture."

Channel 1, which broke the story that kicked off the investigation, said the police are considering recommending that breach of trust charges be filed against Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office. Even if such a recommendation is made, however, the final decision on filing charges rests with the State Attorney's Office, which refused to comment on the speculation.

Yesterday's consultations at the Justice Ministry were attended by Arbel; Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein; National Investigations chief commander Sando Mazor; the head of the police investigating team, Lt.-Cmdr. Ya'acov Grossman; and other senior representatives of the police and State Attorney's Office.

Both the police and the State Attorney's Office played down reports that there had been a dispute over the need for further meetings.

"All I can say is that we have not presented our recommendations regarding possible indictments in the case, and this is definitely not the last consultation in the probe," said Mazor.

Sources said Mazor was referring to possible new developments first broadcast on Channel 2, in which MK Aryeh Deri's former lawyer, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, and *Ma'ariv* publisher Ofer Nimrodi were accused of plotting to appoint Avi-Yitzhak as attorney-general, to help both Deri and Nimrodi in their ongoing trials.

Police are now examining this evidence to see if it warrants a full-scale investigation.

Former *Ma'ariv* reporter Erez Rotem, the source of these allegations, was expected to give evidence this week.

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Israel and the Palestinians are at a tense standstill

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Arafat, brushing aside the accusation, sent a letter to President Bill Clinton urging him to get Israel to stop building on disputed land.

Clinton has been working on a plan that American officials hope will help the two sides break the deadlock.

One of the central elements under consideration is Netanyahu's call for moving to accelerated final-status talks, rather than getting bogged down in negotiations on outstanding elements of the Israeli-Palestinian agreements.

The Palestinians have reacted cautiously to the idea, saying that they would consider it as long as Israel fulfills its commitments under the Oslo accords, as the agreements are known, including carrying out further redeployments in the West Bank, opening a safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza Strip and approving the opening of a seaport and airport in Gaza.

Reports before Netanyahu's departure indicated that Clinton would press the Israeli leader to make concessions to the Palestinians in order to rebuild an atmosphere of trust.

U.S. officials said talks in Washington between Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright were "difficult," particularly in the discussion of Israel's construction at Har Choma and in existing Jewish settlements.

In Tel Aviv, thousands of Israelis attended a peace rally last Saturday night to appeal for a renewal of the peace negotiations.

The event took place at the square named after Yitzhak Rabin.

Labor party leader Shimon Peres, who spoke at the site for the first time since the assassination, said he felt as if he was speaking "in the name of Yitzhak" as well.

Peres called for a continuation of the peace process.

"The road is a long one," he said, "but we must continue on it to reach the peace of truth."

During his trip to the United States, Netanyahu is expected to meet with leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements to discuss the Knesset's decision last week to give preliminary approval to a bill that would make all conversions conducted in Israel subject to confirmation by the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate.

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Clinton may pressure Netanyahu

That decision drew sharp criticism from the Reform and Conservative movements, some of whose officials have warned that passage of the bill could drive a wedge between Israel and Diaspora Jewry.

Under a compromise reached by the coalition parties, all further legislative action on the bill will now be frozen until "all possible avenues for compromise" with the non-Orthodox streams of Judaism have been exhausted.

Netanyahu will be accompanied at his meetings with American Jewish leaders by Third Way Knesset member Alexander Lubotsky, who is mediating between the religious parties and the non-Orthodox movements.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Does Camp David II loom?

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Benjamin Netanyahu's meeting with Bill Clinton at the White House on April 7 could usher in a new phase in Israel's often rancorous negotiations with the Palestinians.

If all the parties concur, the step-by-step approach implicit in the Oslo peace process may be replaced by a Camp David style accelerated set of talks aimed at reaching a comprehensive settlement of final status issues within nine months instead of two years.

Netanyahu, who proposed the concept last summer, resurrected it in March as a way of defusing the current crisis in Israel's relationship with the Palestine Authority (PA), headed by Yasser Arafat.

Since the Hebron accord was signed in mid-January, what little trust there was between Netanyahu and Arafat has vanished. It has disappeared under the impact of the Har Choma housing project in East Jerusalem, Israel's decision to close four Palestinian offices in the Old City allegedly affiliated with the PA, the PA's dissatisfaction with the scope of Israel's first of three planned withdrawals from the West Bank and the renewal of the suicide bombing campaign by Islamic militants.

These events have not only generated a great deal of mutual bitterness and suspicion, but effectively frozen the peace process in its tracks.

The PA, whose goal is a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital, claims that Israel's unilateral actions create facts on the ground, predetermine permanent status negotiations and thus violate the spirit of Olso.

The Israeli government, whose objective is to prevent the emergence of a Palestinian state, claims that its moves are in accord with Oslo. Israel, furthermore, maintains that the PLO sanctions suicide bombings and is behind the current wave of Palestinian violence in the territories.

The breakdown of communications between Netanyahu and Arafat has prompted speculation that a new beginning is required in order to restore at least a modicum of trust and a sense of momentum.

Netanyahu contends that Oslo, of which he was never fond, should be supplanted by a go-for-broke procedure that would enable Israel and the PA to deal with the most contentious issues — Jerusalem, borders, refugees, settlements — on an urgent basis.

This strategy, which the United States regards as worthy of exploration, has the support of Israeli cabinet ministers who opposed the Hebron agreement. Certain that it will fail, they appear to regard it as a last chance to freeze the status quo and therefore scuttle Oslo.

Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor party, considers a plunge into final status talks as feasible. But Ehud Barak, his putative successor, is doubtful.

The Palestinians have expressed deep skepticism, claiming that final status talks at this critical juncture would leave Israel in control of most of the West Bank and thereby strengthen its hand. Consequently, Arafat has rejected the idea as a "peace-for-peace" ploy, while chief PA negotiator Saeb Erekat has described it as a "gimmick." Egypt, too, is lukewarm.

To allay Palestinian fears that his initiative is a trick designed to forestall Israeli redeployments from the West Bank, Netanyahu has declared that both sides can return to the current interim arrangement if speeded-up negotiations should flounder.

King Hussein of Jordan, an advocate of accelerated talks, is of the view that the Palestinians can be brought to the table, provided Israel offers confidence-building measures and further eases the closure of the territories.

The Palestinians, however, desire much more. As a price for resuming negotiations, they want Israel to stop building in East Jerusalem and an assurance that they will gain possession of much of the West Bank. Israel, in addition to demanding an absolute commitment from the PA to suppress terrorism, has warned Arafat to lower his expectations. Can these conflicting demands be reconciled?

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◆ Gedera, Kiryat Malachi	02-9910505	◆ Kiryat Yam	04-8757332	◆ Ramat Gan, Cevaxam	03-6738121	◆ Tirat Hacarmel	04-8573685
◆ Hadera	06-6248323	◆ Kiryon	04-8769102	◆ Ramat Hasharon	03-5403464	◆ Yavne	08-9436670
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An embryonic battle

By Jonathan Shiff

Danny and Ruti Nachmani were married in 1984, and were unable to conceive. In 1987, Ruti had a hysterectomy. They waged a legal battle for the right to use a surrogate mother, and underwent in vitro fertilization, leading to the conception of 11 embryos.

Before the embryos were implanted, however, Danny left his wife, moved in with his current companion, and then sued to prevent Ruti from using them. The resultant case took four years to wind its way through the Haifa District Court and two Supreme Court cases, and was seen by many as a clash between Ruti's right to bear children (these are the last embryos she can produce) and Danny's right not to have children with Ruti.

Finally, the two reached a settlement that should end the litigation once and for all. According to the press, the outlines of the settlement are simple: Danny will have the right to choose; if he wants visitation rights, he will have to support the children. Otherwise he is freed from the financial obligation involved.

The public rightfully seemed to heave a sigh of relief, as this family's tragedy finally came to an end. At the risk of being a party-pooper, though, I would argue that the settlement described will ultimately not be enforced by the courts.

What will happen if Ruti does not have the financial resources to provide the children with a decent standard of living? On the one hand, it can be argued that Danny only agreed to let Ruti use the embryos in return for her undertaking not to ask for money, and forcing him to support them would make her commitment meaningless.

On the other hand, should the children be bound by an agreement their parents made and which deprives them of proper support?

Although this case seems unusual, the courts have dealt with cases where divorcing couples agree on the level of child support. In order to protect the fathers in these situations, lawyers developed a practice of including a clause whereby the children are not allowed to sue.

The courts have held repeatedly over the years that such clauses are invalid. In the words of Justice Dov Levin in the Rosen case from 1985: "The Courts are appointed to protect the welfare of minors, and the court must not validate arrangements which oppress the child and deny him his legal right to sue his father-progenitor to take care of his needs."

The attitude of the courts can be summed up as follows: When people bring a child into the world, they are both responsible for that child. Contractual arrangements between the parents are not upheld in cases where the parent with custody does not have the means to support the child. This approach is based both on the moral idea that where the child's rights conflict with the parent's, the welfare of the child must come first, and on the economic perspective which requires that society should not have to pay for children when the parents can do so on their own.

Some people might say that the Nachmani case is different, since unimplanted embryos cannot have rights. In my view, focusing on that fact merely clouds the central issue of the parents' responsibility. I believe that the courts should and will apply the same principles they do to other divorce settlements.

There is no need to get into the loaded issue of when life actually begins in order to conclude that

[Cont'd. on page 56]

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Hillel helps inspire college students to 'do Jewish'

By MICHAEL DAVIS
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE — Every once in a while, life is like a Fellini movie.

So it was at the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel here, where recently, some 250 Hillel lay leaders from North America crowded the mezzanine. Imagine the scene: wall-to-wall Jews, all eager for an awaiting lunch in the ballroom, when who should arrive but the Easter Bunny, basket in tow.

Absurd doesn't begin to describe the sight of a six-foot-five rabbit madly weaving his way through a crowd that included five-foot-six rabbis.

But, curiously, this crowd seemed oblivious to the bunny, as if this kind of thing happens all the time. Bunny, on the other hand, quickly turned tail.

As I watched him flee, it became clear to me why the convention delegates seemed not to be distracted by this Fellini-esque moment.

When you work for Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, you are constantly aware of the influences of the dominant culture, but you can't let that distract or deter you.

Like the Blues Brothers, Hillel is on a mission from God. Its task, to inspire a generation of college students to "do Jewish," is daunting.

All but the most committed Jewish students tend to blend into the pastiche of campus life, where friendships are forged not by ethnicity or religious background but by secular interests, residence hall roulette, fraternities and sororities.

No longer bound by family routine and parental oversight for the first time in their lives, college students have to consider for themselves whether to affiliate Jewishly. Mom's not there to say "Go to services Friday night, honey." Dad's not around to say "Date a Jewish guy this weekend, willya?" When kids head off to college, Jewish becomes a choice for the first time in their lives.

The mission of Hillel in the 1990s is to make that choice tempting to college kids.

I don't think we can overstate the importance of Hillel's role in Jewish continuity and identity. Fortunately, the organization has Richard Joel as its president and international director.

Joel, creative, quick-witted and clever, is guiding Hillel through a much-needed renaissance.

His kickoff speech was spiced with one-liners and off-the-cuff humor, but he was neither a jester nor a fool. He projected black-and-white photographs of college students on a big screen behind him as he spoke, all the better to keep the audience's attention focused on those who matter most.

And at a cocktail reception and dinner with a host of Baltimore's top Jewish philanthropists assembled, Joel scored points with his clarity, charm and enthusiasm.

While other Jewish organizations fuss and flounder, bloated by bureaucracy and waste, Hillel seems to be moving forward with speed and a surer sense of purpose.

Joel has condensed a plan of attack into a single sentence: Hillel wants to maximize the number of Jews on campus "doing Jewish" with other Jews.

His strategy is one of engagement. Rather than trying to coerce students to drop by the Hillel House and "be like us," students are encouraged to express their Judaism in whatever way seems comfortable for them, whether it be through activism, community service, or social events. "Be like yourself" is the message, and it seems to be working.

Hillel's Jewish Campus Service Corps is thriving on major campuses and a $200 million endowment campaign is underway to rebuild aging Hillel facilities and erect new structures on campuses across the United States.

Despite the secular distractions of a hip-hop youth culture, Hillel is neither detracted nor deterred. It's determined.

Police target bad drivers

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Drivers can now expect to "meet police vans every seven or 10 kilometres," in an attempt by police and the Transport Ministry to reduce road accidents, Traffic Police chief Bertie Ohayon recently told a Tel Aviv press conference.

Scores of police vehicles and unmarked cars will now patrol 700 kilometres of intercity highways in the year-long, NIS 15 million project, dubbed Project 700.

Highways being included in the new project are those where 60 percent of all accidents occurred last year. The areas being monitored will be marked with large yellow signs. Fifty more policemen are being deployed on the roads for the duration of the project.

All the police vehicles will be equipped with the latest state-of-the art electronic cameras and other devices.

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Embryo fight

[Cont'd. from page 55]

once children are conceived, both parents bear responsibility for their upkeep. Furthermore, it would be misleading to argue that this might have bearing on other issues, such as abortion, because there is no question involved of the woman's right over her body.

The only issue is the rights of the children once they are born. The circumstances surrounding the Nachmani case are tragic, and most people feel relief and compassion towards them after all that they have been through. Nonetheless, that feeling does not mean the arrangement the couple made has to stand.

If the Nachmani children are born, there is no logical reason to enforce the agreement their parents made. To do so would be to discriminate between the Nachmani children and those who had the good fortune to already have been born when their parents divorced.

The Week in Israel

Mar. 31

• The IDF demolished the Hebron-area home of the suicide bomber who carried out the Tel Aviv attack that killed three Israelis and wounded dozens of others.The High Court rejected a petition from family members to prevent the destruction and gave permission to the army to demolish the home.

April 1

• The Knesset passed first reading of the bill that would give Orthodox rabbis sole authority over conversions to Judaism conducted in Israel. The measure was approved 51-32 with seven abstentions, after a compromise was reached to suspend the legislative process to give the various sides time to work out a compromise.

• Two Palestinians blew themselves up near Jewish communities in the Gaza Strip in what the IDF said appeared to be failed suicide attacks. *(Islamic Jihad subsequently claimed responsibility for the failed attacks.)*

• Unrest continued in the West Bank. The IDF shot dead two Palestinian demonstrators, one in Nablus and the other in Hebron.

April 2

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai began a visit to Washington.

• Labor Party Knesset members held a stormy meeting about the absence of several senior members from the vote earlier in the week on the conversion bill. Notably absent from the voted were Ehud Barak, Yossi Beilin and Ephraim Sneh, all of whom are vying for the party leadership.

April 3

• Israel dropped its extradition request for Hamas leader Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzook, who is jailed in New York on suspicion of providing support for terrorist activities.

April 4

• Police officials were reported in the media to be planning a fivefold increase to their international crime-fighting division to combat organized crime from Russia. Officials are particularly concerned about money-laundering activities.

With files from the JTA.

Barak won't join Beilin in fighting unity government

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Three of Labor's four leadership candidates have expressed unreserved opposition to joining a national unity government. Front-runner Ehud Barak, however, a staunch opponent of a unity government, refused to join in an anti-unity move with his most serious rival, MK Yossi Beilin.

All this happened at ZOA House in Tel Aviv, where the party's local branch held its convention in advance of the national convention next month. It was the first time all four candidates – Barak, Beilin, and MKs Ephraim Sneh and Shlomo Ben-Ami — appeared together, as Barak had until now refused to appear with the others.

Beilin, in his address, denied claims that "Barak is a Netanyahu clone. That is untrue. The fact is that Barak is 10 times better...If both of us together issue a joint statement against entering a national unity framework with the Likud, then such a government could never be."

But Barak, apparently unwilling to appear to be following Beilin's lead, replied that "the two of us are no better than Sneh or Ben-Ami, or than any central committee member. We must be weaned from the notion that there are masters in the party who can decide without consulting the membership."

He reiterated his position that the current government "must be brought down, not saved."

Of the candidates, only Sneh did not speak out against a national unity government, though he did not support it.

The chief national unity advocate, party chair Shimon Peres, left on a 10-day trip to South America. The Barak camp charges that Peres is eager to bring Labor into the Netanyahu government before the June 3 primary in which his successor will be elected. If he succeeds, Peres would enter the government as Labor's senior minister and will thereby cement his leadership regardless of who wins the primary.

According to the just-concluded party membership drive, only some 160,000 people will be able to participate in the primary. This is down from the membership drive of less than two years ago when 282,000 registered as dues-paying members.

Meanwhile the possible national unity government was the main topic at the executive session of the National Religious Party, which expressed near-unanimous opposition to the notion, and especially to the possibility that the Likud might negotiate national unity without consulting its coalition partners.

The coalition agreement, said party secretary-general Zevulun Orlev, stipulates clearly that no new members may be brought into the coalition without the prior consent of the present members. "To do otherwise would be outright betrayal," Orlev stressed.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer said he was "far from certain that Netanyahu has actually decided to go ahead with national unity and in any case we are assured that no move will be considered without the present coalition partners."

EZRATH NASHIM
Sarah Herzog Memorial Hospital
mourns the passing of its longtime friend, board member and benefactor
NATHAN SILVER ז"ל
and expresses its heartfelt condolences to
Lily
and Shoel, Debra, Joey, and Bonnie and grandchildren

בית חנוך שלם
United Synagogue Day School
The Board of Directors, Administration,
Faculty and Parent Body
extend sincere condolences to
EILEEN SILVER, President
and her family
on the untimely passing of her father-in-law
NATHAN SILVER, ז"ל
(in Israel)
May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

In memory of
Nathan Silver ז"ל
With sincere condolences
to all members of his family.
Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University

The Officers and Board
of the
United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.
mourn the passing of
NATHAN SILVER ז"ל
beloved husband of Lil and
father of Shoel, Debra, Joey and Bonnie
Our deepest sympathies are extended to the entire family
Harvey Wolfe *President*
Steve Ain *Executive Vice-President*

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto
We mourn the passing of
NATHAN SILVER ז"ל
Life Member, Leader of our Community,
Lifelong Supporter of Jewish Education and
Builder of the State of Israel.
Our sincere sympathy and condolences go out to the family on the loss of a most special human being.
המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים
Sheldon Goodman *President*
Les Scheininger *Chairman of the Board*
The Board of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

Likud - Betar, Tagar
mourn the passing of our dear chaver
NATHAN SILVER ז"ל
a dedicated lifelong supporter of the Jabotinsky Movement, tireless worker for the Jewish people, and the State of Israel. He was a true example of Hadar that brought out the best in all of us.
We extend our condolences to his devoted wife, Lily, their children Shoel and Eileen, Debra and Yossi Karta, Joey, Bonnie and Eyal Ranen, his grandchildren and the entire Silver Family.
May his memory be a blessing to all.
תנצב"ה
Likud
Betar Tagar
Johanna Jabotinsky Chapter

Nazi snitch line poses choice between bad and worse

[Cont'd. from page 1]

They believe that these despicables will meet their ultimate justice in the world beyond.

On that point, I cannot disagree. But there is more to this than the concern for ultimate justice. This entire fiasco has been a blot on Canada's reputation. It is an insult to the memories of our youngest and brightest, who went overseas to fight evil on behalf of Canada, only to find that the perpetrators of this evil were welcomed into Canada.

Surviving veterans are justifiably angry at the thought that they and their best friends put their lives on the line, but the cause they were championing was being undermined by a bunch of anti-Semitic bureaucrats who quite simply hijacked the Canadian ethos.

Only because there is now no time to waste with lengthy investigations must we reluctantly but determinedly endorse the quick route to sending as many Nazis packing as possible.

This will be interpreted as our way of salvaging our past, of saying a loud "no" to those who stole our heritage by disallowing Jews and welcoming Nazis into Canada, of atoning for the sins of yesterday, and of sending a clear signal to any present and future hatemongers and perpetrators of evil — a signal that Canada will never again be a haven for the heartless, a home for the despicable.

This is not merely a Jewish issue. This is a Canadian issue of immediate moment. In our dogged pursuit of this burning issue, we will help Canada to get rid of some ghosts of the past, and to set a firm footing for the future.

Precisely because we did not adequately pursue the noble course when it was available, must we now take the ugly road because there is no alternative.

To do so is undoubtedly painful, and we must be sensitive to that pain. But forge ahead we must, with pain and with resolve.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

STATELY MEETING IN WASHINGTON

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright greets Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai last week in Washington. Mordechai signed a number of purchase agreements with the Americans during the visit.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

A TRUE ZIONIST AND FRIEND OF ISRAEL

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University deeply mourn the passing of our devoted Friend and Benefactor

NATHAN SILVER Z"L

Our sincere sympathy to his wife Lil, his children and grandchildren.

May his memory be as a blessing to all who were privileged to have known him.

Dr. Ralph Halbert — Hon. Chairman, International Board of Governors

Dr. Charles Gold — National President

Jack Frieberg — President, Toronto Chapter

Supreme Court agrees to hear appeal of alleged war criminals

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Last July, Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen ruled that a March 1, 1996 meeting between Ted Thompson, then assistant deputy attorney general, and Julius Issac, Chief Justice of the Federal Court, coupled with a discussion by Isaac with the presiding judge, James Jerome, gave the appearance of interference in the independence of the courts. He granted the stay, bringing the cases to an end.

That decision was overturned by the Federal Court of Appeal, prompting a leave application by the three alleged war criminals.

The decision to set a time limit during which the cases must be heard indicates "the Supreme Court is giving direction to other courts to hear the case with due diligence," said Bernie Farber, a spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress. "They understand the need for haste and that these are not ordinary cases."

Pointing to the judgment of the Federal Court of Appeal, a report prepared by former Ontario Chief Justice Charles Dubin for the Justice Department and a decision of the Canadian Judicial Council, all of whom examined the case, Farber said he was confident the Supreme Court will deny a stay. (None agreed with Cullen that the cases should be stayed.)

If the Supreme Court turns down the appeal, the cases would be sent back to the Federal Court for a disposition of other preliminary legal issues. Only after these are heard would the cases proceed on the merits.

Federal authorities are seeking to strip the three men of their Canadian citizenship and deport them for allegedly lying about their involvement in Nazi war crimes. The three are among 12 men federal authorities have said they will seek to deport. One of the 12 has died and the final two were served with legal documents in late March. Their names will not be revealed until their cases are filed with the Federal Court, said Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Cartoon Contest

We are seeking cartoons dealing with the subject of Israel. In particular, we are looking for cartoons that have artistic and intellectual merit and which tastefully convey one of the many truths about life in Israel. They may be funny, serious, satiric or cute.

Who can enter: Adults and teenagers are eligible.

How to enter: You may submit as many entries as you like. The judges will choose cartoons that are well-illustrated, clever and tasteful. Two cartoons will be selected from the teenage cartoonists; two will be selected from the remaining submissions. The cartoons must be drawn in black and white. Please write your name, age, address and phone number on the back of your submission.

You may mail or deliver your submission to: *CJN* Community Contests, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4. If you want us to return the cartoon, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. onWednesday, April 30, 1997.

Prizes: The "winners" will be published in *The CJN* and each cartoonist will receive $25. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: The winning cartoonists will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Friday, May 2, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning submissions will be published in *The CJN* of May 8, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly afterwards. We look forward to receiving your entries.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

The Officers and Board of Directors of

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

express their sincere condolences to

Lily Silver and Family on the sad passing of

Nathan Silver ז"ל

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Bronstein helps educate public about Inflammatory Bowel Disease

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — From infancy, Diane Bronstein suffered from cramping, nausea and other debilitating problems.

When her two children were young, she underwent gall bladder surgery during which surgeons found severe inflammation in her small intestine and removed part of it.

For the next year, however, symptoms persisted. Weakened and weighing only 67 pounds, she was referred to a gastroenterologist, who diagnosed Crohn's disease.

She says that although she was deathly ill, she was "thrilled" to get a diagnosis. "Even if it wasn't curable, I could finally get a handle on it."

Wanting to learn as much as she could about her condition, she became involved in the local Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC), which has 80 chapters.

Twenty-five years later, Bronstein is national president of the foundation, a voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to finding the cause and cure for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), funding medical research, and providing educational programs.

Bronstein, who travels across the country speaking with doctors, supporters and IBD sufferers, says the foundation has helped establish two major research centres for intestinal diseases — one at the University of Calgary, and the other at McMaster University in Hamilton.

"We're dealing with an illness that isn't pretty," she says. "This is a closet disease that no one wants to talk about, and we have to make more people aware of IBD and the escalating number of cases in Canada."

She points out that three-quarters of the cases of ulcerative colitis, a form of IBD, develop before age 30.

Crohn's disease, which can affect any part of the gastrointestinal tract, from the esophagus to the anus, is most frequent among Europeans, especially Jews.

Bronstein says the more people she meets, "the more humbled I feel because I realize how lucky I am to function normally after being so ill for so long."

As a child, she says, she didn't know that people didn't have a stomach ache most of the time. "As soon as I finished eating, I had severe cramping."

Doctors often told her parents that their daughter was "a sensitive and high strung child with a nervous stomach."

She cautions that recurring symptoms of vomiting, low grade fever, fatigue, weight loss, diarrhea, and stomach pain may be exacerbated by stress, "but stress is not the cause."

She notes that the disease, which is characterized by alternating periods of flare-up and remission, is not contagious and many people who suffer from Crohn's disease also suffer from allergies — environmental, food and asthma. She emphasizes the importance of seeing a gastroenterologist when these symptoms persist.

The CCFC issued its first research grant in 1976 and since its inception in 1974, more than $16 million has been raised to aid research and education.

"The money raised by CCFC has led to the discovery of new medications and therapies which are bringing relief to tens of thousands of sufferers in Canada," Bronstein says.

One of the major fundraising projects of CCFC is the annual Heel 'n' Wheel-a-Thon which raised more than $285,000 in its 1996 inaugural year. Thousands of people of all ages across Canada participated — walking, skating, on bicycles, with strollers and walkers. Among other fundraising projects are a hamburger day and a cake and cookie campaign.

Bronstein says it is important to learn to live with the disease. "Will you let the disease control your life or will you control your life and deal with what comes along?"

The foundation provides information "so that victims, parents and their families can cope with the disease. We are delighted that the foundation has volunteers who do not suffer from IBD. Canada has the leading edge in research today. We are attracting very high calibre world class researchers."

CCFC has a home page [http: www.ccfc.ca] that provides information on IBD diseases and the activities on the foundation. For information call 1-800-387-1479.

Torontonians Kerzner, Starr are honored at Shaare Zedek conference

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Torontonians Joseph Kerzner and Nathan Starr were recently honored for their dedication and generosity to the Jerusalem-based hospital at the Shaare Zedek Medical Center Inaugural North American Conference here.

The presentation was made by Menno Ratzker, chairman of the Shaare Zedek International board of governors, and Morris Talansky, executive vice-president of the American committee for Shaare Zedek.

At the conference attended by about 100 people, participants were offered current information on medical conditions in Israel and new developments at Shaare Zedek by Prof. Jonathan Halevy, Shaare Zedek's director general; Dr. Rachel Adatto-Levy, deputy medical director; Dr. Uzi Beller, director of the Division of Gynecological Surgery and Oncology; and Prof. Arthur Eidelman, head of the Neonatology Department.

Other Canadian participants at the conference included Bernie Abrams, national president of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, who chaired one of the sessions; Judy Feld-Carr, featured speaker at one of the luncheons; Sheila Dropkin, national executive director of the Canadian foundation, and her husband Arthur; and Dr. Leonard Makawka, a Toronto native, graduate of the University of Toronto, who is now head of the Comprehensive Liver Disease and Treatment Centre at St. Vincent Medical Centre, Los Angeles.

Shaare Zedek will be hosting an International Symposium on the Genetics of Breast and Ovarian Cancer in Jerusalem on June 9. Dr. Mary-Claire King of the University of Washington, Seattle, will present the keynote address.

Additional information on Shaare Zedek may be obtained from its Web site, [http://www.szmc.org.il] or by calling 416-781-3584 or 1-800-387-3595.

Tri-lateral program launched

JERUSALEM – Dr. Arnold Noyek, executive director of the Isabel Silverman Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO) and Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at Mount Sinai Hospital, has announced plans for a CISEPO Canada-Israel-Palestinian Authority medical and health services program.

The CISEPO program will establish a tri-lateral, collaborative relationship among the medical communities of Canada, Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

The CISEPO Canada-Israel-Palestinian Authority program will involve five projects: volunteer medical services, continuing medical education, fellowships for peace, visiting professors for peace and evaluation and medical systems planning.

Noyek said the first project in the program was recently completed.

The workshop on hearing loss in Gaza, which was held at the Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children facilities in Gaza City, was planned and attended by audiologists, educators and medical specialists from the three participating jurisdictions.

What next? Veggie lamb shanks?

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Health-conscious Israelis can look forward this Passover to spreading the traditional charoset on organic matzah.

The Israeli Association for Organic Agriculture said it had invested some $33,000 to organize the marketing and distribution of the matzah, as well as other kosher-for-Passover goods, including organic baby food and organic grape juice.

Association officials said the price of the unleavened bread made from wheat that was not treated with any chemical fertilizers would be about 30 percent more than regular matzah.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Artist exposes the richness of life's experience

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's a leap from a master's degree in political science and economics to painting, but the joy in Ethel Harris' premiere exhibition, Water and Sky, attests to the success of the transition.

There was another major departure along the way when Harris earned her master's degree in English language and literature. In 1990, she published *The King and the Flea and Other Folk Tales*, a collection of Jewish folk stories, and in 1994, *A Rage of Poppies*, a book of poems for which she also designed the cover.

As a child she yearned to draw but was discouraged because it was considered a waste of time. Just four years ago when she was in her early 60s, a friend recommended an art instructor, Jim Thornton, who understood and fostered her long-submerged dream.

She studied drawing and in time, began to discover the possibilities of oils. "Once I got into paint, I was totally hooked," she declares, adding, "It's my metier, my life!"

It has become, she says, a way of seeing the world new and alive as she did in childhood and at the same time, bringing to her vision all the richness of life's experience.

Despite the exhilaration, Harris concedes that painting is an ongoing struggle. "You have to grow, take risks." And she does, always experimenting with color and light.

Many of her works are expansive — sweeping stretches of sky and water.

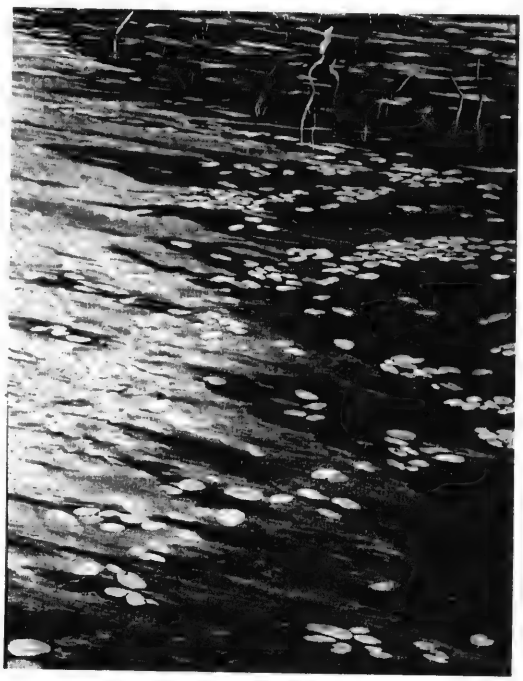
There is a dichotomy, not so much in subject matter, as in site.

She expresses what she knows and feels, both in Florida and at the family's lakeside cottage north of Huntsville. But in her Florida sunsets and sunrises, the waters, the clouds above, are warm oranges, brilliant purples, yellows. In Muskoka, the sun may set or rise in a cool sky over blue-green waters. The elements are the same but the sense is different.

Harris has a sureness, a confidence, which enables her to reproduce small studies on large canvases with considerable facility. She also makes her own monoprints, but she paints entirely in oils.

As well as the lofty skies and wide waters, she focuses on the more intimate scene, lilies afloat. Two large canvases placed side by side in the gallery, offer a telling contrast. One, a lily pond in a Florida public garden, is all stillness and serenity. The other, a drift of lily pads on a Muskoka lake, is restless motion.

The show runs until April 24, Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 12 to 5, at the Rebecca Gallery, 317 Grace St., north-east corner of Harbord. Telephone 416-537-8213.



"Muskoka Lillies" from Ethel Harris' Water and Sky exhibit.

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Play ruins chance to shatter hospital myths

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Some day a good play will be written about a hospital not being a good place to go to when you are sick, but *Arrhythmia & Blues*, by Toronto writer Howard Wiseman is not it.

It's true that in the play's hospital a patient is misdiagnosed, another gets the wrong medicine and a hypochondriac ties the staff up in knots. But this devastation is not held together by a credible story line and an opportunity to shatter some hospital myths goes awry.

This is a pity because, at times, *Arrhythmia & Blues* does come close to showing how people can get hurt by the medical and hospital system. "It took the magic of life out of me," says Mel (Andrew Massingham) discussing his treatment by a psychiatrist. At another point he tells Dr. Margolis (Catherine Hayos) that "You may listen, but you don't hear."

Unfortunately, Wiseman pins his story on a TV sitcom writer (played by Rena Polley) and in doing so parts company with real people. What is it about young playwrights that makes them think we only want to hear about beautiful people and the jet set?

Though the play does capture some of the Russian roulette that goes on in hospitals and the way patients get lost in the shuffle, the characters are not real flesh and blood and it is impossible to identify with them.

Obviously the production team gave a lot of thought to what goes on in hospitals (the sound of a murmur in a heart patient is beautifully reproduced) but director Jim Warren's frenetic moving to and fro of hospital curtains impedes, not clarifies, the story line, or whatever there is of it.

It runs at the Theatre Centre, Queen Street West, near Ossington Avenue, until April 20.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

TO PETRA AND BEYOND

PETRA — Journeying from Damascus to Cairo in 1812, the Swiss explorer Burckhardt began to hear tales from his guide of an extraordinary city of stone hidden in the mountains near the town of Wadi Musa in what is now southern Jordan. Desirous of seeing these ruins, of which the local Arabs were highly protective, he devised a clever ruse.

By saying he wanted to slaughter a goat in honor of Haroun, the biblical Aaron whose alleged tomb was nearby, Burckhardt was permitted passage through the serpentine canyon known as the Siq into Petra.

A view of the treasury in Petra.

Previously, all knowledge of this "rose-red" city and its thousands of rock-hewn obelisks, tombs and dwellings had been lost to the Western world since the time of the Crusades.

A decade ago, Petra drew an average of 100 visitors per day. Now it receives ten times that number: more than a third of a million last year.

The Jordanians have built much-needed tourist facilities and enacted protective ecological measures to handle the increase in visitors.

Israelis in particular have long been fascinated by Petra. Before the Israeli-Jordanian peace, some even risked their lives by sneaking to the once-forbidden city across the once-closed border. Last year, more than 100,000 Israelis breezed across the Eilat-Aqaba border to Petra, some staying in Jordan only one day.

What is it about this ancient Nabatean city that, like the pyramids, works so fervently on the imagination? G. Lankester Harding, one-time director of the Jordanian Department of Antiquities, said it best in his classic *The Antiquities of Jordan* (1959): "Petra is everything that the travel agencies write about — except rose red; mostly the sandstone is of a dark red ochre shade, with fantastic bandings of yellow, grey and white in some places. The only part which could be called rose red is the Khaznah area; and I know nothing to equal the first sight of this huge rock-cut facade glowing in brilliant sunlight after one emerges from the darkness of the great cleft which leads into the city.

"I have visited Petra very many times now, but always that first, breath-taking vision remains in my mind; nor does familiarity breed contempt here, for at every visit one has to rein up the horse or stop in one's tracks and gaze astonished... (at) the glowing brilliance of the rock."

Indeed, Petra glows so brilliantly in the touristic imagination that, for many, it outshines Jordan's other archeological sites, of which there are multitudes. The Department of Antiquities is presently conducting a survey of them, according to Dr. Khairieh Amr, a senior archeologist.

"Right now we have about 20,000 registered sites, but we expect the final number to be between 100,000 and 500,000," she said.

Situated at Petra's back door, the town of Wadi Musa is one of the spots where, supposedly, Moses struck the rock and water gushed forth; the name means Valley of Moses. "We discovered 87 archeological sites in the region of Wadi Musa alone," Amr said. "We've been trying for a long time to tell people that Petra is not an archeological island. There are a lot of archeological sites in the surrounding area. Even archeologists go into Petra and see only Petra."

Visitors who spend more than a day or two in Jordan will be amply rewarded by the profusion of memorable sites. They include Jerash and Pella, spectacular ex-Roman towns in the north; Amman, the bustling capital with 1.5 million people; Madaba, the Dead Sea-region village with its famous 6th-century mosaic of Jerusalem; and Wadi Rum, where visitors trek past sandstone mountains to watch spectacular desert sunsets.

Then there's Aqaba, the historic Red Sea port city whose shuks contain many bargains; Kerak, one of several massive Crusader forts; Qasr al-Azraq, one of numerous desert castles lying in picturesque ruin; and Mt. Nebo, the panoramic lookout over the Jordan Valley from which Moses supposedly glimpsed the Promised Land. On clear mornings, the towers and domes of Jerusalem are visible on the distant diaphanous horizon. It's a poignant and beguiling view.

Bill Gladstone recently traveled to Jordan and Israel at the invitation of the tourism ministries of both countries. He flew Toronto to Amman via Royal Jordanian and returned from Tel Aviv via Air Canada.

Howard Johnson going to Israel

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The Howard Johnson hotel chain, is coming to Israel.

The US chain is expected to announce an agreement with the Israel Lands Development Corporation(ILDC) to hold the franchise for the Palestinian Authority, Greece, Turkey and Cyprus. ILDC has four hotels organized as the Israel Resort Hotels (IRH) chain, which are apparently going to become part of the Howard Johnson network.

Here to sign the agreement is Eric Pfeffer, president of HFS, the New Jersey-based holding company which includes, in addition to Howard Johnson, the Days Inn, Ramada and Park Inn chains. HFS last year had an annual turnover of $800 million (US), generated from some 4,200 hotels in dozens of countries.

The two companies are also expected to announce the results of negotiations with additional three- and four-star hotels in Israel and elsewhere in the region. Under the Howard Johnson framework, IRH intends to expand to seven hotels and 1,500 rooms by the end of next year.

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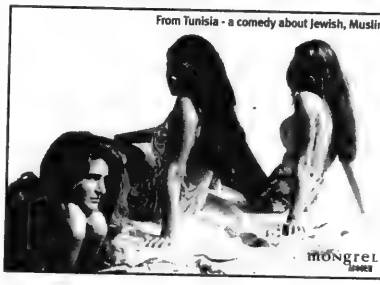

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Centre Spotlight a venue for diverse Jewish performers

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Susan Jackson has a promising career as a stand up comic if she ever decides to give up her day job as the director of continuity at UJA-Federation of Greater Toronto.

Jackson recently emceed a Celebration of Jewish Women's Talent at Centre Spotlight, a showcase for Yiddish and Jewish performers.

Actress Gloria Valentine is the artistic director of this cabaret-style show held monthly at the Winchevsksy Centre.

Centre Spotlight's celebration of women's talent in honor of International Women's Day drew a multi-generational audience of 130 people, filling the auditorium to capacity.

Performers included Yiddish translator Hindy Nosek-Abelson, folk trio Marcia Beck and Friends Lisa, actor Eva Lang, writer Dorothy Lichtblau, singer Lenka Lichtenberg, soprano Honey Novick, dancer Shula Saltsman, poet Libby Scheier and ventriloquist Judy Shier.

All the performers donated their time for this event, co-sponsored by the Morris Winchevsky School and Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS), a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and nurturing the Jewish and Yiddish performing arts.

Centre Spotlight is the brainchild of Valentine, a local actress/singer who performs in Yiddish and English. The founding president of JASS, Valentine perceived a need to showcase Jewish artists.

In the mid-'80s, she became interested in promoting Yiddish, a language she spoke as a child and she was one of the co-founders of Friends of Yiddish (FOY).

Valentine met Sol Hermolin through FOY a year ago and with his help, she made her dream of a venue for Jewish performers a reality.

Hermolin, owner of Lasting Impressions One-Hour Photo in the Bathurst Manor Plaza, grew up speaking Yiddish. Although his mother was fluent in English, she only spoke to him in Yiddish, he said.

"She didn't want me forget the mameloshen."

After his mother's death 11 years ago, Hermolin found that he hungered for Yiddishkeit and started a attending Yiddish concerts.

He said he also wanted to make a contribution to promoting Yiddish performances, so he volunteered to sell tickets.

Now a quasi-Yiddish Ticket Master – he jokingly calls himself the *billetmeister* – Lasting Impressions is a meeting place for many supporters of Yiddish, he added.

Hermolin recently joined the board of JASS, and when Valentine expressed the need for a stage, he directed her to the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO).

The shidduch between UJPO and JASS has turned out to be a perfect match: UJPO, long committed to Yiddishkeit, has an auditorium and JASS provides the performers.

Valentine is also the proud owner of a spotlight; hence the name Centre Spotlight.

The cabaret showcases a range of artists of varying ages, Valentine said. "The idea is for people to come out see these talented artists and hire them for their functions."

For more information, contact Valentine at 416-638-2222. The next show is April 12.

Gloria Valentine

Susan Jackson

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Finding love at the push of a button

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The Jewish Single's Registry's new cyber-dating system would shock Yenta the matchmaker.

Jewish matchmaking has come a long way since the shadchan made the introductions. These days, all one has to do is press a button to find one's bashert. Just click onto a file, read the bio, check out the picture (in that order of course), and if the person is not to your liking, keep clicking. Welcome to the introductory service of the cyber age.

Rob Singer, owner and operator of the Jewish Singles Registry, says the computerized system developed especially for his company is a state-of-the art program, complete with photographs and bios of over 1,200 clients who subscribe to the service.

The new system is user-friendly and gives Jewish singles an easy way of meeting each other, he says.

"You're not necessarily going to find your significant other, but it puts you into contact with many other Jewish singles. The format makes it easy to connect."

So how does it work? In the privacy of individual offices, clients search for dates by clicking through computer files categorized by age and gender. Each file has a code number, as last names, addresses and phone numbers are not provided.

After a client picks a potential date, the registry staff contacts the person chosen, who then books a time — usually within a day or so— to check out the other person's file before authorizing the exchange of phone numbers.

While the registry may not necessarily lead to matrimony — Singer claims it produces a marriage every six weeks — the service does guarantee a minimum of 10 dates. The annual fee of $295 plus GST includes unlimited access to the computer and an unlimited number of dates. People can use the service for free after a year until they reach their 10-date minimum.

The computer eliminates the need for a matchmaker. "People know what they're looking for. The Jewish Single's Registry lets them choose for themselves."

One thing hasn't changed since Yenta's time: The women still have to wait for the men to make the first move.

"The man initiates contact. Most women still prefer the old fashioned way— being called by a man."

Singer wants people to check out how easy his system is. He's holding an open house April 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. at their new headquarters, 55 Eglinton Ave. E., suite 405.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

BRITISH-YIDDISH ARTIST TO PERFORM IN TORONTO

Theatre Notes

• **Eda Zimler**, president of Friends of Yiddish (FOY), and other FOY members saw British performer **Bernard Mendelovitch** perform in Florida last year and were so impressed they signed him on the spot to come to Canada.

Mendelovitch, whose one-man show includes songs, anecdotes and monologues reflecting a classic Yiddish repertoire, performs one show only, April 13, 7:30 p.m. at the Beth David Congregation, 55 Yeomans Rd. 416-633-5500.

• The Bella! Did You Eat? brunch at Toronto's Free Times Cafe features **Stella Walker** on April 13, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 416-967-1078.

•Centre Spotlight: This month's coffee-house evening features comedian **Alan Price** and dancers **Evelina Ganina** and **Alexei Fateyev** of the **Russian Dance & Music Company.** Featuring **Bluma & Friend** performing music from *Shayne Chalomes.* Hosted by **Gloria Valentine**, the evening also features pianist **Paul Matthew**, and singers **Ben Shek** and **Honey Novick.** Also a scene from Jewish Theatre Projects' *This Could Be The One!* April 12, 8:30 p.m. Winchevsky Centre. 416-638-2222

• We're Funny That Way, Canada's first international gay and lesbian comedy festival, runs April 23 to 26 at Buddies In Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St. Performers include **Jaffe Cohen** of the stand-up comedy troupe **Funny Gay Males.** 416-975-8555.

• Livent Inc. releases the final block of tickets this week for *Ragtime*'s limited Toronto engagement. The much acclaimed production closes in Toronto August 31 and opens on Broadway in late December. 416-872-2222. Livent's Web site is located at [www.livent.com].

Multi-Media Paintings

• Hair transplant expert Dr. Alex Rivlin uses medical implements such as gauze, surgical clamps and syringes in his multi-media oil paintings, on display at Harry Rosen, 82 Bloor St. W., April 19 to 23.

At The Galleries

• The Angell Gallery presents The Boppers, a new series of paintings by **Susan Vale**, **Sandra Besser** and **Lesley Landau**, in support of the Muki Baum Association. Through May 24, Thursday to Saturday 12 to 6 p.m. 890 Queen St. W., Toronto. 416-530-0444.

• An exhibition of Judaica featuring Perspectives of Argentina and a Passover collection are on view at ARTfully Chosen. By appointment only. Call Ruth Schweitzer fine arts at 416-787-5556 or Temi Firsten at 656-5650.

Prizes and Competitions

• The 11th annual Christmas Carol and Chanukah Song Writing Competition, sponsored by the Amadeus Choir, is seeking entries. 416-287-0008 or e-mail [hobbs@idirect.com].

• For an exhibition of international contemporary Judaic art, the Jewish Community Centre of Pittsburgh is seeking entries of original art works that reflect Jewish themes or can be used for a Jewish ritual purpose; $2,000 in cash prizes. Fee $25 for up to three pieces. 412-521-8011, ext. 378.

At The Israel Museum

Seventy works by the Odessa-born goldsmith **Israel Rouchomovsky** (1860-1934) are currently on view at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. One of the items, a gold tiara, has an extraordinary provenance, for experts at the Louvre Museum in Paris misidentified it as a Scythian-Greek artifact from the third century BCE and presented it as such before the public in 1896.

Although some archeologists immediately expressed doubts, they were sharply rebuked by the "tiarists," and the piece remained on display for seven years. It was declared a fake only in 1903 after Rouchomovsky himself came to Paris and declared before a specially appointed parliamentary committee that he was the maker.

Besides the tiara, other displayed items crafted by Rouchomovsky include jewelry, medallions, Judaica, miniature books in gold and enamel, and a miniature gold human skeleton kept in a tiny sarcophagus. Until Aug. 25.

Gritty Lumet film still strikes a resonant note

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Sidney Lumet

Thirty-two years after its release, Sidney Lumet's *The Pawnbroker* still strikes a resonant note. If you were impressed by it the first time around, you surely will be again when it is screened on TVOntario on April 26 at 8 p.m.

This gritty black-and-white film, starring the irrepressible Rod Steiger as a German Jewish Holocaust survivor who's no longer in touch with his emotions, certainly leaves an impression.

It is strong but not maudlin, well-paced and masterfully directed. Quincy Jones' tingling jazz score hits the mark, heightening the tensions which permeate this sometimes riveting two-hour movie.

Steiger portrays Sol Nazerman, the gloomy proprietor of a Harlem pawn shop. He is tough, cynical and drives a hard bargain. "Two dollars," he perpetually intones in a dead voice as he names his bargain basement price for this or that item some poor soul wishes to sell off.

It is not difficult to understand why Nazerman is so unfeeling toward his external environment. His world view has been shaped by the Holocaust, which devoured his winsome wife and two lovely children, as well as his optimism.

Now married to his late wife's sister and living in a dreary suburban sub-division of New York City, Nazerman remains a hostage of his bitter wartime experiences. He is constantly assailed by bitter-sweet flashbacks of his former life and of the concentration camp which humiliated and nearly killed him.

The Pawnbroker unfolds in a succession of scenes which define Nazerman and flesh out his relationship with the following characters: his boisterous Puerto Rican assistant whose ambitions are bigger than his reach, a menacing Afro-American gangster whose corruptive influence he tries to ward off and a lonely white woman who seeks his company. She is played with admirable restraint by Geraldine Fitzgerald.

For all intents and purposes, the film is dominated by Steiger, whose acting abilities reach an apotheosis here. In a succession of beautifully articulated vignettes accented by moody closeups, Steiger launches into belabored ruminations which shed light on the telltale tattooed numbers on his arm and amplify the so-called fabled business acumen of Jews throughout the ages. In one instance, he parries a vicious anti-Semitic epithet flung at him by a disgruntled customer.

As befits the topic, *The Pawnbroker* is unremittingly bleak. But it is also a poignant portrait of a man who has been crushed by the relentless weight of the Holocaust.

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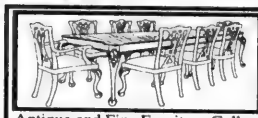
The Pawnbroker is followed by *Crossfire,* one of the first Hollywood films which addressed the issue of anti-Semitism in America. The 1947 film stars Robert Young and Robert Mitchum, and is worth seeing.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Desert city still a thriving hot-spot of tourism

By JEFF ROSEN
News Editor

LAS VEGAS — A sphinx and pyramid welcome travellers, and pirates, magicians and Roman warriors await your arrival.

Although Las Vegas today may sound like something out of a fairy tale, this former dusty watering hole is actually one of the hottest meccas for tourists and residents alike.

The city's eleborate image, however, conceals its humble beginning. Las Vegas got its start in the 1850s when the Mormon church sent a mission of 30 men to construct a fort and teach agriculture to the Indians. It became a city in 1905 when the railroad announced this city was to be a major division point.

Prior to legalized gambling in 1931, Las Vegas was developing as an agricultural area. Its fame as a resort area became prominent after World War II when the first hotel opened on U.S. Highway 91 — now known as the "Strip" — in April 1941.

Today, that same strip is 3½ miles long.

From a quiet backwater, Las Vegas today has developed into the fastest growing metropolitan area in the United States, with a combined population of over one million in the Las Vegas Valley. With approximately 4,000 people a year relocating to the area, the construction and manufacturing industries continue to thrive. Construction cranes dot the famous landscape, adding new suburban communities and gambling resorts.

The new unique entertainment palaces are proving as much a tourist draw as the casinos located within them. Last year, Las Vegas drew nearly 30 million visitors and estimates show it will exceed that number this year.

Part of the credit no doubt goes to the "boys" behind Las Vegas, who have come to realize that they can no longer sell the town on gambling and glitz alone. Gone are the days when hotels bearing names which played on the area's landscape — the Dunes, Sahara, Sands and Desert Inn — counted on major stars to draw the public.

As a result several new hotels/casinos/resorts/tourist-attractions have opened recently. Each has a different theme, and each offers more than simply gambling. Where else could one start the day with a tour of a pyramid, head off to New York, go on to King Arthur's court and end the day in the company of Caribbean pirates?

Among the newer entertainment palaces is the Luxor, shaped like an Egyptian pyramid with a Sphinx in front of the casino. Hieroglyphics are the rage here and the elevators run at a 39-degree angle to reach the rooms, which are arranged along the outside of the hotel. At night, the strongest light beam in the world shoots upwards into the desert sky. Even some of the souvenirs here are imported from Egypt.

At the largest hotel in the world (for now), the MGM lion welcomes guests to the 5,000-room-plus MGM Grand. Once inside, follow the yellow brick road to a replica of Emerald City. In the back is a full-fledged theme park with sections modelled on New York, an Asian Village and Olde England.

If the British isle really strikes your fancy, head over to the Excalibur, the third-largest hotel in the world. Here, Merlin the magician battles it out with fire-breathing dragons in the moat, while knights and jesters roam the casino in medieval garb.

Next door, just spanking new, is New York, New York (if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere). This 2,035-room resort, which opened this year, is modelled on the New York skyline and, at 48 storeys, is the tallest hotel/casino in Las Vegas. Among its 12 buildings, is a 48-storey, 525-foot-high version of the Empire State Building, a 42-storey Chrysler Building and a 26-storey AT&T Building. Besides the impressive structures is a 300-foot-long replica of the Brooklyn Bridge and 200-foot-tall Coney Island-style roller coaster and a 150-foot-tall Statue of Liberty.

At the Treasure Island, which opened a few years ago, the theme is pirates and even the most diehard landlubber finds it hard not to get caught up in the spectacle, watching Caribbean pirates do battle with British frigates. The hotel is the home of the world-renowned circus troupe, Cirque du Soleil.

Just steps from Long John Silver's home, is the Mirage, fronted by a huge volcano which erupts every 15 minutes after dark, shooting flames into the desert sky. An aquarium holds sharks in the lobby and elsewhere are habitats for rare white tigers and dolphins.

Of course, the granddaddy of all hotel experiences is Caesar's Palace. From the statue of Caesar hailing a cab at the entrance, through the World of Caesar, a miniature Roman city, to the costumed gladiators and exclusive shops, this was the original resort that started the spectacle of one-upmanship. The Forum Shoppes are fun to visit, even if you don't want to spend any money (you can save that for the casinos). Special effects have succeeded in making the place feel like an ancient Roman street complete with arches and pillars and, marbled walkways.

For those who seek some religious comfort (as opposed to praying at the black jack tables) Las Vegas has a sizable Jewish community, boasting two Conservative synagogues, two Orthodox, one Recontructionist, two Reform, two traditional and one independent. As well, the city has its own federation, Jewish community centre and social service agency.

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The Amethyst Duo is Brian Katz (guitar, piano) and Barbara Ackerman (flute), musicians with taste, expertise and an array of musical styles at our fingertips. **Call 652-9726.**

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
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1ST AD! NEW EXCLUSIVE!!!
60'x169' lot on quiet street. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE - RICHLY UPGRADED!!
Quality, flow, flair & light, 4 br., 4 bths., fam. rm., custom cabinetry. $829K. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

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50'x133', south lot, centre hall! Reesa Sud* 488-2875

LOWER CEDARVALE!! $649,000
Fabulous fami SOLD ! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

1 LEFT! GLENFOREST TOWNHOUSE $639K
Spectacular, 3 br., stunning upgrades, atrium fam. rm., 5 baths, elevator! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

30 GLENFOREST. SOLD $629,000!
Superb messin SOLD , indoor atrium! M. Gherson* 488-2875

CEDARVALE CONTEMP 5 BDRM
$599,000 huge lot, vendor says sell! R. Fitzerman* 226-1987

1ST AD! GREAT STREET - WILTSHIRE AREA
Modern 4 br., premium lot! Marlene Olan* 226-1987

BATHURST/EGLINTON JUST $639,000
Brand new con SOLD bdrms! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! ARMOUR HEIGHTS AREA $375,000
2 storey, 3 bdrms., fin. bsmt., fam. kit! Marion Davis* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/EGLINTON
Spacious 3 br. bung. on 50'x120' lot! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON - NOW $299,000
3 br., 3 baths, fin. bsmt., priv, dr! David Wagman* 488-2875

2 BDR TOWNHOME - YONGE/EGLINTON
Brand new, all appl's! B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

LESLIE/YORK MILLS - RAVINE!!!
Fab. 4 br. ren SOLD / A. Pollock*/S. Gruenstein* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

JUST LISTED - YONGE/YORK MILLS
110'x200' lot, land value only! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16-5500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Just reduced, fab. 4 br., fin. bsmt! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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Gorgeous 4 br., 4 bth., custom blt. home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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Present 6 cstm. blt. homes in North York! F. Sversky**/ C. Jong* 488-2875

10 BROWNRIDGE DR. - THORNHILL $359K
H& R built, over 2800 s.f., 4+1 br's! B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

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4+1 bdrm., tons of extras! B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

PRIME THORNHILL! 1ST TIME BUYERS
Detached 3 br., 3 baths, fin. bsmt! Sammy Roth** 488-2875

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Lrg. 4 br., + mn. flr. fam. rm., semi! Rivy Blass* 226-1987

VALUE PLUS 5 BDRM. COTTAGE
In Belle Ewart. Close to shul, gorgeous private grounds, a steal at $225,000! Rose Simon* 226-1987

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2 BEDROOM CONDO - $94,900 IMMACULATE
Spcs, 5 appls, parking, balcony, laundry ens. M. Cowan* 226-1987

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$250,000 COTTAGE IN MUSKOKA - 1ST AD!
4 bdrm. on beach waterfront. J. Lerner*/A. Pollock* 226-1987

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400 Brooke Ave. $254K Fab. 60'x130', 3+1 br, 2 bath. Listed & sold 98% of price. Call Sandon to be sold!.

1ST AD — UPPER VILLAGE $489,000
4 bdrm, centre hall, master ensuite, main floor den, fin. bsmt, garage, C/A, Elegance & Charm. **Maxine Povering****

GREAT RENOVATED BUNGALOW!
$698,000 Bayview/York Mills Fabulous new kit./fam. rm., 3 bdrms., huge lot. **M. Alberga*/S. Stern***

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$659,000 each approx. 2900 sq. ft., fin. bsmt., 5 baths, 4+1 bdrms. Quality finishes. **Robert Greenberg***

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Avenue Rd./Lawrence - 3450 sq. ft., 4 bdrms., 5 baths, 41'x130' lot, mn. flr. lib. & fam. rm., fin. bsmt. **Robert Greenberg***

BATHURST & STRATHEARN $719,000
Fabulous 5 bdrm., updated, centre hall, 3 storey, huge rooms, fam. rm., "State of the Art" pool, patio & yard. **J. Zinman***

1ST AD! BROWN SCHOOL $869,000
Fabulous renovated 5+ bdrm. on best street. Mn. fam. rm., huge white kit., sumptuous master suite. **M. Alberga*/S. Stern***

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- **BATHURST MANOR** - Triplex, $275,000. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.

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Lge 3 bdrm., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar., .move-in cond., steps to everything.

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Ideal for professional use, 5 rms. + bsmnt., lge. lot, A-1 Buy.

BLUE FOREST AREA
5 bdrms., split lvl., den, huge liv. & din., w/out to balc., fin. bsmnt., dbl. drive, gar.

BATHURST/STEELES
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Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!
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Bath. Manor, Sale by owner, gorgeous, spac. updated home, 6,000 s.f. of liv. space,5 bdrms., 3 bths., 2 1/2 bths. Brokers welcome, $469K. 630-2721.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Centre, new, approx. 2900 sq. ft., 4 bdrms, ceramic/hrdwd firs, upgrades! Open concept, 50 ft. lot on quiet Crt. Asking $379,900. For app't. call 905-707-9993.

Thornhill, 3 bdrm. walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,$675K,**Priv.** 905-884-3847.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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GREAT VALUE!
$429,000 Large & luxuriously upgraded 2 bdrm. & family rm. with 2 terraces & choice views, Over 2300 sq. ft.
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40 McKelvey	- $289,900 -	Fin. bsmt.
83 Bayhampton	- $330,000 - SOLD	m.
121 Redondo	- $280,000 - SOLD	smt.
216 Westmount	- $375,000 - SOLD	m.
166 Brownridge	- $275,000 - SOLD	smt.

SHOW AND SELL IN TORONTO

170 Fisherville	- $439,000 -	Fin. Bsmt.
1938 Avenue Road	- $520,000 - SOLD	ng

SHOW AND SELL IN RICHMOND HILL

35 Stave	- $299,000 -	4 bdrm.
98 Theobald's	- $350,000 - SOLD	sq. ft.

******1 YEAR HOME WARRANTY******

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The **SKYMARK** *Specialist*
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Exceptional in every sense; in comfort and luxury, in security and sophistication. Choices of 2-bdrm. to a penthouse (2 br. + fam. + balc.). For our updated inventory, please call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I.
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(416) 441-2003 (24 hrs.)

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- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, balcony, locker $229,900.

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Bath/Shepp., bright condo, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $1050/mo, avail. May 5, min. 1 year. 444-4813.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp.,1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Call 635-5031.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

SJF, mid-twenties, n/smoker, seeks same to share large 2 bdrm. apt., Yonge/Eglinton. Vegetarian or kosher pref. 482-8905 or 784-9745.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Oss./Davenport,May-Aug. sublet, 1 bdrm. in a 2 bdrm. apt, deck, female, n/smkr. 658-8752

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Finch/Wilm., 1 bdrm bsmt apt, close to amen, $600. 636-9443.

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$975. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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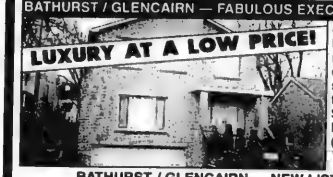
Spacious 3 bedroom with solarium, mint condition, north view. ACT FAST, WON'T LAST! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712. SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — FABULOUS EXECUTIVE HOME



4 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, library, dream kitchen, shows to perfection! Only $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING
Raised bungalow. 4 bdrms., family room, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, custom built, shows to perfection. ACT NOW — only $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING
Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow, 55' frontage, fin. bsmt., sep. entry to in-law suite, only $249,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
60 ft. frontage, spacious ranch bungalow, ren., new roof, windows, floors, only $369,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING
Brand new, 6 bdrm., custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Close to subway. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $329,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

WILSON HEIGHTS / SHEPPARD – CUSTOM EXEC. HOME
2 years new, 4 + 1 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, finished bsmt., only $379,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Brand new executive home. 4 bedrooms, many upgrades, family room, close to subway. A MUST SEE at only $499,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD CLASSIC
Spacious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge fam. rm., library, attention to detail, $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Home for rent! Spacious 4 bdrm., only $1,600 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN
Fabulous building lot. 70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home Fabulous location! Only $399,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK - REDUCED

Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

DANBY – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bedrooms, sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Centre, ensuite bath, n/smkr. 905-882-4359,evgs.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE SIMCOE
ISLAND GROVE/JACKSONS POINT
Fab 5 bdrm., 1½ baths, winterized, 100'x273' waterfront lot, all the extras, best loc. First time offered in 40 years. Act fast $349,800.
STEVEN SCHMEISER
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HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

Cottage, Lake Simcoe, Barrie, lakefront, 4 bdrms., 2 baths, fully furn., winterized, $399K. 486-8300, ive. msg.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Tennis,prv sandy beach. Dock. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

Orillia, lkfrnt, 3 bdr, first 2 wks. July, also June,canoe.223-6824

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Looking to rent 3-4 bdrms, lakefront in Orillia area for mo. of Aug. Call 464-6159.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
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SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

Jerusalem, 2 bdrm., self-cont. apt., avail. April 15-June 1 or partial. Details at 250-474-0207.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Jerusalem-furn. apt., grnd. flr, suitable for couple,mo. of August,central-near buses,15 min. walk to Old City & Knesset. 905-625-1537,after 6 or wknd.

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Bomboniere & Gift Business for Sale, outside Woodbridge. Manufacturer/Retailer, making profit. Est. 7 years plus. Asking $85K. Please call between 12pm - 6pm. 416-661-0998.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Religious/Nursery School Administrator: Growing suburban Reform Temple is seeking an innovative educator to administer our religious & nursery schools of 600 students. Applications are on file with **NATE, JCPC and RPC**, or submit comprehensive résumé to: Educator Search Committee, Temple Beth Am, 4660 Sheridan Dr., Williamsville (Buffalo), New York, 14221 or fax résumé to: (716) 633-8952.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Traditional Conservative Synagogue is looking for trained Day Care teachers to work this coming High Holiday season in our babysitting/fun group activities. The ideal candidates will have a good working knowledge of the Holidays, as well as the restrictions these days place on group work. Fax résumé to: 416-226-0128.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Youthdale Treatment Centres Longterm Residential Program are seeking strong staff to work with teens having a range of emotional and behavioral difficulties. Excellent opportunities for professional development for recent graduates, driver's license a must. Fax résumé & diploma of post-secondary education. Entry & senior positions available. Fax to: 416-368-3192 or mail to: 227 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1T8, Attn:Pauline Williams-McDonald Only applicants to be interviewed will be contacted. **No phone calls please.**

247 DAY CARE

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher + assistant nurse, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

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• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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Elderly care. Clean, shop, babysit, 7 days, 416-531-1235.

Exper. cleaning lady avail. for houses & apts., very good refs. 531-4038 or 573-9885.

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, condos/homes, refs. 289-4392.

Exper. lady seeks cleaning work, days.Tues.-Fri. 248-8096.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

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ALWAYS CARE SINCE 1986
•Live-in helpers •Homemakers •Health Care aides
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3-24 HRS/7 DAYS A WEEK • SERVICE PROVIDED WITHIN 4 HRS.
NO LANGUAGE BARRIERS
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Senior Lifestyle Solutions
Highly Qualified Companions, Homemakers, Health Care Aides, available now.
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Book now OR arrange for a free consultation
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(Gov't of Ontario Licence No. 6172)

Young resp. hard working girl will clean your house.259-3460.

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

Cleaning lady avail., houses & apts, 14 yrs exp in the Forest Hill area. Raquel 905-625-7608.

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Nannies from Quebec,summer & longer, refs. Call The Westmount Agency, 905-889-5366

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Why not *enjoy* Passover this Year? Maria's Domestics has qualified people avail. to help serve and do dishes. Call now, book early! **Call 416-226-4325.**

256 HEALTHCARE

2 exper. Polish female doctors are eager to provide prof. care of elderly or disabled, refs. avail. upon req. Call Agatha at 416-255-0947.

CAREGIVER for elderly or disabled, live-out, 18 yrs. exp. in Jewish envir,exc. refs.783-9402

Exper. live-out certif. HCA, emerg. 1st-aid & CPR seeks job with Sr's.905-279-9221,lve msg

Very resp. HCA avail. to take care of elderly. Joan, 531-0738 or 621-6683.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Looking for a Job? Need a Roommate?
You'll find it all in
The Canadian Jewish News
Call Lisa at 391-1836
for classified rates & deadlines

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appt's. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1300** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted are valid for 30 days only (from issue date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.

DJM,35, prof. attr., warm & caring, looking for an attr,. intell., good natured modern orthodox or strong conservative woman, single or div., 27-35, for special relationship. CJN Box 6906.

Hard working 45 yr old female with European background seeks special man for myself and a loving father for my 2 children. If you qualify for the job and want to live in peace & harmony for the rest of your life, please reply to CJN Box 6908.

Attr. affectionate prof. JF seeks gentle soulmate JM 40+, spiritual, bookish & into personal growth, communication & kids. Call 691-6270.

Hi Ladies! I am a JM, 36, 6 ft., enjoys the finer things in life. I enjoy outdoor activities, such as baseball, skating & hiking. As well, I enjoy opening a good book. I am educated with a Univ. degree & make a good living, and don't smoke. I would like to meet a Jewish lady, 26-36. Someone who I could spoil, love, cherish, trust, honour, argue with and discuss our future together, and receive the same in return. This lady should be witty, intellectual & enjoy cooking, because I love to eat. This lady should want to have a family. I'm an easy going guy, see you soon! CJN Box 6907.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. retired lady doctor with traditional Jewish values seeks kind gentleman, 66-74, for happy, meaningful relationship. Call 416-638-1770.

Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - late 30's. 633-1728.

330 OBITUARIES

FAJNKUCHEN, Chaja Fajgel - on Wednesday, March 26, 1997 at Baycrest Hospital. Beloved wife of the late Josif. Loving mother of Suzanne Fajnkuchen, dear sister of Mania Levine. Devoted grandmother of Monique and Bernie Ungerman. Devoted great-grandmother of Nicole and Jason Ungerman. A graveside service was held at the Shaarei Shomayim section of Mount Sinai Memorial Park Cemetery on Friday, March 28th at 11:00 a.m. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

LAMBERT, Jules - on March 21, 1997, late of 1555 Finch Ave., E., #708.
RADOMSKY, Leon - on March 21, 1997, late of 343 Clark Ave. W., #403.
KOHM, Sam - on March 22, 1997, late of 28 Wigan Cres.
WOOD, Annette - on March 22, 1997, late of 49 James Grey Dr.
BRAUN, Lester - on March 23, 1997, late of 271 Ridley Blvd., #504.
BURMAN, Sam - on March 24, 1997, late of 351 Ridley Blvd..
LAMPERT, Arnold - on March 24, 1997, late of 425 Walmer Rd., #8B.
COHEN, Naome - on March 25, 1997, late of 260 Heath St., #702.
MARKUS, Anne - on March 25, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #222.
WEINER, Rita - on March 25, 1997, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., #401.
FRIEDLANDER, Eddie - on March 26, 1997, late of 106 Chiltern Hill Rd.
KRIVEL, Sadie - on March 26, 1997, late of 1603 Bathurst St., #511.
SPITZ, Eric - on March 27, 1997, late of 19 Woodchester Crt.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KAMIL, David - on March 26, 1997.
KESLASSY, Marie on March 26, 1997, late of 4383 Bathurst St.
LOVAS, Eva - on March 26, 1997, late of 6 Finchurst Blvd.
APPLEBY, Maxwell - on March 27, 1997.
BLUM, Alter - on March 27, 1997.
FRIEDRICHKEIT, Fritz - on March 27, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

331 IN MEMORIAM

Some of our readers will have heard of **Israel FRENKIEL**, teacher, polyglot, translator (of LESSING in particular), friend of MOHILIVER, PINSKER, mentioned in the Encyclopedia Judaica by Nachum SOKOLOV.

Israel FRENKIEL,who died prematurely in 1890,was known by reputation well beyond the limits of his native city(RADOM in Poland).It is on the occasion of the death of the following members of his family that we recall the memory of **Israel FRENKIEL:**

1) His granddaughter, **Sarah KLAJNER-DIAMENT**, died in Paris, Feb. 27, 1996, a medical doctor with the Faculté de PARIS,known as "MARTINE" in the Resistance. She concealed her underground fighting by working as a governess for General GAMELIN. At Liberation, as a lieutenant (doctor), she rejoined the first French Army of the Rhine and Danube in Germany, where she had the opportunity to see the slow death camps, particularly VAIHINGEN (Baden), and she miraculously met some family members and friends. Her husband, Israel KLAJNER, a native of PRZYSUCHA, volunteered when war was declared, was captured at the Franco-Swiss border and interned in a work camp in Switzerland. Upon returning to PARIS after Liberation, Dr. Sarah DIAMENT known as Salka, continued to practice medicine in military hospitals, then as a general practitioner-pediatrician, devoting herself to the children of concentration camp prisoners, then towards the end of her practice, to North African families.

2) **Israel (known as Iziek) FRENKIEL**, died June 24, 1996, in Australia, leaving his wife Nina (née MIGDALEK), two sons and their families. Thanks to the devotion of his wife, although he was ill, he was able to attend his grandson's bar mitzvah on June 15, 1996. Homage should be paid to Mrs. Nina FRENKIEL for the sacrifices she made.

3) **Leon GUTMAN**, died in Sweden, April 27, 1995, leaving his wife, Fredrika, Israel FRENKIEL's granddaughter, as well as his son and his son's family. He was a Hebrew scholar and chief accountant in a factory until his lengthy illness.He was the son of a tanner from RADOM.

Both **Iziek FRENKIEL** and **Leon GUTMAN** were liberated from VAIHINGEN concentration camp by Moroccan soldiers with the French Army of the Rhine and Danube, and they miraculously met Dr. Sarah (Salka) DIAMENT-KLAJNER there.

The memory of **Israel FRENKIEL** and his three grandchildren will now be perpetuated through family and friends in several countries.

330 OBITUARIES

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

SEYMOUR GOLDMAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Bathurst Street, South of Steeles

Ivansker Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

DAVID PAWIGON ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 13th, 12 noon

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Bathurst Street, South of Steeles

Friendly Sons of David Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ETHEL KATZMAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 20th, 10:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Bathurst South of Steeles

Beth David Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Eugene Jack Buckler ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 20th, 2:00 p.m.

Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Bathurst North of Finch

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Miriam Shechtman ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 13th, 11:00 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Community Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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Due to the Passover Holidays, there will be an early deadline for Classified/Service Directory Advertising for the May 1st issue.

Deadline is Monday, April 21st at 10:00 am.

Please Note:
The Canadian Jewish News will be closed over the Passover Holidays on the following days:
Tuesday, April 22nd
Wednesday, April 23rd
Monday, April 28th
Tuesday, April 29th

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Sports

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Hoopsters help U of T to national tourney

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — From the Blue Demons to the Varsity Blues, Stephanie Splitter and Laura Verbetten have come a long way in the world of competitive women's basketball.

The two teammates with the University of Toronto Blues were only two games away from the Canadian championship as top colleges vied for national bragging rights. One of two Ontario teams to advance to the CIAU's version of March Madness, the Blues were upset 64-60 in the semi-finals by crosstown rivals York Yeowomen.

The Blues had defeated the Yeowomen in three regular season matchups en route to an 18-2 record and the number two ranking in Canada behind Western.

Perhaps they were a little over confident, maybe they were looking ahead to the final, but the Blues were devastated by the loss, said Blues coach, Michele Belanger.

In the championship game, York, with Dena Weinroth in the lineup, lost to a powerhouse team from the University of Manitoba that Belanger said was clearly the class of the tournament.

Although they were on opposite sides of the court in the playoffs, Splitter, Verbetten and Weinroth were all teammates with the Jewish Community Centre Blue Demons four years ago. Verbetten and Splitter credited the years they spent with the Blue Demons as providing a valuable springboard for their later success.

Verbetten, 18, and Splitter, 20, played key roles in the U of T's playoff run as well as in the team's regular season success. Verbetten, a rookie guard, and Splitter, a forward, were first off the bench and both got lots of playing time, Belanger said.

A slender six-footer, Verbetten was one of the Blues' leaders, finishing second in team scoring with 11.9 points per game, fourth in rebounds with 4.5 per game, first in team steals and sixth in steals in the conference. She shot 35 per cent on her three-pointers and 42 per cent from the field. Capping off a remarkable season, Verbetten was named rookie of the year in the Ontario Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association (OWIAA) east division and made the all-Canadian rookie team as well.

Splitter, a six-footer playing her second year of college ball, was second in field goal percentage for the Blues with a 50 per cent mark. With a limited role in the Blues offensive scheme, Splitter averaged 5.3 points per game but she helped the team by nabbing 4.7 rebounds per game.

Stephanie Splitter (left) and Laura Verbetten were key members of the University of Toronto Varsity Blues. [Paul Lungen photo]

Both players performed well in the championship tournament in Thunder Bay, Belanger said. "Stephanie picked up her game and played pretty consistently." Verbetten played well too but her youth and inexperience were also evident as she made some rookie mistakes, Belanger added.

Their former coach with the Blue Demons, Sy Herling, followed their progress through the playoffs and was proud — though not surprised — at the way their performed.

"They were both good athletes," he recalled. Even though both were "raw" talents when they came to the Blue Demons, "we instilled a good work ethic" and the girls dedicated themselves to improving their games. During the summers they played loads of hoops and developed their skills.

Herling "gave me the opportunity to play. He was very patient and very supportive," Verbetten said.

"He made me," Splitter said. "He gave me the skills and expected me to practice them over and over."

Verbetten played three years with the Blue Demons, Splitter two. Along with Weinroth, they were member of the 1993 team that represented Toronto at the JCC Maccabi Youth Games in Pittsburgh. That squad, afraid of being embarrassed by U.S. hoops squads, worked hard all summer to make sure they'd show well in Pittsburgh, Herling said.

In the end, they were "awesome," limiting their opponents to less than 10 points a game. Their hosts, Pittsburgh finally racked up double figures, but not until the championship final when they were shellacked by Toronto, 63-18. Six of the 10 members of that team went on to play college ball. One, Karen Shaw, played for McGill this past season.

Herling, along with a group of volunteers, is hoping the young women reprise their championship performance at his summer's Maccabiah Games in Israel. The personnel is there to field a competitive team, he believes.

In addition to Verbetten, Weinroth, Shaw and Splitter, Herling points to Eva Ain, who will probably play for Ryerson next year, Robyn Lerer, who played for McMaster several years ago, Michelle Sund, a onetime OWIAA all-star at York and Heather Kurtz, who was an all-star at Brock a few years ago, as potential members of the team.

While the talent is there, funding is not and so the volunteers have been attempting to raise the $50,000 needed to send the women to Israel.

Anyone interested in supporting the venture can contact Herling at 905-731-0442 or 505-9962.

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The Inside Back

The internal fences that divide us

By DAVID NEWMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Comment

When I checked my e-mail messages, I found one from a neighbor forwarding an article she had downloaded from another list. It was about a lecture which was to have taken place at the Hebrew University last week.

Left-wing students and faculty demonstrated violently against the presence of journalist Barry Chamish, who had planned to lecture on a "conspiracy" behind the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

The writer of the article, who had gone to hear the lecture, claimed in it that she feared for her safety, even her life.

Prior to forwarding it, my neighbor commented cynically that this was just the kind of behavior that might be expected from the "so-called liberals" I mix with.

With a foot firmly planted in a number of different worlds, let me try and compare the types of message and levels of tolerance I hear respectively from the religious world of the synagogues, yeshivot hesder and religious schools that I sometimes attend and in which my children and neighbors study, and those of the universities and Tel Aviv cafes in which my professional and research contacts take place, and to which I am becoming increasingly attached at the expense of the former.

Each world displays an equal amount of intolerance for the other; each perceives the other as a threat to the existence of its own culture, social norms and ways of behavior.

True, the liberal left allows for broader debate and more questions than does the black and white world of the nationalist right; but it does not necessarily follow that it is any more tolerant.

Israel's society has become increasingly heterogeneous and segregated. Each of its constituent groups believes that it and it only has the answers to political and social problems.

The national melting pot, an idea created in the 1950s by secular, strongly Zionist groups which conceived of themselves in much the same way as the national-religious perceive themselves today — namely as the ideological flag-bearers of Zionist Israel to the exclusion of all other beliefs — is finally showing itself for the myth it is.

Orthodox and secular don't understand the first thing about each other's beliefs. Each self-righteously describes the other as "lacking values" (the secular left) or "medieval" (the religious right).

As Israel's first 50 years draw to a close, post-Zionists of the secular left are locked in a struggle with neo-Zionists of the national religious camp over promoting their own, single-minded versions of ideological hegemony over state and society.

Our political parties have become increasingly segregated along ethnic and religious lines. Our school systems remain separate and our army units are becoming increasingly ideological.

We have created internal fences and boundaries separating us from each other. The division starts at age five and, in some cases, doesn't finish till we are six feet under.

And we raise our eyes to the heavens in surprise that — what?! — we cannot talk to each other, don't understand each other's values, and have, in short, created two, or even three, separate societies in one small country.

Ignorant of other sub-Israeli and Jewish cultures and unable to talk in their language, we display our intolerance by refusing even to attempt meaningful dialogue. It's far easier to be dismissive.

During our half-century of existence as a state, we have used the threat of external and existential threat to wallpaper over the cracks of internal heterogeneity. It is, paradoxically, simpler to live with the discourse of conflict and existential threat. We are always united in face of war, terrorist outrage or act of violence perpetrated against the state.

The removal of the conflict poses a new and difficult agenda. Many reject conflict resolution (call it a peace process if you will) because they do not know how to create an identity outside the discourse of "anti-Semitism" and "the whole world hates us."

Many of us are unable — or unwilling — to raise problematic issues like how the state should function on behalf of all of its citizens, Jewish and Arab, Zionist, non-Zionist and even anti-Zionist, secular and Orthodox.

In an effort to become just that bit more tolerant, to become a listening as well as a talking society, we need to dismantle many of those internal ideological fences. This means a single educational system and the end of ideological army units, and it is the real challenge facing the state today.

For without some new modus vivendi of "live and let live," one in which no one group attempts to impose its own ideological hegemony, we will eat ourselves up from within quite efficiently without any help from outside.

The writer is professor of political geography and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University.

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PASSOVER TOFFEE SQUARES

1 cup butter or pareve margarine
1 cup matzah cake meal
1 egg
8 oz. chocolate or chocolate chips, melted (pareve if desired)
1 tsp vanilla
1 cup walnuts, finely chopped
1 cup sugar

Cream butter (or margarine), sugar, vanilla until light and fluffy. Mix in egg, beating well. Add cake meal gradually. Blend well (dough will be stiff).

Lightly grease a large baking pan (9x13 or 10x15). Spread dough out evenly. Bake at 350°F for 20-25 minutes. Take out of oven. Spread melted chocolate over top and sprinkle with nuts. Press nuts lightly into chocolate. Cut into squares before completely cool.

The Canadian Jewish news

Reminder!

Send us your cartoons. See details page 58.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

Is there anything I can do to make my cover letter and resume get noticed?

Dear Reader,

First of all, read and reread your cover letter and resume to check for spelling, typographical and grammatical errors. These papers are often the first impression you make.

Your cover letter and resume must look neat and clean with no white-out or words crossed out. If you can't produce high-quality professional-looking papers, ask someone else to prepare them for you. Learn how to copy that style yourself.

Look in a book that has sample resumes and cover letters or visit a career counsellor.

Human Resource Managers do not pay more attention to materials printed on fancy papers. They like to see legible usually word-processed letters and resumes but generally do not care if the envelope is hand-written. They also do not really care – unless there is a specific request – if your information arrives by mail, courier, fax or e-mail so long as it arrives by the appropriate deadline. One note of caution, however, if you are planning on sending information via e-mail ensure your file design will match with the applications available wherever the download will happen or your information may not print out.

Human Resource Managers generally look to match the skills and experience of the candidate with the job requirements. They assume the person applying for the job has seen this list of job requirements, which is usually printed in the form of and advertisement or job posting. For that reason, they prefer to see simple cover letters that briefly introduce the candidate and why he or she is sending in a resume.

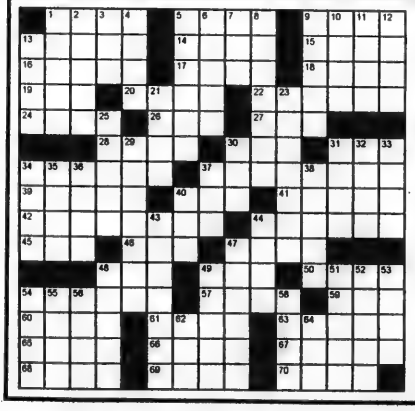
Resumes are commonly one to two pages and they are easier to read if they are designed in a simple format. Your skills and experience will be the one thing that really captures the attention of the Human Resources Manager, so make sure they are easy for her to find and read. Listing your work experience first is most common. Since time is of the essence, point form comments highlighting a person's experience are sometimes easier to read than sentence form.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send questions for Lisa to The CJN

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. "__ Gadya"
5. Mt Hermon powder
9. Tribe
13. Dinah
14. Dance
15. Vagrant
16. Equipment for Baskin
17. Angel of Death path
18. Accords city
19. Haifa to Degania (dir)
20. Ellis
22. Gellilah action
24. Salty sea
26. Wiggling tref fish
27. Vigoda or Geiger
28. Village of Simeon
30. Taxmen
31. Dues
34. Biblical weights
37. Goniff action? (Eng)
39. Cohanim?
40. David O. Selznick
41. "Key __" Bacall film
42. Fast day
44. Greenberg specialties
45. Prophesize
46. Mikveh
47. Hamas specialty
48. Arkia vehicle
49. Portion (abv.)
50. Temple top?
54. Einstein
57. Eden sound
59. Aisle
60. Bets (Eng.)
61. Matzoh maker's need
63. Meshugge (Eng)
65. Erevs (Eng)
66. Item on Schindler's list
67. Tekiah and Teruah
68. David's instrument
69. Magen David
70. "Cabaret" Joel

Down

1. Pursue
2. First minor prophet
3. Exist
4. Jewish restaurant
5. Writer Asch
6. Potok specialty
7. Solomon's find
8. Writings of Josephus?
9. Elected
10. Ten tribes?
11. Skillful
12. Midday
13. Pomegranate plenty
21. Dead and Red
23. David's son
25. Remembered by Yahrzeit
29. Shubert
30. __ a boy!!
31. Moses' bush
32. Mechanical designer (abbv.)
33. Freud inventions
34. Divorce papers
35. Writer Wiesel
36. Make aliyah
37. Spin (Heb.)
38. Hebrew letter
40. Bissel (Eng)
43. Comedian Red
44. Tref males
47. Funnyman Rob
48. David's dad
49. Prayer starts, "Hear O"
51. Emulate Abba Eban
52. Gelt
53. Seder casualties?
54. Adam's son
55. Foreign minister
56. Israeli city __ Sheba
58. Imitate Bubbles?
62. Israeli tax
64. Neither's partner

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 60.)

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MATZOS
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KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
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WIENERS
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PEPPERS
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2.18 kg
0.99 LB

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AVIVA
SUNFLOWER SEED OIL
1 L Bottle
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
WESTERN DAIRY
SOUR CREAM
•Regular •Lite
500 ml Tub
0.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
BNEI-DAROM
•CUCUMBERS IN BRINE
•HOT PEPPERS 540 ml Tin
1.69 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STRUB'S
HORSERADISH
•Regular •Beet
250 ml Jar
1.69 EA

ASPARAGUS
Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
1 lb. Bunch
1.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CROYDEN HOUSE
INSTANT CHICKEN SOUP MIX
141 g Jar
1.69 EA

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Alleged war criminals living abroad and collecting Canadian pensions, Abella says. *Page 3*

Hezbollah activitiy in Canada concerns Canada-Israel Committee. *Page 5*

On Campus

Strike at York U. is no holiday for students. *Opinion.* *Page 27*

Arts

Richard Samuels has come a long way from playing in Israeli bars. *Page 48*

Moran Ben-Oved performed recently with Israel's Moran Choir. *Page 49*

Sports

Canada's Maccabi tennis team a good mix of youth and experience. *Page 58*

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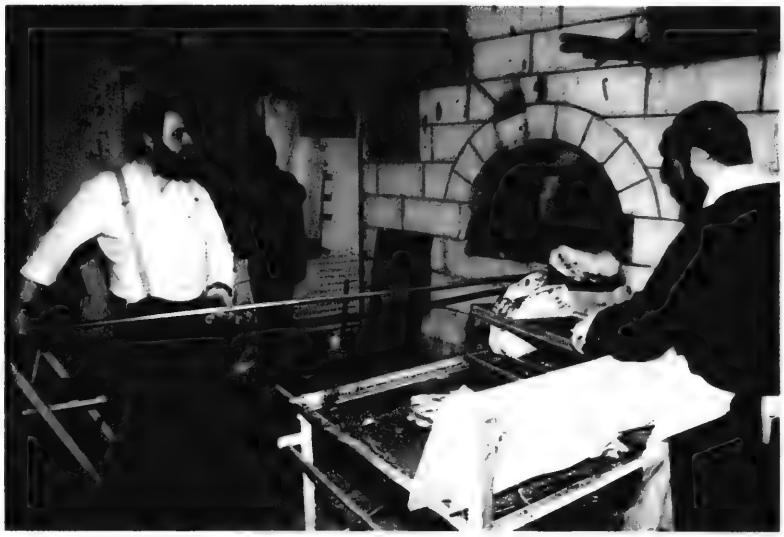

PREPARATION FOR PESACH

***Shmura* matzas are shown here being prepared in a small factory in Jerusalem. The first matzas to be produced are usually exported so they arrive in good time to be distributed around the world.**

[ISRANET photo]

Anti-Jewish bias alleged, as CJC begins 'outing'

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Accusations of anti-Semitic bias in the federal government's war crimes unit coincided last week with Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and U.S. private eye Steven Rambam's making good on their threat to begin "outing" suspected Nazi war criminals.

Addressing a public meeting in Montreal, Rambam named Josef Kisielaitis of Burlington, Ont., as an alleged former member of a Lithuanian army unit that murdered thousands of Jews during World War II.

Kisielaitis lives under his own name and "is happy as a clown," said Rambam, the high-profile New York investigator who says he obtained taped confessions of atrocities committed by dozens of war crimes suspects across Canada.

Rambam said he and Congress will "out" one or two alleged Nazi war criminals every week in an attempt to force the government to step up deportations.

CJC's Bernie Farber said the public naming of those who have not been charged is unusual, but "it's a sign of desperation, a sign of how frustrated we've become" with Ottawa's pace on prosecutions.

Also last week, the Justice Department said it may launch a formal investigation into allegations of anti-Jewish bias in the war crimes unit.

Justice Minister Allan Rock was not available for comment.

But his communications assistant, Jennifer Lang, told *The CJN* Monday morning that Rock "will sit down with his deputy minister, George Thomson, and will review closely the chronology of events to ensure the issue was dealt with properly."

She said Rock "wouldn't rule out a formal investigation" if he "deems it necessary."

It was a standard response to concern expressed by Jewish groups over reports that anti-Semitic bias in the department's war crimes unit may have hindered the prosecution of suspected Nazi war criminals.

In published reports last week, William Hobson, who headed the war crimes unit from 1987 to 1990, charged that Justice Department lawyer Arnold Fradkin's objectivity and legal advice were considered suspect because he is Jewish.

Fradkin was the only Jew

Continued on page 28

Passover's heroism

The purpose of the Passover seder is the retelling, and, one might even say, the "re-enacting" of the exodus from Egypt.

The exodus is the seminal event of Jewish history, the binding seam of our peoplehood, woven into our collective memory by almost four millennia of recollection and recitation.

Editorial

We are all familiar with the impenetrably powerful story. "With an outstretched arm and a mighty hand," God vanquished Pharaoh and freed the slaves so that they might live free, governed by law, not tyranny, to lead moral, "holy", purposeful lives.

The Haggadah is carefully crafted. We tell the story of *yitzi-at Mitzrayim* with only one "hero" on its pages: God. The large, dramatic, sweeping acts of heroism are performed only by God. The "ordinary" acts of the exodus are performed by His people, the children of Israel.

In this "division of labor," between God and us, it seems we find, as ever, a deeper truth.

Most of us never get to perform single, sweeping acts of dramatic, larger-than-life heroism. In movies it happens a great deal; in real life, considerably less so.

However, that does not mean we lack for the opportunity to be heroic, if not exactly "heroes."

Rather, our heroism is to be found in the smaller, more prosaic, but vital assertions of everyday human struggles: in the parent's word fittingly spoken to his child, in the kindness one friend confers on another, or in the cool, smooth touch of a caring hand upon a patient's fevered brow.

Thus, in recounting the force and the sheer breathtaking magnitude of God's heroism, the Haggadah invites us to speculate upon our own heroism as well.

In our case, though, it shouldn't take a miracle.

EARLY DEADLINE

Due to the Passover holiday, the editorial and advertising deadline for the May 1st issue of *The CJN* is Monday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m.

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The News in Brief

CANADA

BBC Restructures Office

OTTAWA — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) is reorganizing its Ottawa office. Ruben Friedman, who was BBC's director of government relations for the past two years, and his full-time assistant are no longer with the organization.

BBC executive vice-president Frank Dimant says the Jewish service group is hiring new staff in Ottawa, as well as looking for new office space.

Holocaust Videos

MONTREAL — *Voices of Survival*, a film that interviews seven Holocaust survivors, and its accompanying education guide were recently distributed to over 550 senior high schools across the country by Canadian Jewish Congress.

The 60-minute video provides information on the background and aftermath of the Holocaust, as well as biographies of survivors.

Human Rights Hearing

VANCOUVER — A human rights hearing into the writings of *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins is set for May 12.

Accused by Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, of exposing the Jewish community to hatred in a newspaper column, Collins is getting support from individuals whose community he allegedly defamed.

ISRAEL

Poison on Israel's Shores

JERUSALEM — More than 400 bottles containing poisonous material washed up on Israel's shores last week.

Environment Ministry officials said they believe that the bottles fell off a boat that was transporting them and were blown toward Israel's coast by recent storms.

Levy Visits Turkey

JERUSALEM — Foreign Minister David Levy made a two-day visit to Turkey last week in an effort to strengthen ties with the predominantly Muslim country.

His visit came a week after the Turkish Parliament ratified a free-trade agreement with Israel, which goes into effect May 1.

B'Tselem Blasts Israel

JERUSALEM — The B'Tselem human rights organization last week accused the Israeli governments over the past 18 months of implementing a policy which takes away the right to live in Jerusalem from hundreds or thousands of Palestinians who were born there.

WORLD

Cemetery Desecrated

PRAGUE — Vandals destroyed 70 headstones last week at a cemetery in Kosice, in eastern Slovakia.

A memorial to the victims of the Holocaust was also damaged, as were the graves of former rabbis.

Rebecca Shulman

NEW YORK — Rebecca Shulman, a former national president of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, recently died at the age of 100.

Shulman served as president from 1953-56.

Nazi Propagandist Dies

NEW YORK — A New Jersey man who had worked as a propagandist during World War II in Nazi-allied Hungary has died, according to U.S. government sources.

Ferenc Koreh, against whom the United States had won a court order of deportation in January, was 87 years old and had suffered from a blood disorder.

The U.S. government had agreed at the time of the court order that it would not act to remove Koreh from the United States unless his rapidly deteriorating health improved. Koreh died April 1 after undergoing surgery, government sources said.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday April 17, 1972

NON-JEWISH VICTIMS OVERLOOKED

Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Nazi documentation centre in Vienna, said recently that Jews had concentrated too much on the Jewish victims of Nazism, overlooking the millions of non-Jewish victims whose deaths strengthened the Jewish case for justice and restitution.

"We made a mistake in talking only of the six million Jewish victims," he said. "In doing that, we allowed the world to forget that there were also five million non-Jewish victims." The Nazi-hunter stated that as a result, "many gentiles now think of the Nazi murders" as only a Jewish matter.

SEPARATE HOLOCAUST SERVICE CHALLENGED

Canadian Jewish Congress leader Sydney M. Harris has called the decision of Toronto Orthodox groups to hold a separate Holocaust memorial observance "an act of singular disservice to the unity of the Jewish community."

Congress sponsored a community-wide Holocaust remembrance last Tuesday night at Beth Tzedec Synagogue to mark the 29th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. A night earlier, the Orthodox groups held a memorial service at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

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Alleged war criminals getting pensions: Abella

'Veil of silence' over prosecutions

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Twenty alleged war criminals named by the Deschenes Commission are living abroad and collecting Canadian pensions, says Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's (CJC) war crimes committee.

"These were 'slam dunk' cases who refused to go to court and instead left Canada," said Abella. "Why aren't they denaturalized?"

A "veil of silence" has been drawn over the prosecution of war criminals in Canada and even the budget and personnel of the war crimes unit is secret, Abella told 600 people at the Ontario Region plenary session.

Defending the CJC's use of an informant hot line, he said, "in 10 days we've been astonished at the quality and quantity of calls.

"We want to encourage the RCMP to use the information. They must become more aggressive."

William Hobson (left) former head of the Canadian Justice Department's War Crimes Unit, receives a certificate of appreciation from Irving Abella.

Abella acknowledged that Allan Rock, the federal minister of justice, has been the most "responsive" on the issue of any minister in any post World War II Canadian government.

He said William Hobson, former head of the war crimes unit, and Arnold Fradkin, a former unit lawyer, are "two heroes" of the Jewish community. "They won the only case we ever won on war criminals (deportation of Jacob Lutjens) despite obstacles thrown up against them both within and without the unit."

Before presenting Hobson with an award of merit from the CJC, Abella said: "Hobson was our strongest ally in the Department of Justice and has committed himself to the detriment of his own health. He is the only person in the history of the war crimes unit to publicly attack the government for its lack of zeal."

Award for Hobson

Accepting the award, Hobson said that then Minister of Justice (Kim Campbell) had been advised that a member of the unit (Arnold Fradkin) could not be objective because he was Jewish.

"Two of us have been forced out of the unit and others told not to consider our opinions on any war crimes cases."

Hobson said he had offered his services free to the government in the last week and was told he was not needed.

"I've had enough," Hobson told the plenary."Prior to my being forced out of the unit, senior bureaucrats phoned me and told me to stop making paper trails and to stop forwarding recommendations in which I said I was of the strong opinion that 'X' should be criminally prosecuted and 'Y' should be prosecuted by denaturalization proceeding. And the message went further to the effect that you are putting the minister (Campbell) in a corner as well as the bureaucrats in question."

The government's inaction was termed "disgraceful," by Steve Rambam, the investigator who interviewed alleged war criminals in Canada.

"You can sleep pretty soundly if you are a Nazi in Canada," said Rambam. "These people will all cheat the hangman."

For more on CJC, Ontario region, plenary, please see pages 19 and 20.

Shown: Stone top buffet from Embassy Row collection

Greater Toronto Area

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and his family
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From the editor's desk

Crisis on campuses

Two weeks ago, I wrote an " introductory" column about the critical importance of the college and university period in the development of our children's lives, and particularly so for their Jewish development.

Last week, using the "testimony" of Dr. Arthur Kruger, the president of the Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS), I attempted to show that the present level of Jewish support services for the 15,000 Jewish students attending college or university in the greater Toronto area is precariously inadequate to properly encourage and foster their Jewish development.

The term I used was "crisis." I did not simply use it for effect. I used it because I deeply believe the situation to be that desperate.

No Jewish student body in North America is funded as poorly or proportionately staffed as minimally as are the 15,000 students in the greater Toronto area.

And, perhaps saddest of all, for the first time in generations, the students at the U of T will have no Jewish centre at all after June 30, if no one steps forward, philanthropically or otherwise to help fund the space ostensibly earmarked for the U of T students in Whitney Hall.

A story by Michael Davis of the *Baltimore Jewish Times* that we carried in *The CJN* last week is a fitting springboard for this, the final column dealing with the crisis.

Writing about Hillel as the foundation for Jewish campus life, Davis said "I don't think we can overstate the importance of Hillel's role in Jewish continuity and identity... The mission of Hillel in the 1990s is to make the choice (of being Jewish) tempting to college kids."

In this, Davis wrote what countless others, including *The CJN*, have often written before.

But he also added a piece of information that adds a melancholy poignancy to the Toronto predicament. "Hillel's Jewish Campus Service Corps is thriving on major campuses and *a $200 million endowment campaign is under way to rebuild aging Hillel facilities and erect new structures on campuses across the United States.* (Our emphasis)

While comparisons between the two jurisdictions are inappropriate and for most purposes unproductive, this specific comparison does plant a marker into the soil of our failings in support of our college-age children on campus.

Many of those children have no inclination or curiosity toward Jewish explorations on campus, though others do. They are curious and we must help them to find that point of entry.

The relevance of such an entry point was movingly expressed in the recent editorial by Jessica Pelt, the editor of *Images*, the Jewish students' newspaper in greater Toronto, in the February issue of the newspaper. The following is an excerpt from that editorial.

"Our student years are formative ones. Many of us have figured out our lives, found our identities, in school. Others will continue their search, hoping to find their identities in the near future. It is during these years that we have, in some way, realized our Jewish identities.

"Some will grow, some will remain the same. Unfortunately, some will weaken. The crucial aspect is that even by reading *Images*, people have recognized their Jewish identities.

"As students, we have been actively lobbying the community as a whole to give us more resources and allow us more room to explore and examine our Judaism. *And just as none of us would ever forget our education, so must we never forget our Judaism.*

"As we continue our lives, we must give back to the community in whatever way, and through whatever involvement, we can." (Our emphasis)

These are the words of the next generation, words and sentiments we so fervently hope to find in our children. "So must we never forget our Judaism... we must give back to the community..."

What could be more precious?

What could be more important for us, their parents, their community, than to do everything within our abilities to allow them "more room to explore and examine our Judaism?"

This is not yet another call for the federation to "give more." Its budget simply cannot accommodate all the valid competing and pressing demands upon it for "more" and it would not be fair to the other financial urgencies within the community.

But it is, nevertheless, a call for help on behalf of those vital Jewish campus services.

In four days, after the stars have ascended into the sky, we will gather around the table to recite the Haggadah.

If we are lucky, we will be with our families.

And if we are luckier still, no-one will be missing.

For those of us who are parents, our older children, perhaps college -age, perhaps moved away, will have returned, even if temporarily, to be at our side. Undoubtedly, more than once through the storytelling of the evening, we will "sneak" long, loving looks at them, thankful to God for their place in our lives.

To give more meaning to those thankful feelings, let us resolve to do all we can to find for our campus children more resources to allow them "more room to explore and examine (their) Judaism."

That would please Jessica Pelt.

It should also please us all.

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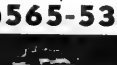

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Greater Toronto Area

CIC seeks meet with Axworthy over Hezbollah

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) wants a meeting between Jewish community leaders and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy to discuss reports that Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian extremist group that has taken credit for many attacks against Israeli targets, has a network in Canada.

The CIC has sent out letters to national Jewish agencies saying it "is in the process of organizing a meeting of Jewish community leaders" and Axworthy to discuss the situation.

The CIC's action stems from reports that Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada "that can assist and support terrorists seeking a safe haven in North America.

"Hezbollah operatives receive and comply with direction from the Hezbollah leadership hierarchy in Lebanon," state court documents in the case of Hani Abdul Rahim Sayegh, who has admitted he was once a member of the Saudi Hezbollah and who faces deportation from Canada.

Sayegh, 28, arrived in Canada last August and applied for refugee status. He was arrested in March under suspicion of belonging to a "terrorist" group, and currently sits in a maximum security detention centre in Ottawa awaiting his April 28 deportation hearing.

He'll have to answer charges that he participated in the June, 1996 truck bombing of U.S. military headquarters in Dharan, Saudi Arabia, in which 19 American servicemen were killed and a further 384 wounded.

Sayegh has denied the charge and says he had a falling out with the Saudi Hezbollah, a radical Shiite movement whose activities are supported by the Lebanese Hezbollah. But he's admitted to withholding information from Canadian authorities when he made his refugee claim.

Both the United States and Saudi Arabia are seeking Sayegh's extradition.

Claims that Sayegh was a major player in the Dharan bombing, and claims that Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada, are contained in documents submitted to the Federal Court of Canada by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

At a closed-door hearing this month, a Federal Court judge ruled that only a 300-page summary of the CSIS findings would be made public, as releasing more "would be injurious to national security or to the safety of persons."

CSIS claims that Sayegh was "the mastermind" behind the bombing, having conducted surveillance of the military installation. It says that on the day of the bombing, he drove the car that signalled a truck carrying the 1,000 pounds of explosives. About five minutes later, the truck exploded inside the compound.

CSIS says Sayegh's presence in Canada "assists in promoting the terrorist aims of Saudi Hezbollah in that he is in position to support, facilitate or effect reprisals in Canada, the United States and elsewhere."

Charges that Hezbollah has set up a base of operations in this country has Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) worried.

"Given the fact that [CSIS] has confirmed this information, it is difficult to comprehend why Canada does not undertake more aggressive measures," stated Les Scheininger, chair of CJC's international affairs committee. Scheininger says Canada should support a U.S. law that imposes sanctions on foreign companies which invest in countries such as Iran and Libya.

Congress has other questions too. A year ago, in an interview with CJC officials, Axworthy said Ottawa would review its relations with Tehran. The minister stressed, however, that there is "a fairly strong sense" that Canada should maintain "some degree of engagement" with Iran to keep channels open.

Congress says it has heard nothing since.

According to a Foreign Affairs spokesperson, Canada expressed concern to Iran over the latter's support of terrorist groups abroad as recently as last November.

Canada's new concern over Iran's sponsorship of groups such as Hezbollah and Hamas resulted from the review Axworthy had promised, Rodney Moore told *The CJN*.

Moore could not say what the Iranian response was to Canada's concerns.

The Sayegh case is not the first time accusations have arisen that Hezbollah has infiltrated Canada. In early 1994, the Federal Court upheld the deportation of a confessed Hezbollah member, who admitted the organization has an arm in this country.

Queries submitted to Gray

At the time, CJC called on the federal solicitor general to probe the presence, strength and activities of Hezbollah in Canada.

Last week, *The CJN* requested a telephone interview with Solicitor General Herb Gray to discuss the Jewish community's concerns about Hezbollah's presence in this country.

Gray's media assistant, Dan Brien, requested that questions be put in writing, and said he would forward them to Gray. These were the questions:

- Does Canada plan to ask Iran, through Foreign Affairs, about the existence of a Hezbollah network in this country?
- What steps will the government take to ensure that Hezbollah does not present a danger to domestic interests and institutions in Canada?
- and will [Gray] ask the immigration minister to tighten regulations on refugee claims from Iran, Syria and other nations believed to sponsor terrorism?

Gray did not respond.

Woman sends bomb threats

TORONTO — A woman described as unbalanced is under investigation for sending threatening flyers to a number of Metro synagogues and for one bomb threat.

Earlier this month, part of a shopping plaza in the Bathurst-Wilson area was evacuated after a note was received threatening that there would be bombings there until the end of April.

Police at 32 Division, however, are not treating the incident as a serious threat. They say the woman does not have the means to carry out the actions. Police add that an arrest is unlikely, since the suspect is unstable.

CORRECTION

In last week's front-page photo, the United Synagogue Day School students seen helping with the National Council of Jewish Women Passover food basket project were identified in the wrong order. From left to right, they were Daniel Colman, Ilana Kopolovic, Bareket Kezwer and Bradley Hennick. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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Greater Toronto Area

Fight against anti-Semitism never over, says ADL

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Jewish community must remain vigilant about anti-Semitism, says the assistant national director of the U.S.-based Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

"We should have no illusions that the problems are not still with us. We must continue to monitor violence. When anti-Semitism is in the margins, it is bad enough, but when it gets support in the mainstream, such as with the Nation of Islam [it is even worse]," Kenneth Jacobson told Hadassah-WIZO members at their recent national executive meetings.

Although the ADL has monitored hate groups for years, Jacobson said, it sees the Internet "as a new vehicle for haters. We must all be aware and make sure that young people do not fall under their agenda."

On a positive note, he said that the Holocaust is more and more on people's minds "and Jews recognize that they are no longer passive and helpless. They can speak out against those that do wrong things."

A current issue on the agenda, Jacobson said, is how various countries conducted themselves during and after the Holocaust, and about the responsibility of these nations after the war ended.

Citing Switzerland, Jacobson said people are now focusing on activities that went on there during the war.

"A lot of people who were hesitant about being critical of western nations are now more open to facing the truth. They learned the lesson of the Holocaust — they cannot afford to be silent."

Switzerland, he said, "according to Swiss mythology, was neutral during the war. But then an issue comes along that challenges its self-image. It is hard for the Swiss to look honestly at what went on during the Holocaust.

"There is no doubt that the Germans benefited from this," he said.

Following the war, he said, these issues came up and an effort was made to track dormant accounts the Swiss had seized. Some money was eventually returned to Jews and their survivors and some to the central banks, but "outrage grew and the Swiss decided to set up an investigation committee to examine records to determine how many claims are still outstanding."

Jacobson said the ADL went on a recent mission to Switzerland because it was concerned that, as a result of the new focus on dormant accounts, the ADL "was afraid that the Holocaust would not be kept in perspective.

"We feel that we played a role in persuading the Swiss to take a moral leap forward. It announced it would set up a fund of $170 million and confirmed that the money would be dispersed to east European survivors. The country is also setting up a foundation in which it will take the interest from the gold and spend it on Holocaust survivors.

"These are steps," Jacobson said, "that we felt could make a difference. We are living in good circumstances, he said, and have ways of raising issues we could not have raised before... We are a lucky generation. We live in a society that encourages us to speak out."

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KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
1.18 L
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Grape Juice
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Fruit Slices
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Borscht
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KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
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There's a new Caplan in Oriole

TORONTO — Two well-known Jewish political figures have won their parties' nominations for candidacy on the federal and provincial scenes.

David Rotenberg, a former MPP and provincial cabinet minister, last week won the federal Tory nomination in Eglinton-Lawrence.

Rotenberg wins federal Tory nomination

He'll face the riding's current MP, Liberal Joe Volpe.

Rotenberg was the Conservative MPP for Wilson Heights for eight years and served in the cabinet of the short-lived government of Premier Frank Miller.

He was also a Toronto and Metro councillor for 12 years and tallies a long list of Jewish communal activity.

And David Caplan, a two-term North York Board of Education trustee, has won the provincial Liberal nomination in Oriole riding.

Caplan, who is Elinor Caplan's son, won the nomination on the first ballot, defeating lawyer Nirmala Persaud. About 400 Liberals were on hand for the vote.

Elinor Caplan stepped down as Oriole's MPP last month in order to plan her federal campaign. She was recently appointed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as the Liberal candidate in the coming federal election in the new riding of Thornhill.

David Caplan, 32, represents Ward 14 on the board of education. He's also vice-chair of the Metropolitan Toronto School Board.

Following his victory, he called on Premier Mike Harris to call a byelection in Oriole as soon as possible.

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We must reconnect with our past and its rich heritage

Dear Friends,

This year as we prepare for Passover, the Festival of Freedom, and for the first seder it is incumbent upon us to remember how much Jews in Israel and around the world have achieved as a free people and a free nation. One of the great challenges facing the Jewish community today is that of assimilation.

Message from CJC national president

Goldie Hershon

The buzzword of our generation is continuity and it is indeed paradoxical that our freedom has enslaved us and that we no longer know who and what we are. Thousands of years after the exodus from Egypt we must, as the Haggadah enjoins us, feel as our ancestors felt in their struggle and flight. We must reconnect with our past and its rich heritage and traditions.

Fifty years since the end of World War II and the Holocaust, we are faced with daily disclosures of complicity with the Nazi regime and events that we could never have imagined. World attention is focused on Switzerland, as that nation confronts its past and struggles with ways to provide restitution to the survivors of the Holocaust. Other nations in Europe must come to terms with their past and offer justice to citizens who were stripped of all their possessions and endured unspeakable pain and suffering.

This Passover, Canada remains a safe haven for suspected Nazi war criminals. It has now been 10 years since the Deschenes Commission of Inquiry, yet only one individual has been deported. Time is running out to bring these individuals to justice. It is ironic that the work of an American private investigator placed this issue on the front burner and brought international pressure to bear on Canada.

We must now continue to press our government to act and make amends for Canada's shame on this issue.

We Jews in Canada are fortunate. We live in freedom in a country where we can practise our religion fully and with pride, and where we are able to participate in the affairs of our nation and make meaningful contributions. This freedom comes with responsibility and must be taken seriously.

In Israel, Passover will be marked with advances in the peace process. There have been setbacks, some with tragic consequences, but this must not deter us from our dream.

Canadian Jewry must make it a priority to visit the State of Israel, demonstrating our support for and commitment to our homeland. The miracle of the first exodus reverberates through history with more recent exoduses of Soviet, Ethiopian, and Syrian Jews. That miracle continues to have the power to provide vision and strength. We pray that Jews who are not free will soon find freedom. Wishing you a joyous and kosher Pesach.

Chag Samayach

Reform seder to focus on the role of women

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Women and men alike will learn about the role women played in the Passover story at Canadian Women for Reform Judaism's second annual seder.

The seder, which was attended last year by more than 125 people, will be held at Holy Blossom Temple on April 27 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

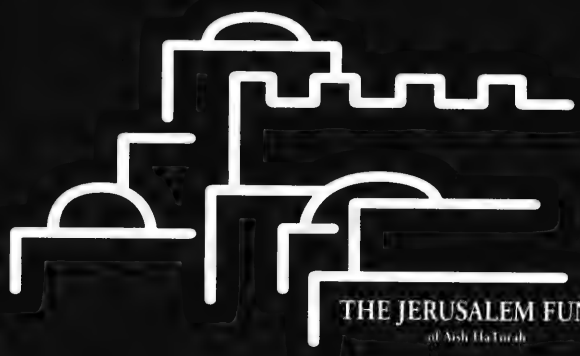
Many women do not get a chance to fully partake in the seder experience, says seder chair Janice Babins. "Hopefully this will enrich them and give them the opportunity to learn."

Rabbi Ariel Friedlander, assistant rabbi at Holy Blossom, says that in the traditional Hagaddah service, there are no women mentioned. " All the stories are about sons. We are adding a missing component to the story."

It is called a feminist seder, rather than a women's seder because they want to include men, she said. "There are some men who are feminists and we want them to enjoy the experience."

The feminist Hagaddah does not exclude males, said Rabbi Friedlander, but rather, it brings men and women together. "The focal person is Miriam who was instrumental in the story of Exodus. We are including her because in the past she was excluded."

If you make only one dedication in your life, it should be this one.



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Editorials and Letters

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Jerusalem

Judging by the constant references in the media, most editorialists appear to have adopted the Palestinian Authority's (PA) characterization of the construction project on Har Choma as a "settlement" in "historically Arab East Jerusalem." But this characterization is entirely inaccurate.

Har Choma is not a settlement; nor is it part of historically Arab East Jerusalem.

Har Choma is part of Jerusalem, the hilltop on the southern slopes between Kibbutz Ramat Rachel and Gilo.

However, given the frequency and the nature of the West Bank rioting in recent weeks, and that the PA has attributed the violence to the Har Choma construction, the "myth" is quickly metamorphosing into "fact."

The Har Choma tactic by the PA is part of their overall Jerusalem strategy, namely, to wrest control of an undivided Jerusalem away from Israel. Thus we increasingly hear Yasser Arafat, his deputies and his rioting rank and file warn the western and the Muslim world against the "Judaization of Jerusalem."

The New York Times

In effect therefore, as many observers have noted, the battle for Jerusalem has already begun. As a result, the community must be ready to engage the other side in that battle.

Passover is a fitting occasion to ready communal forces in defence of the justice of Israel's — and thus the Jewish people's — cause. For only at Passover and Yom Kippur do we end our services with the communal call: *Next Year in Jerusalem.* Whether intended literally or metaphorically, its inclusion in the service is indicative of its place in our devotions.

There are of course, a number of other "proofs" of Jerusalem's place in our devotions.

For example, in the course of its history, Jerusalem has known many rulers. But only for the Jewish people, three times, has it been the capital of an independent, sovereign state.

The word Jerusalem appears 656 times in the Bible. It appears in the Koran never.

And when we convey condolences to a mourner, we urge him to be comforted along with all other mourners in Zion.

We are quickly approaching the 30th anniversary, in June, of Jerusalem's reunification. In the 19 years preceding its reunification, it was divided by barbed wires and concrete barriers. "Arab East Jerusalem" referred to the Arab quarter inside the old city, in the same manner that the Jewish quarter referred to the Jewish area inside the Old City.

Before the recent PA propaganda offensive began the hills on the southern slopes of the city were never referred to as historical Arab East Jerusalem. That is because they were not so, then. We must not let them become so, now.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"If the Near East question is partially solved together with the Jewish question, it will surely be of advantage to all civilized peoples. The advent of Jews would bring about an improvement in the situation of the Christians in the Orient."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND THE NEW ISRAELI CONSUL IN NEW YORK!
I TELL YOU I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS GUY!
GOSH...WHAT DID HE SAY TO YOU MR. PRESIDENT?!
I DON'T KNOW.
HE DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

April 20, 1906, Rabbi Bernard Kaplan, rescued sifrei Torah from his burning synagogue during the great San Francisco fire. He led Montreal's Shaar Shomayim 1898 -1902. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Avid coverage of 'chosen people'

Regarding the article "The coverage of Israel in the *Toronto Star*" (*CJN*, March 27), which explained why there is always excessive coverage in the *Toronto Star* about Israel, such a tiny country, I would like to suggest a different response to the many legitimate answers that were conveyed in the article.

Perhaps the constant coverage of Israel relates to our understanding of the Jewish people as *Am Segulah* — the "Chosen People." Maybe it is the Jewish destiny that, no matter how few Jews there are or how small the Jewish State is, Jews will always be recognized in the world.

Whether Jews are acknowledged in the media in a positive or negative manner is not the issue being addressed here. The point is that throughout history, Jews have always been singled out, and will always be highlighted, simply because they are Jews. That seems to be the way G-d meant it to be.

Talia Rosenfield
Toronto

Not the time to expose differences

During the last couple of weeks, I have been inundated by various representatives of the media to react and respond to the pronouncement of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of America.

It is no secret that there are profound theological differences as to what constitutes authentic Judaism. It seems to me that any statement made is often misconstrued and misinterpreted for the purpose of enhancing one's own personal agenda.

Inasmuch as the State of Israel is under enormous pressure, I believe we must set aside whatever divides us and focus our efforts on behalf of our beleaguered State of Israel.

Rabbi Moshe Stern
President Vaad Harabonim
Orthodox Rabbinical Council

Another view on Jerusalem

As a Holocaust survivor I have special reasons for wanting Israel to be strong and prosperous. This implies a political must: reaching an accommodation with the Palestinians and with the rest of the Arab world.

This objective calls for cool assessments and not for religious and nationalistic frenzy that I see as a formidable threat to the very survival of Israel. The Jerusalem idolators would do well to remember that Judaism has survived for close to 2,000 years without a square inch of earthly "metaphysical fulcrums." What I find particularly depressing is that instead of acting as a voice of moderation and sanity the usually reasonable *CJN* seems to have joined editorially the "Jerusalem idolatry party."

Abe Shenitzer
Emeritus Professor of Mathematics
York University, North York

Don't forget sweatshops and Triangle Fire

Your article on Michael Taube (Feb. 20) shows how much we have drifted from Jewish social democratic ideals. Has it been that long since Ellis Island, the sweatshops and the Triangle Fire? Taube feels that Jews should look more "introspectively." To view any part of the world introspectively is to see only our own interests. It is to see only the trees and ignore the forest.

Taube states that Jews should support Republicans in the United States. Pat Buchanan and Oliver North have both found homes in the Republican party. This would be a strange house for any Jew to live in. As for the Reform party, one must ask why have so many extremists been attracted to that party?

Paul Greenspoon
Fenwick, Ont.

Opposes 'land for peace' formula

"Arbeit macht frei" — Work makes you free — was the slogan heading the entrance to the Auschwitz concentration camp. This was the slogan the Nazis used to persuade us to enter their extermination camp peacefully.

"Land for peace" is the Arab slogan used to persuade us to withdraw to an indefensible position that would help them achieve their final solution for the state of Israel.

How long will we play ostrich, deliberately refusing to face the truth?

While we sing songs of peace, the Arabs are teaching their children songs of war and preparing them for the jihad that they will soon be fighting.

During the Baruch Goldstein massacre, Jewish students the world over lit candles of mourning to show that they condemned the murder of innocents. Where are the Arab students when our innocents are murdered? They are busy disseminating anti-Israel propaganda.

We must all unite and support Israel's fight for its very survival. If we are not for ourselves, who will be for us?

Alisa Schwartz
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Excerpts from Agudath Harabonim ruling...

A Historic Declaration: The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada (Agudath Harabonim) hereby declares: Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all. Their adherents are Jews, according to the Jewish Law, but their religion is not Judaism.

The Agudath Harabonim has always been on guard against any attempt to alter, misrepresent or distort the Halachah (Jewish Law) as transmitted in the written and oral law, given by G-d through Moses on Sinai. It has therefore, rejected recognition of Reform and Conservative movements as Judaism, or their clergy as rabbis. It has publicly rebuffed the claim of "three wings of Judaism." There is only one Judaism: Torah Judaism. The Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all, but another religion.

The present declaration is not based upon a new decision in Jewish Law. It is as old as Sinai. It is only given new emphasis and vehemence, sounding an alarm and warning signal, because of the new dangers wrought by the Conservative and Reform movements. Their condoning interfaith marriages, null and void conversions and homosexuality are repugnant not only to Torah Judaism, but also to common morality. Yet, they do this in the name of "Judaism."

This declaration is thus a clarion call to all, that despite their brazen usurpation of the titles "Judaism," "Jewish Heritage," "Jewish Tradition," "Jewish Continuity" Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all. They are outside of Torah and outside of Judaism.

Having caused havoc in the United States, leading generations of Jews toward assimilation and intermarriage, they now attempt to export their alien ideology to Israel. By promoting pluralism in Judaism, they seek to be recognized as rabbis entitled (contrary to existing law in Israel) to carry out rabbinical functions, such as marriage, divorce, and conversion, contrary to Torah law.

In addition to the above from a Torah perspective, it is imperative to support Israel's government in their refusal to change the status quo regarding the exclusive Orthodox Rabbinic authority. Even non-Orthodox political leaders recognize that unless Jewish religious family law remains under the authority of the sole Rabbinate, the Jewish nation would be hopelessly divided.

We appeal to our fellow Jews, members of the Reform and Conservative movements: Having been falsely led to believe by heretical leaders that Reform and Conservative are legitimate branches or denominations of Judaism, we urge you to be guided by this declaration, and withdraw from your affiliation with Reform and Conservative temples and their clergy. Do not hesitate to attend an Orthodox synagogue due to your inadequate observance of Judaism. On the contrary, it is because of that inadequacy that you need to attend an Orthodox synagogue where you will be warmly welcomed.

Excerpts from the halachic ruling by the Agudath Harabonim (The Union of Orthodox Rabbis). The CJN *asked the following rabbis for their reactions:*

...Canadian Rabbis respond

By RABBI ARNOLD FINE

Recently, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis (UOR) published a "historic declaration" which appears to invalidate the synagogue movements with whom they disagree. The Conservative and Reform streams are presently their target. Will others, when they disagree with them, get the same treatment?

There is more than enough to unite all branches of Judaism so that the schism, which the UOR is encouraging, has no value. Indeed, ideological and theological unity is also often painfully missing in the Haredi camp, where the UOR resides. Thus, this group does not speak for anyone but themselves and their affiliated organizations.

Jews in North America and elsewhere in the world are pluralistic. While that may be very upsetting for the UOR, calling other expressions of Judaism invalid is not only harmful, but destructive for all of us. Instead of casting stones and wasting important community resources, energy and time, we should be exploring methods of not only how to live together, but also how to cooperate in dealing with the unique circumstances with which we live.

This initiative will have no real effect on our communities. It has, however, weakened the ties some have had with UOR institutions and further isolated them from the mainstream of the North American Jewish community.

The enmity that has been generated can only be mitigated by a demonstration, by all parties, of ahavat hinam (gratuitous love of one Jew for another). Torah is the most powerful medium we have. We all have the responsibility to make our love for it real by disseminating it and making it available to the widest extent in our community. That alone determines our validity!

Rabbi Fine is spiritual leader of Agudath Israel Congregation in Ottawa.

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

The recent divisive pronouncement of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis was and remains greatly distressing.

At first, the spin doctors hired by this group gave the impression that Conservative and Reform Jews were not to be considered Jewish. Then, at the scheduled news conference, more than a week after the "news" had already been revealed, these rabbis denied this. They had to, because such a comment is not only preposterous; it is also halachically wrong.

The pronouncement they did make was categorically renounced by the most representative bodies of North American Orthodox Judaism, the Rabbinical Council of America and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

The aforementioned rabbinic pronouncement has effectively united all streams of Judaism in rejecting divisive comments.

We do not delude ourselves regarding the serious differences between the various streams of Judaism, and we must come together to resolve the very serious "status issues." But there are so many areas of common concern in which we work together.

We welcome the togetherness expressed after the divisive pronouncement, and hope that the commitment to working together for the common good will prevail over all attempts to destroy the community.

And let me take this opportunity for a commercial on a pet peeve — there is no such thing as an Orthodox, Conservative or Reform Jew. We are either Jewish or not. Any further adjective only further accentuates differences and breeds division.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

By RABBI REUBEN POUPKO

The ill-conceived statement of the Agudath Harabonim brings into focus a host of serious issues. I choose to address not the short-term public relations wrestling match, but rather, one aspect of the potential long-term damage of this verbal stone throwing.

Imagine for a moment the impact the now infamous statement would have on a young American Jew whose ties to Jewish life are, in all likelihood, quite tenuous. For many, being Jewish is nothing more than an ethnic label and the fact of one's Jewishness compels no unique behavior or commitment. The intuitive, minimal sense of "belonging" is no longer part of the psyche of the majority of young people of Jewish descent in the United States. For them, this statement is just one more outward push from the Jewish tent. Ironically, the drafters of the statement, as hard as it is to believe, actually thought they were issuing a clarion call for wayward Jews to return.

The rebuilding of Jewish identity begins with embracing the idea and reality of Jewish peoplehood. While diversity has been a near constant of Diaspora life, a sense of commonality and shared destiny could be counted upon to allow Jews to feel themselves part of the same people. Perhaps the most damaging consequence of the statement of the Agudath Harabonim is that it strengthens the feeling of alienation already felt by too many young Jews, at the very moment in our history when the idea of peoplehood and belonging is in such a state of disrepair.

The rabbis involved should pay heed to the Hippocratic oath: "Above all, do no harm."

Rabbi Poupko is the spiritual leader of Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation in Montreal.

By RABBI WAYNE ALLEN

The recent declaration of the Agudath Harabonim is more significant in what it reveals than in what it actually says.

It reveals a glaring ignorance of the last 200 years of Jewish history. Reform, Orthodox and Conservative Judaism *all* emerged as responses to the assimilation engendered by emancipation and enlightenment. While it is proper to debate whether any of these three movements offered an effective solution to assimilation, it is undeniably clear that none of these movements was its cause. In fact, it could be argued, in the State of Israel where there continues to be an Orthodox monopoly of religion, disenchantment with Judaism and consequent secularism can only be attributed to the brand of Judaism the Agudath Harabonim now wishes to impose on others.

It reveals a fundamental misunderstanding of the dynamics of Jewish demography. Reform and Conservative Judaism, statistics show, have saved and continue to save Jews from being lost to assimilation. Both offer affiliation to those Jews who, if forced to choose between Orthodoxy and assimilation, would be lost to Judaism forever.

It reveals the popular, though erroneous, assumption that Reform and Conservative Judaism are theologically identical in their approach and differ only in degree. The fact is that Conservative Judaism claims to be bound by Halachah, Jewish Law. And while its application of Halachah may differ from that of the Agudath Harabonim, it is only because of the wide range of views available for application. The Reform movement, by its own admission, makes no claim to be bound by Halachah.

And it sadly reveals to what extent a largely insignificant group of rabbis unhappy with their irrelevance in Jewish life will go to gain headlines.

Rabbi Allen is the spiritual leader of Beth Tikvah Synagogue in Toronto.

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

Rabbis excommunicating Jews they disapprove of is an old sport. Baruch Spinoza, the 17th-century philosopher, may have been the most celebrated victim, but he was not the only one.

Today, such acts carry no weight, because the rabbis who proclaim them have no power. And when you don't have clout, you make noise. This particular noise took the form of a press conference and a bizarre statement that Conservative and Reform Judaism are not Judaism.

The attackers represent the intransigent fringe of North American Jewry. It seems that they resorted to speaking to those they would call goyim to attract the attention of the members of Israel's Knesset. For in Israel, unlike the Diaspora, extreme Orthodoxy has clout through its political parties. The press statement appears to be a pathetic act of solidarity.

I first assumed that it was a Purim spoof, albeit in bad taste. That it is meant seriously makes it so much more laughable. For no amount of blustering by ultra-Orthodox rabbis and their disciples will deligitimize or demoralize members of Reform and Conservative congregations; they constitute the majority of Diaspora Jewry and remain in the mainstream. For them to defend themselves would bestow credibility on the attackers, which they don't deserve.

Rabbi Marmur is the spiritual leader of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

Opinions

Mandela and Sharansky

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

Recently, Nelson Mandela's daughter was asked on TV how her father had emerged so strong, after 20 years in jail, and she answered very movingly — so much so that I asked myself, have we got a counterpart, in Israel? But of course: Natan Sharansky!

The two cases are so similar. Both were jailed endlessly. Neither ever lost the courage of his convictions. And their justice was recognized by the world. In Mandela's case world approval was wholehearted; it might have less so, perhaps, in Sharansky's case, had he been a Jew fighting for a Jewish right only, aliyah to Israel, but he was also a civil-rights fighter for everybody. And when he recently returned to Moscow as an Israeli cabinet minister, he showed by word and deed that he still cared for the captives there, as much as when he had been one himself.

There are many differences between the two, of course, but what is the big one? Mandela wanted liberation in his own country and he has got it, both it and the approval of the world. Sharansky wanted liberation from exile, but is only baderech (on the way) — until the world approves the Jewish return to Jerusalem.

There are political reasons for this, even political justice, but nobody can tell me that age-old prejudice is not involved. In 1948, when Jordan conquered Jerusalem's Old City, no protests were heard, not even when the Jewish Quarter was ravaged, its synagogues destroyed, Jewish cemeteries desecrated; not even when, contrary to armistice agreements, no Jew was allowed to worship at the Wall. The deafening silence of these 19 years was broken only when Britain and Pakistan spoke — formally to recognize the Jordanian conquest.

Now consider the contrast: In 1967, Israel conquered the Old City, annexed it and declared Jerusalem to be the eternal and united capital of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. This time the whole world spoke — or the General Assembly of the UN, claiming to represent it — to condemn the Israeli action as illegal and demand that it be reversed. The vote was 99-0.

And the UN position on Jerusalem now? A British foreign secretary, of all people, is instructing Israelis that it is "illegal" to keep territory occupied by force.

More troubling than the fact of surviving prejudice is its deliberate use. Yasser Arafat and others cannot be unaware that "Judaizing" Jerusalem is a loaded term, when "Arabizing" or "Islamizing" does not exist in the language; yet they keep using it. Similarly Arafat asserts that there is an Israeli "conspiracy" about Har Choma, when the action is open, public and —even though Jews are doing it — non-conspiratorial.

Most troubling of all is that prejudice is not merely used; it is being fanned. At a conference at Rome's Grand Mosque, Israel was attacked for intending not only to "Judaize" Jerusalem but also "to rebuild the Temple on the site of al-Aksa Mosque." No more inflammatory, hate-inciting charge could be made; it is a barefaced lie, and those spreading it know it. Yet the conference was attended by Christians as well as Muslims, and the delegates were received by the Vatican's foreign secretary.

Fanning the flames takes significant forms. Sheik Ra'ed Salah, head of the Islamic movement in Israel and mayor of Um El Fahem, asserts that it is "forbidden for Jews to pray at the Western Wall," for "the Temple was not really where the Jews claim it stood." So where was it? In Uganda, Argentina, New Zealand? Anywhere, so long as it is far from Jerusalem. Once prejudice is fanned with lies into fanaticism, there is no end of it.

Instead of thus regressing into prejudice and worse, should the world, in this age of pluralism, not progress toward a new perspective on Zionism? Had the exiles become another "lost tribe" rather than return to Jerusalem, neither Christianity nor Islam would ever have been born. Is it not time for these two "daughters" of Judaism (as my rabbi called them in bar mitzvah lessons) to show a little gratitude?

And, after the second Jewish return to Jerusalem — and a largely tragic history of "mother"-and-daughters," the "mother" with either "daughter," the "daughters" with each other — is it not time to end this family warfare?

Peace will come to Jerusalem if Christians, Muslims, Palestinians and others remain in Jerusalem or come to visit, worship and live there; not despite the fact that the Jews have returned, but because of it.

Saga of blinking eye

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The news media recently reported the death of Jean-Dominique Bauby, a French journalist who had just published an unusual book. He was totally immobilized by a severe stroke and his communication skills were reduced to the blinking of his left eye, but his mind was totally intact. Thus he could neither speak nor move to let others know what went on inside of him. Only by blinking his eye was he able to reveal his thoughts and letter by letter, to dictate a book about the rovings of his mind, his fantasies and leaps of imagination. The book was at once acclaimed by the critics, but unfortunately Bauby died at age 44, a week after publication.

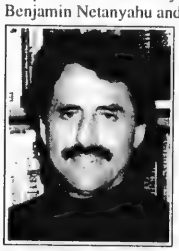
The story reinforced my abiding conviction that those who seem to be comatose or otherwise incapable of communicating, have most likely an active — and terribly frustrated — inner life.

The Bauby experience also revived my recollection of how I learned of the remarkable achievement of Franz Rosenzweig, probably this century's most influential Jewish theologian and philosopher. Thirty years ago, *Commentary* magazine published a series of essays entitled, *What I Believe*, reporting the belief structure of a group of American Jews. The interesting statistics of this book revealed that no fewer than 25 of the contributors called Rosenzweig the linchpin of their theological development. I was amongst the 25 and I recall how my dad first called my attention to Rosenzweig who was then suffering from what today we call Lou Gehrig's disease (from which he died in 1929). During the years of his disability, he carried on a wide-ranging correspondence, even though he was reduced to moving only the little finger on one of his hands. His wife, with the help of a complex machine, was able to translate his dictation into the written word. His correspondence was later published, and his cooperation with Martin Buber in the translation of the Hebrew Bible into German was path-breaking. His work was recently brought into focus again by Everett Fox's translation of the Torah into English, which was patterned on the Buber-Rosenzweig model and appeared a few years ago to wide acclaim.

I will always remember how Rosenzweig discovered Judaism. He was raised in an assimilated environment and contemplated converting to Christianity, but decided to do so only if he knew what he had left behind. An experience in a little shul in Berlin on Kol Nidre moved him profoundly and he abandoned any plan to convert. Instead, he devoted himself to an intense study of Hebrew and Jewish sources, and his deep faith and intellectual powers made his 43 brief years on earth a blessing for many of us. He had a tremendous influence on me, through the example of his struggle with his disability, his writings and especially his major work, *The Star of Redemption* (translated by William Hallo).

The human spirit is the strange and never fully understood core of our lives, and the blinking of an eye and a moving finger remind us that the spirit may be fully alive as long as our hearts beat and our beings draw breath.

Kiddie politics in Israel



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

If the implications weren't so tragic and painful, you could almost laugh at the political immaturity of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat. They are acting like orphaned brothers, fighting, kicking and screaming, running to Uncle Bill in Washington or Grandpa Hussein in Amman each shouting louder than the other, "Yasser started it!" "No! Benjamin started first!"

Uncle Bill gives a deep sigh, thinking to himself, "You can't leave them alone in the Middle East; they just can't behave themselves."

So Uncle Bill first of all summons Benji and asks him to show some maturity by temporarily suspending settlement expansion "Uh, uh," says Benji, "not until Yasser stops being violent."

And when Uncle Bill asks Yasser to come over to kiss and make up, he turns to his buddies in Egypt and elsewhere, pouting, telling his Hamas friends to hit Benji a few more times, whispering, "Just don't tell anybody I told you so!"

Uncle Bill patiently asks him over the telephone, "Come on Yasser, quit kicking Benji and we'll talk about what bothers you."

Yasser sits there with those bulging eyes, trying to keep a straight face, not fooling a soul, saying, "I am not kicking him. I wouldn't do that!"

These two little league leaders are, unfortunately, playing in a deadly big league game.

Netanyahu kicks the Palestinians by commencing construction of Har Choma, a controversial Jerusalem suburb, which, by the way, he never intended to build. But Netanyahu is weak and when he has right-wing politicians breathing down his back, he relents.

I know these words bother many Jews in Canada. But don't worry, you will see the point soon enough. He is about to kick you as well, again out of weakness not strength. Netanyahu is bending again, this time to haredi pressure. He is supporting a controversial Knesset bill that will basically state that your Conservative and Reform synagogues are not synagogues, your rabbis are not rabbis, your converted spouses are not Jewish and worse still, your children are not Jewish.

When having to explain his stand to a conference of Reform Rabbis in the United States, Netanyahu got frightened and cancelled the meeting. He couldn't find the guts to admit that cynical political bargaining and not religious zeal is the motive behind his support for the bill.

Not only is he alienating Israel in the United States, Europe and the Arab World, now he is making progress in isolating Israel among its brothers and sisters in the Jewish Diaspora. It is a rare "talent."

And no, I have not forgotten the other side of the equation — Yasser Arafat. He just can't help it. Netanyahu handed him all the political cards. The PM went ahead and sent the bulldozers into action despite the moving plea from King Hussein, backed by the United States. If Arafat had shown restraint, he would have gained important political international capital for the Palestinians. Instead, he kicked like a child, looking the other way while his security forces released dangerous Hamas militants, who promptly ordered suicide bombings. Childish instant gratification will get Arafat and the Palestinians nowhere.

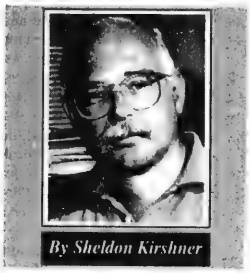
King Hussein kicked him out of Amman in the '80s. Syria's Hafez al-Assad swore never to have him in Damascus. He may find himself in deeper trouble if he continues to play with matches.

Arafat, Netanyahu, please grow up as fast as possible. A dying peace process and too many lives unfortunately depend on your very limited talents.

The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books...

A torrent of books has cascaded across my my desk of late. I will review a handful of them in this column.



By Sheldon Kirshner

A History of the Jews (Orion), by Paul Johnson, was originally published in 1987 to critical acclaim. Now it is out in a paperback edition.

The Jewish Experience (HarperCollins, $53.50), edited by Norman Cantor, is an enlightened distillation of Jewish history, culture and philosophy as conveyed through essays, novels, short stories, memoirs and biographies.

The Chronicles of the Jewish People (Jonathan David, $25 US), written by Raymond Scheidlin, is what the title suggests, the story of Jews from ancient times to the present. It is lavishly illustrated.

Taking Root (Stoddart, $24.95), Gerald Tulchinsky's masterful account of Canadian Jewry from the mid-18th century to 1920, has been reprinted in a paperback edition.

Masha Greenbaum's *The Jews of Lithuania* (Gefen, $29.95), billed as the first English-language history of a remarkable community, is the best primer on the topic I've seen.

The third edition of David Kessler's *The Falashas* (Frank Cass, $37.50 US), with a new preface, may well be the last word on Ethiopian Jews.

Howard Sachar is a first-rate historian. He demonstrates his skills in two fine books — *Farewell Espana: The World of the Sephardim Remembered* (Random House, $42) and *A History of Israel From The Rise of Zionism To Our Time* (Alfred Knopf, $30 US).

The Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion (Oxford University Press, $185) seems like a definitive work, being composed of 2,400 alphabetically arranged entries in 764 pages. The editors are R.J. Zwi Werblowsky and Geoffrey Wigoder.

In *Paths of Emancipation* (Princeton University Press, $16.95 US), edited by Pierre Birnbaum and Ira Katznelson, eight historians rigorously analyse the manner in which Jews obtained civil and political rights in Russia, Britain, Italy, Germany, France, Holland, Turkey and the United States.

In 1096 Pope Urban II unleashed a series of assaults against major Jewish communities in the Rhineland. Robert Chazan, in *European Jewry and the First Crusade* (University of California Press, $17.95 US), lucidly analyses these cataclysmic events.

Physical force, as David Nirenberg explains in *Communities of Violence* (Princeton University Press, $29.95 US), set the terms and limits of coexistence for minorities in medieval Europe. The author argues that attacks on Jews and Muslims, far from being irrational outbursts, were manipulated by certain groups.

Bernard Lewis, one our greatest historians, explores a seminal year, 1492, in *Christians, Muslims and Jews in the Age of Discovery* (Oxford University Press, $14.95). A companion volume, Andrew Wheatcroft's *The Ottomans*, (Penguin, $16.99), dissects an empire where Jews found refuge after the Spanish Inquisition.

Shakespeare and the Jews (Columbia University Press, $29.50 US) is fascinating. Drawing on a motherlode of scholarship, James Shapiro explores attitudes toward Jews in Elizabethan England. Read it in conjunction with Bryan Cheyette's *Constructions of 'the Jew' in English Literature and Society* (Cambridge University Press, $18.95 US), which deals with such writers as Matthew Arnold, Rudyard Kipling, H.G. Wells and James Joyce.

Dan Miron's *A Traveller Disguised* (Syracuse University Press, $16.95 US), now in paperback, was originally published in 1973. It's a watershed in scholarship, the first major work in English on 19th-century Yiddish fiction.

Remember To Dream (Jewish Radical Education Project, New York) is a systematic survey of Jewish radicalism since the 18th century. Robert Wolfe casts a discerning eye on all the trends, from Marxism and Bundism to Zionism and Territorialism.

Think about it. In 20th-century America, who has made the greatest contributions? For an answer, dip into *100 Influential People* (Fulcrum Publishing). Seven of those listed are Jewish.

If you're writing an essay, a speech or a report, *Great Jewish Quotations* (Jonathan David, $29.95 US) may be of use. Selected and annotated by Alfred Kolatch, the entries draw on a variety of sources, including the Talmud, literary notables and sports and political figures.

Henrietta Szold (Gefen) is a tribute to an outstanding American woman and a Zionist stalwart. Text and photos are by the late Nachim Tim Gidal.

When 50 photographers descend on a city, the results are bound to be interesting. And so they are in *Jerusalem* (HarperCollins, $49), a handsome coffee-table book which distils its essence in sharply-etched photographs.

The common experiences of Jews and blacks in the United States are juxtaposed against the backdrop of the blackface tradition in American stage and film in an original book, *Blackface, White Noise* (University of California Press, $24.95 US), by Michael Rogin.

The music world lost a giant when Leonard Bernstein died in 1990. In *Conversations About Bernstein* (Oxford University Press, $37), by William Burton, friends, collaborators and critics remember the conductor and composer.

Germany's relationship with Jews and with Israel is nothing if not tangled. Michael Wolffsohn, in *Eternal Guilt?* (Columbia University Press, $27.50 US), examines it searchingly.

By contrast, Bjorn Kronndorfer's thought-provoking book, *Remembrance and Reconciliation* (Yale University Press, $25 US), looks at the range of emotions that come into play when the grandchildren of Holocaust survivors and Germans meet on common ground.

When Raimonda Kopelnitsky and her Jewish family left the Soviet Union in 1989, she began keeping a diary. *No Words to Say Goodbye* (Little Brown, $24.95) poignantly records their journey to the United States, via Austria and Italy, and her wrenching adjustment to a new land.

As the Jewish Agency's chief representative in Moscow from 1989 to 1995, Baruch Gur-Gurevitz played an integral role in the mass movement of Soviet Jews to Israel. In *Open Gates* (The Bialik Institute), he recounts the inside story of their aliyah. And in *After Gorbachev* (The Zionist Library), he explains how the upheavals in the Soviet Union affected local Jews.

Isaac Babel, the distinguished novelist, kept a journal when he rode with the Cossack cavalry during the Soviet Union's war with Poland. *1920 Diary* (Yale University Press, $20) reveals his fears, his doubts and his torn identity as a Jew and a revolutionary.

The temptations and pitfalls of assimilation are cogently probed by Barry Rubin, an Israeli scholar, in *Assimilation and its Discontents* (Random House, $35), a lively historical account of that phenomenon.

Wearing his other hat in *Under This Blazing Light* (Cambridge University Press, $19.95 US), Israeli novelist Amos Oz turns political commentator in this book. The results are felicitous.

Devotees of Yiddish literature will be pleased to learn that Schocken Books, in collaboration with Random House, has published a new English-language edition of the following classics: *The Dybbuk* by S. Ansky, *Tevye the Dairyman* and *The Railroad Stories* by Sholem Aleichem and *Tales of Mendele the Book Peddler* by Mendele Moykher Sforim. In addition, *The I.L. Peretz Reader,* edited by Ruth Wisse, is now available.

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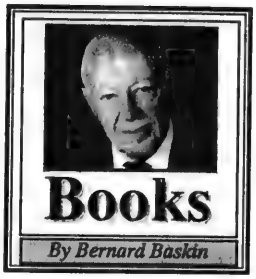

Books

By Bernard Baskin

The Steinsaltz Talmud

***The Talmud, The Steinsaltz Edition. A Reference Guide* (Random House, $35 (paperbound).**

***The Talmud, The Steinsaltz Edition. Volume XI, Ketubot Part V* (Random House, $70).**

The *Steinsaltz Reference Guide*, now reissued in paperbound form, is an invaluable contribution to the study and understanding of the Talmud. After a helpful introduction to the nature of the Talmud and its historical background, the guide lists the most prominent sages and describes the diverse tractates. It provides a brief introduction to Aramaic and supplies background notes of all sorts — astronomical, bibliographical, historical. It contains a dictionary of halachic concepts, a chapter on weights and measures and the layout of a talmudic page. All in all, it is an impressive work of organization and scholarship.

Tractate Ketubot, Part V, covers chapters 6, 7 and 8 of the tractate. It deals primarily with financial aspects of the marriage agreement: the dowry brought into the marriage by the wife; the property that remains in the wife's possession after the marriage, but which the husband is permitted to use and from which he benefits; and the sum that the husband is obligated to give to his wife should the marriage be terminated. It also discusses the circumstances under which a woman can demand divorce and receive that sum, and the situations in which a man can divorce his wife without being required to pay it.

Steinsaltz vocalizes the Hebrew and Aramaic and includes a literal translation of the text as well as a much more elaborate translation and commentary. The commentary of Rashi, the revered 11th-century scholar, is also included but not translated.

When the five books of Moses achieved their final form — according to most scholars around 500 BCE — Jews who were eager to follow the will of God were confronted with numerous questions about the text. Many passages needed interpretation; seeming contradictions had to be resolved; new and unprecedented legal and ethical problems cried out for decisions.

As a result of this need for clarification there arose in Palestine and Babylonia (Iraq) academies of learning where sages and scholars studied and debated the problems presented by the Torah text. After 600 or so years, these discussions, regarded as the Oral Law, were committed to writing by Rabbi Yehudah ha-Nasi (Judah the Prince) shortly after 200 CE. He divided the material into "six orders" and 63 tractates that covered all aspects of Jewish law.

This work, known as the Mishnah, became the obvious textbook for further legal or halachic study in the academies. As generation succeeded generation the debates and arguments of the rabbis produced a further body of tradition, supplementing the Mishnah and vastly exceeding it in volume. Written largely in Aramaic, unlike the Mishnah which is written in Hebrew, this material was called Gemara — in Hebrew, "to complete," in Aramaic "to learn." It reached its final form around 500 CE.

The Gemara which follows a particular paragraph of the Mishnah often runs to several pages before it "exhausts itself" and the next paragraph of the Mishnah is introduced. "Essentially, the Gemara examines the Mishnah text under a magnifying glass, phrase by phrase, in order to determine as precisely as possible what the law is or should be. In the process, it presents arguments between two or more rabbis, which sometimes become so complicated that it requires strenuous intellectual effort to follow them."

Frequently, the Gemara digresses into topics which are not directly relevant and more than half of the Talmud consists of aggadah "a magical rabbinic mode of thought in which myth, theology, memory, poetry and superstition robustly mingle."

The Talmud, the combination of Mishnah and Gemara, is as vast and deep as the sea. It is a monument to the intellectual exertion of 1,500 or more scholars over close to a millennium. For the traditional Jew the Halachah has its origin in the Torah, but can only be properly understood and followed as interpreted by the Talmud — and later authorities.

About 30 years ago, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz of Jerusalem began the herculean task of rendering the Babylonian Talmud into modern Hebrew and providing his own commentary. Often referred to as a genius, and hailed by *Time* magazine as "a once-in-a-millennium-scholar," the frail Steinsaltz, who began to explore Judaism on his own as a teenager, is multilingual and an expert in fields as diverse as biblical zoology and Jewish mysticism.

The ongoing Random House English translation of the Talmud is a publishing event in every sense of the word. It is one more indication of how the vast treasury of Jewish learning is being made available to the English speaking Jewish community.

Guest Voices

Jewish community has a stake in CBC's vitality

By ARLENE PERLY RAE

The CBC is at risk. Its annual budget today, in real dollars, is half of what it was in 1984. Thousands of people have lost their jobs and programs have been cut. Canada now spends less per capita on public broadcasting than any other country in the industrialized world. It costs every Canadian $32.19 a year to support the CBC. Sweden spends $116.95 per person for their public broadcasting system.

What does this mean for the Jewish community in Canada? Plenty! Our history has shown that Jews can only thrive in a pluralistic society that values a diversity of ideas and opinions. We require and value a society based on reason, argument and debate. And in a society of that kind, a free press is critical. When access to the airwaves and newspapers is restricted, when only a few "accepted truths" are permitted, Jews are uniquely vulnerable. When the winds of history turn against us, as they have so often in the past, a free and open press is a vital instrument in our defence.

That is why the CBC is so important to the Canadian Jewish community. No one would suggest that the people controlling the Canadian print and broadcast media today pose any threat to our freedom or survival. But we cannot help but be concerned as the control of much of our media becomes concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. This may lead to a narrower range of voices and opinions being heard. Only a strong public broadcaster, unfettered by the demands of both state and marketplace, can resist this trend. That is why we need strong and vigorous electronic media, both television and radio.

Over the years the CBC and the Jewish community have had an uneasy relationship. On the plus side, the CBC has presented courageous and deeply moving stories and dramas about the struggles of Jews in Canada and around the world. In 1989, a gripping CBC Radio documentary about two young holocaust survivors won a Peabody Award.

On television, we laughed at the stories of young Max Glick growing up Jewish in Winnipeg. What private broadcaster would tell these stories? And think of the Jewish stars we have come to know through the CBC — from Lorne Greene to Wayne and Shuster, Al Waxman, Ralph Benmergui, Bar-

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Jewish Life

That's some fine kosher wine

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Little did Rabbi Dov Behr Manischewitz **[http://www.manischewitz.com/108years.htm]** know over a century ago that his name would become associated with one of the largest kosher wine companies in the world. Despite their popularity, labels like Cream Strawberry Coconetta, Loganberry and the venerable Concord Grape haven't convinced wine drinkers that kosher wines can compare with the finest that France, Italy or California have to offer.

Many kosher winemakers say their products can rival the best in the world. And they are trying to get that message across by using the Jewish Highway. So what better time to sample their sites and their wares than Passover!

Where did the idea that kosher wine equals sweet wine come from?

According to the Kosher Wine Institute **[http://www.kedemwines.com/institut.htm]**, "the poor quality of Kosher wine is due largely to historical circumstance. The Concord grape, the only available variety for Jewish immigrants arriving in the New York area, is an acidic grape which must be balanced with sugar to be enjoyed. Hence, sweet wine. Time passes, and compromise becomes tradition."

For an excellent article that tracks the evolution of kosher wine from sweet to dry, see Vineyard Vanguard: The New Taste of a Well-Aged Tradition **[http://bnaibrith.org/ijm/articles/wine/index.html]**.

I was particularly impressed with the Web sites of two family-run wineries. The Herzog Family's giant Royal Wine Corporation **[http://www.kedemwines.com/]** traces its roots to 19th century Czechoslovakia. The company is now based in New York and is known for its Kedem and Baron Herzog lines. Abarbanel Wines **[http://www.kosher-wine.com/menu.html]** is based in the Languedoc-Roussillon region in the southwest of France along the Mediterranean and near the border with Spain. (Incidentally, the family traces its name back to Don Yitzchak Abarbanel **[http://www.kosher-wine.com/family/index.html]**, famed religious leader and royal advisor to Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand.)

Two winemakers from California's Napa Valley also have Internet sites: Hagafen Cellars **[http://www.nauticom.net/users/judaica/Hagafen/]** and St. Supery's Vineyards **[http://wwwflavorweb.com:80/mtmaroma.htm]**.

And Manischewitz? Actually Manischewitz wine is not produced by Rabbi Dov Behr's B. Manischewitz Company **[http://www.manischewitz.com/]**. The famous name is licensed to Widmer's Wine Cellars of Naples, New York.

Widmer's does not have its own Web site, but you can find a listing of its Kosher for Passover products at OU Online **[http://www.ou.org/chagim/pesach/pesachguide/wines.html]**.

What about the wines of Israel? Daniel Rogov gives an excellent and detailed overview in Israeli cuisine and wine **[http://www.travelnet.co.il/tnet/israel/general/cuisine.htm]**. He even includes information on which wineries offer guided tours.

Although none of the Israeli wineries have extensive Internet sites, most can be found at Wineries in Israel **[http://www.agmonet.co.il/wines/wineries.htm]**.

You'll find information about Golan Heights Winery, Segal's Wine, Baron Winery, Soreq Winery, Margalit Winery, Domain de Latroun, Tzora Estate Winery and the largest of them all, Carmel Mizrachi.

What makes a kosher wine kosher? The rules surrounding the production of kosher wine are much more stringent than those regarding other kinds of kosher food. In fact, no non-Jew can come in direct contact with the wine or associated machinery unless the juice has been briefly heated to between 85 and 90 degrees Celsius. Many critics of kosher wine claim that this "cooking" damages the wine, while the winemakers say modern techniques minimize the effects of the heating. For more details about kashrut and winemaking, see **[http://www.kedemwines.com/kosher.htm]** and **[http://www.kosher-wine.com/wines/kashrut.html]**.

Finally, I found a delightful piece of Jewish wine trivia on the website of California winemakers Martini & Prati **[http://www.winecoco.com/martini/martini.html#prohibition]**.

The Martini Wine Company was one of the few wineries in the United States to remain in operation during Prohibition. When Narciso Martini found out that rabbis were allowed 50 gallons of wine per year for religious purposes, "he shipped as much as 10,000 gallons of wine a year — all perfectly legal — to rabbis in New York for the duration of this period. 'It's amazing,' Elmo, his son, once recalled, 'how many more rabbis there suddenly were in New York during Prohibition.'"

So let us raise a glass to past and future popularity of kosher wines.

L'chaim and chag kasher v'samayach.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Hauber Mamut Basler

CBC tries to seek out true story

[Cont'd. from page 12]

bara Frum, Ken Finkelman and many more. It's an impressive list. We have seen ourselves, our community, its members and its issues reflected on the screen and over the airwaves.

But there have been problems as well. Many Canadian Jews have been unhappy at times about the CBC's coverage of events in the Middle East. There have been claims that CBC reporters and editors are "anti-Israel." And yet Arab groups often bring the opposite complaint, suggesting the same unfair stereotype or biased reporting. What this says is that the CBC practises journalism the way it should be, attempting to ferret out the true story under very difficult and trying circumstances, without being beholden to any one side.

Good journalism will always make some people uncomfortable and unhappy, but as Jews, we know better than most the importance of journalists seeking and telling the truth. We might not always like the story or the manner in which it is covered. Mistakes will sometimes be made and we are fully within our rights as citizens to point them out when they are. But we must celebrate and even be grateful for the daring, intelligent and creative approach of a non-sensationalistic, free from influence, public broadcasting network determined and committed to bring Canadians in touch with each other and to bring events from around the world to all of us as well.

We must not let the CBC bleed away from neglect, underfunding or lack of public support. Why should a fundamental institution have to "get by" as a mere shadow of its former self? Nowhere in this country are journalistic standards and values held so high as they are at the CBC. Can you really imagine journalism in this country without it?

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Community Matters

Partnerships propel Women's Federation

As Jill Reitman enters her second year as President of Jewish Women's Federation, she looks forward to strengthening ties even further between JWF and the many community organizations representing the interests of women.

"Our goal has always been *b'yachad* - together," explained Reitman. "The best way to meet the needs of the community is by working in cooperation with other agencies and organizations that share common goals."

In recapping the highlights of last year at the recent JWF/UJA Federation Women's Campaign installation, Reitman emphasized JWF's attention to community response, woman abuse and Jewish continuity.

The Community Response Project, headed by Danita Dubinsky Aziza and Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth, strives to assist the 23,000 Jews living in poverty in Toronto. CPR has worked closely with Jewish Family and Child Service and school parents' associations to organize clothing drives which have collected thousands of items for needy children.

Another committee, in partnership with the National Council of Jewish Women, has explored ways of providing food to hungry Jews across the city and is working together with other organizations toward creating a central depot to provide other necessities to the Jewish poor.

Reitman is also proud of the progress made in raising awareness of woman abuse and providing support for victims. On Tuesday, May 20, JWF is sponsoring an evening devoted to the subject at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Reitman urges those planning to attend to bring a list of possible job opportunities to help women recovering from abuse achieve independence and self-sufficiency.

Reitman, noting the success of the *Timeless Treasures* Women's Learning Series, says "women have really turned on to learning and that will enhance both their leadership abilities and commitment to community. It also provides them with a great opportunity to explore their roots."

Jill Reitman brought sons Richard (left) and Sam along for moral support.

Campbell applauds 'outstanding year' for Women's Campaign

Although the 1997 UJA Federation Women's Campaign benefited greatly from the leadership of Chair Vicki Campbell, it is Campbell who feels lucky to have had what she calls "an opportunity of a lifetime."

"These past two years have been outstanding," said Campbell, who steered the $4 million dollar campaign, which brought in close to 500 new gifts.

Highlights for Campbell included the Lion of Judah and Atarah luncheon for top women campaign contributors, UJA Federation's Leadership Mission to Moscow, St. Petersburg and Israel and the International Lion of Judah Conference in Jerusalem last fall, which Campbell said provided her with "extraordinary pride and a real connection to world Jewry."

Campbell also applauded the success of a new Women's Campaign initiative that paired veteran volunteers with newcomers. "The mentoring teams were such a great way of welcoming new volunteers to campaign."

The outgoing Chair thanked her Vice-Chair Agi Mandel for her "wisdom and perseverance" and 1997 Portfolio Coordinators Carole Sterling, Cheryl Jackson and Judy Engel for their "exemplary skills in getting the job done."

"I have learned many things from many people," said Campbell. "I was honoured to follow in the footsteps of many outstanding women and I hope that I may be able to guide others as they have guided me."

Family history draws Mandel to new position

Agi Mandel's connection to UJA Federation began long before she was born.

It was her parent's heroic story of escape and survival after World War II. that inspiredMandel's deep Jewish commitment. The new UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair recounted the tale with great emotion at her recent installation.

The brave journey from Czechoslovakia of Clara and Leslie Reitman, in 1950, began with a hasty departure by water. For five days, Clara, Leslie and their four year old son Ivan, now a prominent film producer/director, hid in a tiny space in a barge as they travelled down the Danube river to Vienna.

"My mother was frightened to death that she had miscalculated the amount of sleeping medication she had given my brother," recalled Mandel.

Once in Vienna, not knowing a soul and with nowhere to go, Mandel's father asked a taxi driver to take the family to a Jewish home - any Jewish home. "My father knew that Jews would help them," she explained. "These are our values, a strong heritage."

The people who welcomed her family put them in contact with HIAS, affiliated with Toronto's Jewish Immigrant Aid Service, a UJA Federation funded agency, which in turn provided them with shelter, money and the appropriate travel papers. They later made their way to France and finally Canada where Agi and her twin sister Susan were born.

Sisters in arms. Agi Mandel, 1998 Women's Campaign Chair, grabs a hug from twin sister Susan Michaels, JWF Vice-President.

"My community involvement is the direct result of the values I learned at home," Mandel said, stressing the importance of voluntarism.

"The more heavily involved I became the more I wanted to do. It was addictive."

Mandel took over from the outgoing Chair, Vicki Campbell, after serving as Campbell's Vice-Chair.

1997-98 JWF Executive (standing from left) Vice-Presidents Janice Langer, Susan Michaels and Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth. Seated are Immediate Past-President Glennie Lindenberg (left) and Jill Reitman. Not pictured is Vice-President Danita Dubinsky Aziza.

1998 Women's Campaign Executive (standing from left) Portfolio Coordinators Carole Sterling and Maura Cooperberg, Nominations Chair Marlene Axmith, Portfolio Coordinators Cheryl Jackson and Rosalie Flomen. Seated (from left) are Vicki Campbell, Agi Mandel and Vice-Chair Judy Engel.

Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION URGES UNITY

The Jewish world is facing a challenge from the implications of a bill now before the Knesset to formalize Orthodox conversions and marriages in Israel, which, at the present time, is the status quo. UJA Federation urges participants, as they engage in this debate, not to lose sight of our vision of unity and klal yisrael.

For the past 80 years, UJA Federation has been a unifying force within the Jewish community because it has been a setting in which Jews of every affiliation can work together and contribute to the community's benefit.

The concern with this legislation is, in part, because of its perceived impact on the Law of Return and the open access of all Jews to the land of Israel.

While there is no direct impact on the Law of Return, the proposed legislation does reinforce the absence of recognition of Conservative and Reform movements. We recognize the pain and anguish these events produce.

UJA Federation seeks a course which respects the interests and views of all Jews. In doing so, we have formally endorsed a resolution by the Council of Jewish Federations on Religious Status In Israel. This resolution urges the government of Israel to "abstain from amending legislation or passing any new legislation which would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversion." It also calls for consultation with the Jewish Agency on any such legislation and no alteration to the Law of Return.

We appreciate the supportive statements from all segments of the Jewish community advocating the unity of the Jewish people and the importance of supporting UJA Federation.

Meeting Jewish needs, through UJA Federation, is a common objective. Only through working together can we successfully respond to the true challenges facing the Jewish people, here at home and around the world. Ways must be sought to ease the pain. We must never lose sight of the vision which has united *klal yisrael* and which has allowed us to build the kind of community we have today.

Lorie celebrates 60 years of service

Next year, the UJA Federation Women's Campaign will mark its 60th anniversary and it's thanks, in large part, to Lucille Lorie, a 20th Century fundraising pioneer.

Lorie, who recently celebrated her 93rd birthday, helped change the face of giving when, in 1938, she became the first Chair of the United Jewish Welfare Fund's Women's Campaign. The United Jewish Welfare Fund preceded UJA Federation.

"I felt it was time for women to contribute on their own apart from their husbands," explains Lorie. After contacting some friends and acquaintances, she organized the first meeting of what was to be the Women's Campaign, at the home of Pearl Sadowski.

"A lot of them agreed with what I was saying and, of course, some didn't," Lorie recalls. "I just told them they had an obligation to assume their own responsibility."

That initial gathering paved the way for what has grown to be a yearly $4 million dollar drive by the UJA Federation Women's Campaign.

While Lorie was mobilizing women to give on their own, Jews in Toronto were worried about the Nazi persecution of European Jewry and were themselves faced with growing antisemitism at home. Lorie recalls the difficulties she repeatedly encountered trying to obtain her son's acceptance at the prestigious University of Toronto Schools. "His marks were excellent but his name was Jewish."

Lucille Lorie receives help from her great-grandchildren while blowing out candles at her 93rd birthday celebration.

In addition to her pioneering efforts at UJA, Lorie became very active in the community after moving to Toronto from New York at age 21 to marry her husband Harold.

Lorie was instrumental in forming the National Council of Jewish Women and travelled across Canada by train to consolidate all 14 chapters.

She later became President of the NCJW and today remains Honourary President. Lorie looks forward to taking part in the organization's Centenary celebrations later this year.

Lorie says she is "honoured to have been a part of these wonderful organizations." They would no doubt respond that the honour was theirs.

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Co-ordinator of Public Education and Training, Education Wife Assault
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JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION TOGETHER 5753 UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN UJA FEDERATION

Illustration: Courtesy of Ontario Association of Social Workers' Handbook on Women Abuse

Sterling heads Walk '97

Carole Sterling is learning there's a big difference between walking the Walk and running it.

Although Sterling, Chair of Walk '97 - *Steppin' Out for Israel*, Sunday, May 25, has been participating in the Walk, with husband Jay and children Lauren and Cory for many years, this is the first time she has played such an important role. "I think this event is unique because it ties fun together with community responsibility," she observes.

Sterling is particularly excited to offer participants in this year's Walk the choice between two separate routes and two starting times. "This way more people will be able to walk with us in support of Israel."

The first route departs from the Promenade Shopping Centre at 10:30 a.m. and the second leaves the Bathurst Jewish Centre at 12:30 p.m. Both end at North York Centennial Centre on Finch Avenue where the Community Festival will be held from 11:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. The Festival is free and includes continuous live entertainment, carnival games, a petting zoo, virtual reality machines and a Sony Play Station.

Sterling has been a dedicated UJA Federation volunteer for the past seven years and has just recently been installed as Portfolio Coordinator for the 1998 Women's Campaign.

Carole Sterling

But her involvement with community doesn't end at UJA Federation. The rest of her volunteer time is divided between the Kidney Foundation, Leo Baeck Day School and Temple Sinai, where she is a member of the Board of Directors and chairs the membership committee.

A teacher by profession, Sterling is strongly attached to Jewish learning. She is a regular at the Kolel Centre for Liberal Jewish Studies and the Jewish Women's Federation *Timeless Treasures* Learning Series.

Her thirst for knowledge makes her well suited to manage the Women's Campaign Leadership Development portfolio which she co-chairs with Judy Shulman and Helen Silverstein. "I believe the key to ensuring the legacy of leadership is to provide women with the skills they need."

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Israel prepares for landmark anniversary

Diplomatically Speaking

By Jehudi Kinar

The coming year will mark 50 years since the establishment of the independent State of Israel. This is an important landmark for us all and provides a wonderful opportunity for us to look back at what we have accomplished in these 50 short years and to look forward to what we expect will be a very bright future.

It may be worthwhile to recall the important work initiated by the pioneers of modern Zionism in 19th-century Europe. Zionism is a movement which calls for the in-gathering of the Jewish people and is based on a belief in and commitment to the continued existence of the State of Israel as a Jewish State.

The word "Zionism" originates from the biblical word "Zion," which is used synonymously to denote Jerusalem and the Land of Israel. Zionist sentiments were first expressed by Jews yearning for a return to their homeland following their exile to Babylon approximately 2,500 years ago.

Modern Zionism re-emerged in various forms during the 19th century, in large part as a reaction to the anti-Semitic environment in Russia and Eastern Europe, where the hopes for true emancipation and integration were dashed. The Herzlian form of political Zionism should also be seen in the context of the general movement toward liberal nationalism sweeping through Europe at the time.

Aside from the very important political aspects of Zionism which emphasize the return of the Jewish people to an independent Israel, there are a number of other significant factors included as well, among them culture and religion. Of great importance was the revival of the Hebrew language as the official language of Israel.

This year marks 100 years since the first Zionist Congress was convened in Basel, Switzerland. The 1897 conference can certainly be seen as a watershed in the history of the Jewish people; the event ignited the fire of enthusiasm which ultimately led to the establishment of the State of Israel.

The founder of modern political Zionism, Theodor Herzl, frustrated by the many signs of anti-Semitism in Europe and in particular his experience as a foreign journalist in France covering the Dreyfus Affair, looked for a solution that would provide the Jews with the hope for a home of their own. His thoughts were avant-garde and at the time seemed impractical. Today we often sit in amazement at the accuracy of his visions, which seemed nothing short of Utopian when he first published them in *Der Judenstaat*, *The Jewish State*.

But now, as we begin preparations for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the State of Israel which will begin at the end of December of this year, we recall with awe the prophetic nature of Herzl's visions.

A country that could only rely on its history, and a very long one at that, finally re-emerged. Once again, Jerusalem, the more than 3,000-year-old capital of the Jewish people, became the capital of Israel. A fact which is often overlooked is that Jerusalem has never been a capital of any country or people other than the Jews and Israel.

Thus, all kinds of surrogate solutions for Jerusalem proposed by outsiders shall not be acceptable to us. Jerusalem shall remain the united capital of Israel and the Jewish people. This however shall not impede any other religion, as freedom of religion shall be maintained and encouraged as has been in the case since 1967.

Looking forward to the future of Israel, we have to look to what Israel has accomplished in the only 50 years of its existence. A population of merely 600,000 as the war of independence broke out in 1948 has grown to approximately 5.5 million. A country dependent on imports of agricultural products has become self-sufficient and is teaching new agricultural methods in Latin America, the Far and Middle East, Africa and in the former Soviet Union and the other East European countries. Immigrants have flooded the country, but this has been and still is a welcome "flood."

Today, Israel is at the forefront of advanced research in the various fields of science and medicine. It is making incredible strides in technology; and is known worldwide for its rich cultural life. The multicultural background and the diversity of its population have contributed to the dynamism of the country.

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Greater Toronto Area

Tel Aviv mayor opposed to conversion bill

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Roni Milo, the mayor of Tel Aviv, is advising the Knesset to reject a bill designed to formalize the Orthodox rabbinate's monopoly over conversions to Judaism in Israel.

"I am opposed to it," he said flatly in an interview here last week. "It goes against the unity of the Jewish world."

The proposed legislation, which passed first reading on April 1, has been widely condemned, both in Israel and abroad, as a move to delegitimize Conservative and Reform Judaism.

Describing Conservative and Reform Jews in the Diaspora as "very strong supporters of Israel," Milo, a former Likud Knesset member, warned that passage of the proposed legislation would "create hard feelings among devoted Jews."

Declaring that the Conservative and Reform streams of Judaism in Israel should be duly recognized, Milo urged the Orthodox establishment not to try "to impose" its values and traditions on the non-Orthodox Jewish population.

"If the bill is passed, the impact will be negative," he forecast. " It will cause big damage. Who knows what it will be? You can assume we'll have problems."

Milo, who was here on a fund-raising mission on behalf of the Tel Aviv Foundation, cautioned supporters of the proposed legislation to think twice.

But having sounded this alarm, Milo voiced confidence that it would be defeated. As he put it: "The members of the Knesset are not stupid enough to do it."

Milo, a former cabinet minister, is firmly opposed to religious coercion. On Israeli TV recently, he said he would support a consumer's boycott of a Ramat Aviv shopping mall if its owners closed McDonald's restaurant there on the Sabbath.

Ramat Aviv, a middle-class neighborhood, is in north Tel Aviv.

Asked to comment on the budding controversy, Milo observed: "People in Ramat Aviv are secular, not religious. Religious groups should always remember that they can't impose [themselves] on the non-religious. They wouldn't like it if we tried to interfere in their lives. They should let others do what they want.

"I have a lot of respect for Orthodox Jews, but I want them to respect me."

Milo, the mayor since November 1993, cited his city as a paragon of religious tolerance. "That's one of the greatest things about Tel Aviv," he noted. "All the different communities — secular and religious, Jewish and Arab — live together without problems."

Turning to the current deadlock in the peace process, Milo, chair of the World Likud organization, urged Israel and the Palestine Authority to move forward.

Roni Milo

"Peace is very important for us, the Palestinians and the whole region. We have to sit together and talk. The Palestinians should stop terrorism. Peace and terror don't go well together.

"Israel should make efforts to find a better way to negotiate with the Palestinians. We have no choice but to reach peace."

Recalling that the Olso peace process emerged after months of secret talks, he called on both sides to discuss their current differences behind closed doors, in coordination with the United States.

He said he was guardedly optimistic that the peace process would eventually succeed.

But he warned the Palestinians that terrorism, particularly suicide bombings, undermine the cause of peace.

Asked whether Israel should cancel the Har Choma housing project in East Jerusalem as a conciliatory gesture to the Palestinians, Milo said that the government cannot rescind its decision to build there.

A member of Likud's moderate wing and an early advocate of Oslo, he said that support for Har Choma cuts across party lines, with the opposition Labor party also backing it.

Har Choma, he claimed, does not violate any of Israel's agreements with the Palestinians. "Nothing in Olso states that Israel can't build in Jerusalem."

Milo expressed support for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to plunge into final status talks now with the Palestinians. "It's a good idea. We should try to do it in parallel with the interim accords."

Since Netanyahu still faces the prospect of complicated negotiations with the Arabs, he should secure the services of seasoned advisors, Milo said.

"[Menachem] Begin had a very good team in Camp David, and I think Netanyahu will reach better results with experienced people."

He hastened to add that this suggestion should be taken as advice, not criticism.

Hailing Tel Aviv as a city which never stops, Milo said two of his pet projects are to increase the standard of living in Jaffa and to turn its old port into a centre of entertainment and night life.

Milo said the 18-year-old Tel Aviv Foundation is at present, subsidizing 260 quality-of-life projects in the city. He bristled when he was asked how much money he hoped to raise in Toronto.

David Altman, director-general of the Tel Aviv Foundation, explained it is trying to improve standards in the city's disadvantaged neighborhoods by supporting youth clubs, family medical care facilities, senior citizens' homes and handicapped centres.

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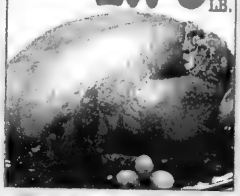

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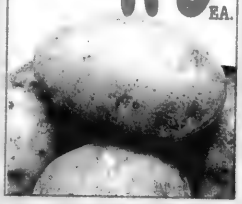

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC region holds 29th annual plenary

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The role of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) in uniting the community, even in the face of divisive issues about events in Israel was highlighted at the recent 29th Ontario regional plenary.

Other activities highlighted were advocating — with other ethnic groups — for social equity, defending Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and demanding the speedy trial of war criminals.

Though not referring directly to proposals to curb the role of Congress, regional chair Moshe Ronen, in summing up his two-year stewardship, obviously had this in mind when he reiterated the Congress goals.

Ronen deplored criticism of the Conservative and Reform branches of Judaism. "Let us steer clear of declarations questioning the legitimacy of one or another of our various branches," he said. "To do so is the height of arrogance and conceit."

He said Congress is the guardian of the "politically incorrect," as well as being the champion of small Jewish communities and fighting for the right of Jewish schools to public funding.

But the loudest applause came when he declared that Jerusalem "is the single, united, eternal capital of Israel and the Jewish people."

Ronen said certain circles were objecting to the "Judaization" of Jerusalem. "To speak of the 'Judaization' of Jerusalem makes as much sense as speaking of the 'Judaization' of a synagogue. Jerusalem by its very nature and essence is Jewish, and so it shall forever be.

"This does not in any way preclude that the city, under Israeli sovereignty, always has been and will continue to be fully sensitive to and accepting of all citizens, be they Arab, Jewish, Muslim or Christian. The sharing of Jerusalem's sovereignty, however, is not in the cards.

"On this, we are entitled to receive the world's clear and unequivocal expression of support and understanding, especially from our Christian and Muslim friends, followers of our two sister faiths. Is this too much to ask by a small nation which throughout its history has yearned for Jerusalem?"

Moshe Ronen

CJC, in partnership with UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, has sponsored a working coalition of ethnocultural and faith communities to stress the importance of ethno-specific and faith-specific institutions in social and health service delivery, he said.

In this connection, he added, the decision to shut our own Branson hospital must be reversed, at least in part.

The Canadian Technion Society is pleased to invite you to join our Guest of Honour, Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, in support of Technion's Art Eggleton Canadian Centre for Molecular Medicine Research.

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Greater Toronto Area

Coalition seeks public funding for schools

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A broad coalition of groups seeking public funding for religious and private schools in Ontario is taking unified political action before the next provincial election.

This was disclosed April 6 by Henry Koschitzky, chair of the Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education, at a forum at which one panel member said the groups involved represent 25 percent of the electorate and should show its strength at the polling booth.

"You (Jews) alone have no chance, you must have an alliance," said panel member Mark Holmes, a consultant and retired professor of educational policy at OISE. "With the others you represent a quarter of the electorate. These disparate groups do not have to love each other."

"Let's join hands, then we can force the government to take action," said M.D. Khalid, a Mississauga Islamic school board member. "The money is already there, the public system is using our money and we are being double taxed."

Moderating the forum at a plenary session of the Canadian Jewish Congress (Ontario Region), Koschitzky said the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled against such funding but also declared that the Ontario government has the legal right to provide it.

Though David Moll, a prominent educator, expressed opposition to public funding for religious and private schools, he told the forum that John Snobelen, the Ontario Minister of Education, supports it. "The issue has returned to the political arena,".said Moll, chair of both the Metro and Toronto school boards.

At the same time, Moll said he supports "in principle" that secular education in Jewish schools should be paid for our of the public purse. He gave this opinion when questioned by Simon Rucker, 23, who attended Associated Hebrew Schools, Or Chaim Yeshiva and Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

Moll said he did not agree that ethics and values are not getting enough emphasis in the public system.

The coalition includes the CJC Ontario Region, the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools, the Ontario Multi-Faith Coalition for Equity in Education (Muslim) and the Ontario Federation of Independent Schools.

On the political front, Holmes said on the basis of past action, the NDP should be eliminated, while support from either the Conservative or Liberal parties "will come down to which one will lose less by supporting you. The bottom line is we need votes in the polling booth."

Homes said it was "unrealistic" for the government to support only public and Catholic schools in a pluralistic society.

"There is no ethical reason for discrimination against religions other than Catholicism," he said. "In no country where there is support for religious schools has the public school system collapsed."

Journalist Lois Sweet said though she is no longer a militant public school supporter, and has changed her views 180 degrees on that score, she is still opposed to public funding of religious schools. Instead she believes that religious education and values can be incorporated into the public system.

"The present situation is unfair," she said. "As long as Catholic schools are funded, there should be support for other groups."

She said she was impressed with the "openness" of Jewish day schools, but, on the basis of questioning of their students, she said many feared coming to a larger society from a sheltered environment. Many also said they thought too much emphasis was given to the Holocaust.

Khalid said the cost of educating a student in the Islamic school in Mississauga is $2,500 a year compared with $7,000 in the public system. "Even if we raised the salaries of our teachers to the public level the cost would still be half of the public cost."

Support for public funding of religious and private schools with "a proven track record," was expressed by Paul Fernandes, past chair of the Metro Toronto Separate School Board.

The government has ben extremely unfair to the Jewish community," he said. "Its schools have a track record. I'm quite impressed with the kind of educational system you have put in place."

Holy Blossom to hold seder for those affected by AIDS, HIV

TORONTO — Holy Blossom Temple's AIDS committee would like to invite all its friends to its seventh annual Third Seder: A Passover Celebration For Those Affected and Infected by HIV and AIDS.

This year's seder will be held on April 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the Philip Smith Hall at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St. There is no charge but donations are appreciated.

A traditional Passover meal will be served and glatt kosher food is available upon request. As well, transportation is available for those who require it.

Last year's seder brought together nearly 350 people to share in a ceremony of redemption and compassion articulated through a distinctive Haggadah that was compiled especially for the occasion by Jonathan Lampe, past chair of the committee.

This year the need is even greater. These mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and lovers need to know that there is a Jewish community that cares.

For more information, or to make reservations please call Deborah, in confidence, at 789-3291 ext. 249 by April 9.

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A Call to Action from Conservative and Reform Jewish Leaders

As leaders of Reform and Conservative Judaism, we are both dismayed and outraged by the decision of Israel's Knesset to try to deter the development of religious pluralism in Israel. At a time when the unity of the Jewish people should be the driving purpose of every responsible Jewish body, the Knesset has decided to fracture that unity by approving the first reading of a bill which denies recognition of non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel.

We find the vote on the conversion bill difficult to understand and impossible to accept. The Knesset should have welcomed the recent decision of Israel's Supreme Court which created the possibility that the State might finally recognize conversions authenticated by each one of our people's religious streams; instead, the Knesset has chosen to revert to the offensive and exclusivist practice of earlier years. The effort to continue an Orthodox monopoly on conversion and to seek to delegitimize Conservative and Reform Judaism is an insult to our movements and our members: we vigorously protest it.

Accordingly, we have agreed to take the following steps:

1. We urge our 1800 congregations in North America to refrain from welcoming as honoured guests those members of Knesset who support the conversion bill in its final reading. We ask our synagogues to refrain from extending invitations to them to appear as speakers or lecturers, or as guests of honour in our institutions. Furthermore, we ask our congregational leaders to refrain from supporting any communal activity to which such Knesset members have been invited.

   We adopt this policy with great regret. However, we cannot in good conscience include among our honoured guests those who choose to exclude us from the religious community of our people. It is our intention to review this policy every six months.

2. We repudiate any compromise that will affirm the Orthodox stranglehold over conversions in Israel.

3. We call on all those who believe, with us, that there must be greater appreciation of and access to all religious streams in Israel, to contribute even more generously to Reform and Conservative programs and institutions in Israel. It is essential that our members and friends take on themselves the responsibility that the Israeli government has betrayed: the responsibility to encourage all serious forms of Jewish religious expression.

4. As we always have, we strongly encourage our members to contribute generously to their local Federation campaigns. We deeply believe that these campaigns are essential components of our communal commitments. At the same time, we call on our members, and especially those who are active in their local federations, to encourage their federations to provide increased support to Conservative and Reform programs in Israel. And, we continue to press for a reassessment of funding allocation from the Jewish Agency to provide greater resources for our movements, programs and institutions in Israel.

   While we work unceasingly for a change in Israeli policy and to build our movements in Israel, we are prepared to enter all discussions which will enable all religious streams to work together with respect and caring, to strengthen our people's faith and to insure prosperity and well-being for Zion and our people.

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For further information, please phone Rabbi Paul Golumb 905-709-2275

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Teen leaders visit Toronto in international link

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Pierce Landis

Nava Mizrahi

TORONTO — With his large black velvet kipppah and flowing tzitzit, Pierce Landis, 18, doesn't look like a typical member of B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO).

As the group's grand aleph gadol (international president of BBYO's boys' division, Aleph Zadik Aleph, also known as AZA), the Atlanta teen is, quite literally, one in 40,000, the number of BBYO members worldwide, including some 1,000 Canadians and 19,000 Americans.

While Landis' degree of religious observance may set him apart from fellow members, it's also testament to the inclusive nature of the worldwide organization.

"There's a sense of belonging in BBYO that I haven't felt anywhere else," said Landis' female counterpart, Nava Mizrahi, 18, international n'siah (president) of B'nai B'rith Girls (BBG).

Mizrahi, a native of Vancouver who has received more than a dozen community awards, also likes the fact that the organization is youth-led. "The staff definitely guide us and oversee us, [but] they put us in a position to challenge ourselves and take initiative."

Mizrahi visited Toronto and Montreal recently, as did Landis, to meet with local BBYO chapters, parents of teens and board members. Mizrahi also stopped in Winnipeg.

Both of the teens, who were elected last August at BBYO's international convention in Starlight, Pennsylvania, have deferred university entrance for a year to carry out their full-time organizational responsibilities,

As a Canadian (the fourth to become international BBG president), Mizrahi wants to play a part in "making sure the Canadian regions are attended to."

In the past, Canadian regions have sometimes felt neglected, she noted. Canadian regions fall under the aegis of B'nai B'rith International's office in Washington, D.C., which recently reached out to Canadians by offering them some international programs at Canadian dollar par rates.

This summer for the first time a Chapter Leadership Training Conference, organized through the D.C. office, will be held in Red Deer, Alta. Four locations in the United States will also have conferences.

In Toronto, BBYO funding comes from membership dues, public fundraising and a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. B'nai Brith Canada stopped funding BBYO in 1991.

A BBYO summer leadership program several years ago "turned him on to Judaism" and he began studying with a rabbi on his return to Atlanta.

"Pierce is a wonderful influence on the teens," said Stephanie Hofland, director of BBYO's 15-chapter Greater Toronto Area Council, which includes Hamilton and Kitchener.

"People often label me the most religious kid in BBYO," said Landis. "Kids who join BBYO, at least in the United States, often have no Jewish involvement. Our goal is that they'll still be connected to the Jewish people."

BBYO programming typically includes community service, social, educational, Judaic and athletic events.

For Mizrahi, the most striking aspect of a summer leadership training experience was meeting her counterparts from Lithuania and other far-flung locales, and her dual realization of their vast experiential differences as well as a strong feeling of connection with them.

In May and June she plans to meet with chapters in England, Ireland and France. "This is what you live for — being able to motivate youth. I think it's a different type of fulfilment, being able to make a difference in people's lives."

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Residents oppose golf course

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Residents in the Bathurst-Sheppard area have won a short reprieve in their battle against a golf course proposed for Earl Bales Park.

Metro Council last week voted to refer the proposal to its environment and public space committee, effectively delaying the plans, but not for long.

Earlier this month, North York Council passed an interim bylaw it says will prohibit any work from proceeding until a study is completed.

The moves follow weeks of opposition to the course from residents in the mainly Jewish area. They were concerned about increased noise and parking, use of pesticides and damage from golf balls.

The 18-hole, par three short course had been planned for 17 acres in the park's southwest area as part of a bid to raise money for Metro, which controls the park. It was estimated the course would cost about $700,000 and bring in up to $200,000 a year.

But opposition arose when residents, many on Timberlane Avenue, charged that Metro had not properly consulted them. They also feared a large chunk of the park's natural beauty would be destroyed.

Ray Biggart, Metro's acting parks commissioner, told *The CJN* the environment and public space committee will hear submissions from the public later this month, and can kill the plans or send them back to Metro Council with amendments.

Biggart said he wants the course built and he's seeking legal advice on North York's assertion that its bylaw halts the plans. "I think they're wrong," he said.

In the meantime, area residents say they'll keep up the fight. Some told *The CJN* they remember the time, over 25 years ago, when the York downs Golf and Country Club, on the park's current site, brought noise and broken windows from errant balls.

Allan Eisen, president of the Earl Bales Conservation Association, said his group will make its views known to the Metro committee.

"Why take away a park?" he asked.

Rosalie Abella honored by Bonds, ORT

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Family members, friends and admirers turned out in droves recently to honor Rosalie Silberman Abella, who was awarded the 1997 Woman of Achievement Award by State of Israel Bonds Women's Division and Toronto ORT.

Abella is a justice of Ontario's Court of Appeal and a former judge of the Ontario Provincial Court, family division. In 1995, she chaired the Canadian Judicial Council Conference, the first judicial conference in Canada primarily for women judges, and she was also the sole commissioner on the Royal Commission on Equality in Employment.

As well, she chaired the Study on Access to Legal Services by the Disabled in Ontario. She was presented with the Deborah Award, in recognition of the first female judge and prophet, to whose ideals, the audience was told, Abella strives in contemporary life.

Rosalie Abella

Being a woman and Jewish are her two main identities, Abella told the crowd at Adath Israel Synagogue. In Canada, however, there seems to be a growing number of Jews who seek to be the same as everyone else, who are ambivalent about their Jewishness.

"Many Canadians assume that being Jewish excludes them, and so they abandon their trademark. In the process, [they] have lost their flair — they have traded their uniqueness for the banality of conformity. Canada is enhanced by differences. To exchange uniqueness for integration is cultural suicide. The price for abandoning who we are is cultural invisibility."

Equality guarantees everyone the equal right to be free from discrimination, she said. "To create equality we must acknowledge differences. As a Canadian, I believe that is the single most significant weapon against discrimination."

Being a Jew is many different things, Abella said, and we must allow ourselves to be Jewish in our own way. "The question is not who is a Jew, but why is a Jew? The object should be to reduce intolerance, not increase it in our own ranks. We must be committed to the war against intolerance."

She said that being Jewish "can be a full-time job and to experience it properly, we must know it and participate in [Judaism]. We have made enough progress, not to rest comfortably, but to add a voice as Jews in the rest of Canada."

Public life is global, she said, and "what happens to Jews all over the world should matter to us. Israel is a vulnerable democracy that should be understood. There is a script in the Middle East that is being written one day at a time and the last thing it needs is thousands of directors.

"[Israel] knows better than anyone the truth that all Jews know – nothing and no one can be taken for granted. Israel is part of our future and it needs a strong and understanding Diaspora."

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would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to family and friends for your warm expressions of sympathy & support during our recent loss.

We wish everyone a healthy & kosher Pesach.

Piroska, Peter, Judith, David, Aviva, Steve, Miriam, Amanda & Melanie

Chair in chemical physics established at U of T

TORONTO — A gift from Roel Buck, Canadian business leader and entrepreneur, will be matched by the University of Toronto (U of T) to establish Canada's first chair in chemical physics.

Paul Brumer, a professor in the chemistry department in the Faculty of Arts and Science and a principal investigator at the Ontario Laser and Lightwave Research Centre, will be the first Roel Buck-Weizmann Professor of Chemical Physics, effective immediately.

Canada has maintained long-standing world leadership in theoretical and experimental chemical physics and two of Canada's three living Nobel laureates — Gerhard Herzberg and U of T chemist John Polanyi worked at the forefront of the field.

Buck is president of RCB Holdings and chair of Autosystems Manufacturing Inc., a manufacturer of motor vehicle parts and accessories.

He has served as president of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association and has held positions on other Canadian boards. He is a member of the executive committee of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science.

"People must recognize that we operate in a global community and the only way that Canada can compete in the forefront is in the support of scientific endeavor," says Buck.

The Roel Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics builds upon an existing research relationship between U of T and the Weizmann Institute of Science in which Brumer, a graduate of Harvard University, and Professor Moshe Shapiro of the Weizmann Institute are collaborators. They have discovered a laser-based strategy for affecting the outcome of chemical reactions.

Their research has shown that lasers can potentially be used to direct electric currents, make desirable and useful molecules, reduce the production of harmful chemicals and create new sources of laser light. This has opened up possible applications to chemical synthesis, optoelectronics, display panels and pharmaceutical manufacturing.

"Strengthening links between chemical physics research in Canada and Israel presents a unique opportunity to tie together two powerful science communities to mutual advantage," says Marsha Chandler, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

A symposium in honor of the establishment of the Roel Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics is planned for May 27.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish writers' style linked to security

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish writers have always had difficulty with romantic love stories and they may not resolve that until the political and social future of Jewish people is assured.

That was the message of the Ray D. Wolfe annual lecture delivered recently by Prof. Sharon Green of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Toronto.

Israeli writers, as well as their counterparts elsewhere, have failed to write romantic novels, veering away from traditional sources and being influenced by modernist trends, said Green, who teaches a course in modern Hebrew literature in translation — the first time it has been offered in the program.

Her lecture, titled Love, Literature and the Jews, S.Y. Agnon and the Search for the Romantic Novel, received an attentive hearing in the University's Croft Chapter House.

Agnon, (1887-1970), winner of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1966, is the only Hebrew writer to have won that prize to date, Green said.

The protagonist in Agnon's *A Simple Story*, published in 1935, failed miserably in his quest for romantic love, Green said.

One reason for the failure of Jewish writers to treat the subject with success, she suggested, is that for economic and other reasons, Jews were too busy with every-day concerns. She also agreed with an audience member who said that at the time romantic novels were being written by English and other European writers, Jewish marriages were arranged and couples did not know each other.

Another reason may be that Jewish writers had to cover the periods of neoclassicism to modernism in only 70 years, leaving little time for the romantic novel.

As well, the popularity of the romantic novel suffered greatly from the ideas of Marx, Nietzche and Freud, who all influenced the modernist school.

"Where is the equivalent of the Bronte sisters?" she asked.

Prof. David Novak, Jewish Studies Program director, said the lecture honored the memory of a business and communal leader in the community and founding publisher of *The CJN*. Novak described university chancellor Rose Wolfe as a tireless supporter of the program.

UJA Federation urges cooperation in conversion law debate

TORONTO — UJA Federation is asking everyone involved in the debate about Israel's religious conversion legislation to work together to meet Jewish needs.

Legislation to formalize the status quo of Orthodox conversions and marriages in Israel has passed first reading in the Knesset. The new bill has aroused strong criticism from the Conservative and Reform movements.

The UJA Federation board of directors has endorsed a resolution from the Council of Jewish Federations urging the government of Israel to "abstain from amending legislation or passing any new legislation which would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions. "It also seeks consultation between the government and the Jewish Agency on any such legislation."

UJA Federation president Sandra Brown stressed that the bill has no impact on the Law of Return, about which many people are concerned. She also acknowledged the "pain and anguish" produced by the debate and called on all parties to the controversy to concentrate on answering the call for help from Jews in need.

"We must work together to alleviate the impact of Jewish poverty, and, in partnership with Jews in Israel and around the world, to rescue people in peril and assist the disadvantaged," she said.

Earlier this year, a statement from the major Conservative and Reform organizations in the United States called on Jewish communities to continue supporting their UJA Federation campaigns. "The vision of klal Israel — a unified Jewish people — is one that has been held by our ancestors for thousands of years," said a statement from The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the Rabbinical Assembly, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

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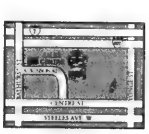

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Toronto student among winners of Mitzvah Competition

[From left] Rabbi Baruch Zaltzman, Leible Ceitlin, Rabbi Yosef Ceitlin.

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Leible Ceitlin, a Grade 7 Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad student is one of six winners of the recent International Mitzvah Competition sponsored by the cheder in conjunction with Tzivos Hashem, a worldwide youth organization.

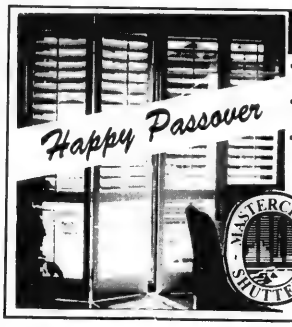
Ceitlin competed against 43 boys from across Canada and the United States, all finalists in a three-month qualifying round that began with 1800 students.

Rabbi Baruch Zaltzman, principal of Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad said that all participating yeshivah students spent their free time studying the 176 mitzvot chosen for this year's competition. The contestants study the details of each mitzvah — its name, its meaning, who is obligated in it and how and when it is performed.

"The process narrowed down to finalists with the most broad and accurate knowledge of the Book of Torah Commandments written by Maimonides over 850 years ago.

"From the efforts these students put into studying, whether during recess or while waiting for the bus...the fact remains that [they all] have gained an incredible storehouse of knowledge that has whet their appetite for a lifetime of Jewish learning," he said.

He knew the week-end of the contest, which included a Shabbat of prayers, songs, meals and special activities, would be a success, said Rabbi Zaltzman, because despite an ice storm in Toronto, all contestants, some from as far away as California, arrived in time.



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Shabbat of prayers, songs

"No one got stranded and all arrived before Shabbat. None had ever been to Toronto; so that certainly added to the excitement of the week-end."

Before the final round began, and throughout the afternoon, the capacity crowd at the City Playhouse in Vaughan was entertained by singer Shlomo Simcha.

"We were honored to have such noted rabbis as Binyamin Klein, the Rebbe's personal secretary for 30 years who came from New York as a representative of the Lubavitch head office. Also present were Rabbi Yona Shur, the cheder's executive director; Rabbi Zalman Aaron Grossbaum; and Yehezkel Zahavi, who gave our school money in order to name it after his son Shmuel who was killed in an automobile accident when he was 18 years old," said Rabbi Zaltzman.

On Campus

York strike is no holiday for students

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — I've been having problems getting out of bed this week. That's not unusual for university students this time of year. Many stay up all hours getting papers done, cramming for exams, preparing for last minute presentations. To be a red-eyed, groggy, yawning undergraduate is not out of the ordinary.

Opinion

But I'm not overtired and I'm not staying up late. Like many of the other 40,000 students at York University, I am not groggy from feeling overworked. As I write this, my professors prepare for their third week of picketing Tonight, I will once again go to sleep wondering if and when my classes will start up, my papers will be due, my exams will be written. I've been having trouble getting out of bed this week simply because without classes, I'm not sure what I'm getting out of bed for.

The York professors are fighting the administration for a higher wage increase, flexible retirement and smaller classes, and to stop the invasion of technology into the classroom (Internet courses, lectures by TV screens). I would be the first student to say I support them in their fight. What benefits the professors benefits the students: With smaller classes professors will be able to give more attention to students and our work.

I also understand why they chose this time of year to strike. What administration would allow a strike to carry on into April, when final exams need to be written and students are waiting to graduate?

But the strike *is* carrying on. The administration *is* digging in its heels. And the students are left feeling like pawns. We're sitting at home, frozen puppets on strings, waiting for the university to turn back on the switch that will let the term continue. We're frozen because, while the university may be stalled, the rest of our lives are not. Students with summer work contracts starting in May worry that they won't be able to take their positions. Students looking for summer work watch the weeks tick by, knowing that every day passing is one day less they have to raise money for next year's tuition. We're frozen like puppets because we have the least amount of control in a situation which most directly affects us.

> *'We're frozen like puppets'*

Passover is right around the corner and as a Jewish student, I face an extra dimension in this strike. My mother in Winnipeg counts the strike as a mixed blessing. While of course she hates to see my year interrupted, on the other hand, she has promised to bug me every day the strike continues.

"If it goes on," she says, "you could come home for the seders."

But I can't even consider making those plans. With my luck,I'd step on the plane and have to turn right around, after finding out in mid-flight that the the strike had been settled.

I have one roommate, who, after completing her first year was very much looking forward to spending the holiday with her family in Houston. Now it looks as though exams will be extended into May and she will have to stay here and spend another holiday away from home.

In many ways, my roommates and I are fortunate. We're not faced with a lease ending in May or with meal plans budgeted only until the end of term.

At the same time, we have to start preparing for the coming of Pesach, for the cleaning, the shopping, the organizing. Not knowing when this strike will end means not knowing when we may have to drop everything to dive back into school and exams at a moment's notice. I want to be able to enjoy the holiday without feeling as though I am on call.

> *Pesach a time of rebirth*

Pesach is one of the four Jewish new years. Marking the coming of spring, it is a time of regeneration, rebirth and growth. The end of term should also mark the beginning of a new year — the completion of one academic year allowing students to carry new knowledge and skill into the following. Yet here we are in a stalemate position. We're not being allowed to grow, even as we are being denied access to our education.

People keep asking me how I'm enjoying my holiday. I would hardly call it that. I'm not in classes, but I'm also in no position to let myself believe that those classes don't exist. If I let myself believe that this is holiday time, then I'm in for a rude awakening.

With a holiday, one knows when it begins and when it ends, but I'm going to wake up one morning and just as suddenly as my classes stopped, so will they start up. Just as I was given this "holiday" without warning, so will I have it ended.

I didn't need a strike to know the importance of my professors' work. I want them to feel appreciated and recognized for their knowledge, skills and effort. But at the same time, I also need to be recognized, not as a pawn, but as someone waiting for these strings to be cut.

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From coast to coast

CJC to meet Rock over war crimes allegations

[Cont'd. from page 1]
attached to the unit. Hobson's charges included that Fradkin was also suspected of downplaying the case of suspected war criminal Radislav Grujicic of Windsor, Ont., because Grujicic was not accused of killing Jews.

Hobson, now a legal consultant in Metro Toronto, said a decision was made by senior Justice Department officials to proceed with criminal charges against suspects rather than take the relatively easier route of denaturalization and deportation. He said his protests were ignored and that criminal charges remained the preferred route until Rock took over in 1993, when Ottawa reversed its anti-deportation policy.

It was under the watch of Hobson and Fradkin that Canada's only successful deportation came in 1992, when convicted Nazi collaborator Jacob Luitjens was sent to face charges in his native Holland.

Hobson, who maintains he was forced out of the war crimes unit, said more successful deportations could have taken place if the criminal route had been abandoned earlier.

The Justice Department says it conducted a preliminary investigation into the charges of anti-Jewish bias in 1990, but that a formal inquiry did not take place because Fradkin had not filed a grievance.

Fradkin told *The CJN* last week he could not comment because he's still employed by the Justice Department as senior counsel in the civil litigation section.

Irving Abella, chair of CJC's war crimes committee, said a May 5 meeting has been scheduled with Rock to discuss the matter.

Abella said meetings with Thomson and senior Justice Department lawyers will take place in the next two weeks. He said CJC wants an independent inquiry to probe the charges of anti-Semitism and to find out why a formal investigation into them was not carried out years ago.

For his part, a frustrated Hobson told CJC's Ontario region plenary last week that his years in the war crimes unit have made him "mad as hell and not going to take it anymore."

Offer rejected

"I've had enough," said Hobson, who said he was told by senior bureaucrats to stop leaving paper trails and, it was implied, to stop making matters more difficult for then justice minister Kim Campbell.

Hobson said he's offered his services to the government for free, but that Ottawa rejected his offer.

CJC and B'nai Brith Canada reacted with outrage to Hobson's allegations. BBC said it was "appalled" to discover that "one of the strongest barriers" to prosecutions was anti-Semitism.

As for Kisielaitis, CJC says U.S. officials developed an "ironclad" case against him after he was discovered in 1983 living in Worcester, Mass.

Congress says Kisielaitis came to Canada in 1948 and moved to the United States in 1962. It says he returned to Canada two days before his American deportation hearings were to begin in May, 1985.

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„מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות"? מיט וואָס אנטער-שיידט זיך די הייַנטיקע נאַכט פון אַלע נעכט פון אַ גאַנץ יאָר? די פראַגע ווערט שוין געפרעגט התדר־טער יאָרן פסח ביים סדר־טיש.

אָן אויב אַ נאַכט האָט זיך ווען עס איז אנטשידט פון אַלע אַנדערע נעכט אין דער לאַנגער מאַרטידער־געשיכטע פון יידישן פאָלק, איז עס געווען מיט 54 יאָר צוריק — דעם 19־טן אַפּריל, 1943, ווען די אַנטשלאָסענע רעשטלעך פון דער וואַרשעווער געטאָ האָבן געגעבן זייער מוטיקן עכטפער ניט ביים סדר־טיש, נאָר אויף די דעכער, אויף די מויערן אַן באַריקאַדן, אויף די גוט־צוגעגרייטע קאָמוי־פאָזיציעס.

אין דער געשיכטע פון דער היטלעריסשער אָקופּאַציע פון אַ גרויסן טייל אייראָפּע, פּאַרגעסט דער וואַרשעווער געטאָ־אויפ-שטאַנד אַ גאָר אַנגעזעענעם אָרט צווישן די קאַפּיטלען פון אָרגא-נידירטן, אָפּגעגעם וויידערשטאַנד צום פאַשיזם.

די וואַרשעווער געטאָ־קעמפער האָבן כמעט קיין הילף פון דרויסן ניט באַקומען. פון צענדליקער דאָקומענטן, וואָס זיינען גע-ראַטעוועט געוואָרן זינט דער באַפרייאונג, דערוויסט מען זיך וועגן די פּאָזיטיווע הילפט־טופן, וואָס די געטא־קעמפער האָבן גע-האַלטן אין איין אויסזיקן, אָן וועלכע עס וואָלט ניט זיין ממשות-דיקע רעוולטאַטן. די פידער פון דער פוילישער גלות־דעגירונג אין לאָנדאָן און די פידערשאפט פון דער פאַלקס־אַרמיי אין לאַנד גופא זיינען נעבליבן — אין דער גרעסטער מאָס — גלייכגילטיק צו דעם הערזשן קאָמף און צו דער שרעקלעכער בלוט־פאַרגיסונג אין דער געטא.

די העלדישקייט פון די קעמפער אין דער וואַרשעווער געטאָ האָט אַ סך בייגעטראָגן צום זיג איבערן היטלעריזם. אָן אַט־דער זיג פון דער מענטשהייט אין פון יידישן פאָלק האָט אויך פאַרליגט דעם באָדן פאַר דער מאָנומענטאַלער גשפּענדיש אין דער מאָדערנער יידישער געשיכטע — די אַנטשטיאונג און פאַרפעסט-קונג פון מדינת ישׂראל.

אונדזער דור, וואָס האָט מיטגעמאַכט די גרעסטע קאַטאַס-טראָפע אין דער לאַנגער מאַרטידער געשיכטע פון יידישן פאָלק, האָט אויך געהאַט די גרויסע זכיה צו דערלעבן דעם וידער-געבורט פון אונדזער פאָלק און די עטאַבלידונג פון מדינת ישׂראל.

איז עס ניט קיין צופאַל, וואָס כּמעט אין זעלבן טאָג, ווען עס ווערט אָפּגענעמערקט דער 54־טער יאָרטאָג פון וואַרשעווער געטאָ־אויפשטאַנד, ווערט אויך געפייערט דער גרויסער נאַציאָנאַלער יום־טוב פון יידישן פאָלק איבער דער וועלט — דער 49־טער יובילי פון מדינת ישׂראל.

פייערן מיר דריי גרויסע געשעענישן אין דער יידישער גע-שיכטע: פּסח, דער יום־טוב פון פרייהייט; וואַרשעווער געטאָ־אויפ-שטאַנד, סימבאָל פון אַנטשלאָסנקייט, קאָמף און וידערשטאַנד; און 49 יאָר מדינת ישׂראל, דער יום־טוב פון נאַציאָנאַלן וידער-געבורט.

און פונקט ווי מיר לייענען יעדן יאָר די הגדה און דערציילן אונדזערע קינדער די געשיכטע פון יציאת מצרים, אזוי טאָרן מיר קיינמאָל ניט מיר ווערן צו דערציילן אַדער הערן די געשיכטע פון וואַרשעווער געטאָ־אויפשטאַנד, אָן צוזאַמען דערמיט פון די יאָרן פון טראָגיזם און אונטערגאַנג פון איינעם פון די לעבעדיקסטע, קא־לידפולסטע, שעפעריש יידישע ישובים. פאַר אונדזערע אויגן דאַרפן אַלעמאָל שטיין די זעקס מיליאָן, וואָס זיינען פרייציטיק פאַרשניטן געוואָרן דורכן בארבאַרישן שונא; אין אונדזערע אויערן מוז אַלעמאָל קלינגען דער פאַרצווייפלטער יאָמער, וואָס טראָגט זיך נאָך אַלץ פון אונטער די חורבות, און פון דער מיט־בלוט דורכ-געווייקטער ערד פון טרעבלינקא, מאַידאַנעק, אשוויצענטשים, בעל-זשעץ און סאָביבאָר. אין אונדזערע הערצער מוז אַלעמאָל ברענען דאָס פייער פון שנאה אַן האָס צו די נעכטיקע שונאים פון אונדזער פאָלק און פון דער מענטשהייט — צו די צינדער פון מלחמה אַן פאַרשפּרייטער פון אַמטיסעמיטיזם און רַאסן־האָס!

אַן צו דער זעלבער צייט מוזן מיר שטיין אויף דער וואַך אַן אַרומרינגלען מיט לויבשאָפט אַן איבערגעגעבנקייט די פעסטנע פון וועלט־יידנטום — מדינת ישׂראל.

די פאַרשטענדיקונג, וואָס ישׂראל האָט דערגרייכט מיט די פאַלקסטימער אין אַ באַדייטנדיקער שריט פאָראויס אויפן וועג פון פרידלעכן צוזאַמענלעבן פון דער יידישער מדינה מיט די אַראַבישע מלוכות, ישׂראל מוז אַבער טוען אַלץ אין איר מעגלעכקייט, צו דערגרייכן שלום מיט אַלע אַראַבישע שכנים.

סאָלוט צו מדינת ישׂראל צו איר 49־טן יובל! אייביקער רום צו די אומשטערבלעכע העלדן פון וואַרשעווער געטאָ!

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Somalia inquiry's termination part of 'cover-up,' BBC says

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — The government's premature termination of the Somalia inquiry is part of a "cover-up" of events that took place in the African nation, B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) has charged.

The Defence Department cut off the inquiry to prevent the commission from getting at the truth "because the truth had become just too embarrassing to the department and the minister," lawyer David Matas said last week in BBC's submission to the inquiry.

Matas advised the commission to address why Ottawa cut short the inquiry and "record as closely as possible exactly what work was frustrated by its premature termination," which he called "the latest sordid chapter in this awful history."

Both BBC and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) were granted standing before the inquiry to examine racism in the military, especially among Canadian peacekeepers in Somalia in the early 1990s. CJC's brief, also submitted last week, proffered a long list of recommendations to combat the problem.

Matas said BBC considered dropping out to protest Defence Minister Doug Young's decision to cut short the commission, but decided to carry on "out of respect" for its work and potential effectiveness.

Matas slammed the Defence Department for delaying the commission's work in the first place by withholding and destroying documents, and "untimely disclosure....When it comes to racism in the Armed Forces, the Minister of Defence just does not want to know."

What started out as the killing of two Somali teenagers under the watch of Canadian peacekeepers, ended up discrediting the entire military establishment and the minister, Matas told the commission.

The "only good" that came out of the episode was the appointment of the inquiry. By cutting its mandate short, the minister, the Armed Forces and the Defence Department, made "their disgrace total."

BBC's most important recommendation is that the Armed Forces "develop a human rights culture," Matas said. The main victims of human rights violations "are minority members of the Canadian military itself, and not outsiders...For the Canadian military in Somalia, there was not even a suggestion of a need for equality of treatment" for minorities and Somalis.

"Given the absence of a human rights culture within the military, the Somalia deployment was a tragedy waiting to happen. And it will happen again and again in other, similar peacekeeping operations unless the military gets its human rights act together."

When the Canadian military violates the rights of Somalis, "that violation is a threat to the human rights of the Jewish minority in Canada," Matas said.

He noted that the military's exclusion of Jews from Middle East peacekeeping operations is still before the courts. In BBC's view, that issue and the mistreatment of Somalis "have the same genesis: lack of military commitment to human rights values; and they have the same solution: an internalization of the universal values of human rights."

Steven Shulman and Keith Landy of CJC offered the inquiry the following recommendations:

• Vigilance in attacking racism: "None is too many when it comes to racists, racism and racist incidents in the Armed Forces... Canadians expect and deserve no less."

• Better internal and external communications about racists: It is vital, Congress said, that information gathered by all sectors of the Forces be shared with commanding officers and with other branches of government.

• Enhanced mandatory education about racist ideology, groups, symbols and language: Individuals "at every level" in the military failed to recognize evidence of racists, racist beliefs, symbols and/or language, CJC charges. The inquiry heard evidence of skinheads, neo-Nazis and white supremacists in the ranks, as well as the display of the U.S. Confederate flag and Celtic and Iron crosses; the discovery of a Ku Klux Klan membership card; racist language and swastika tattoos. CJC took the military to task for its failure to act on these, and indeed, its indifference to them. CJC recalled that one high-ranking officer testified that in his nearly 30 years in the military, he had seen "many" Iron Crosses and swastika tattoos on soldiers "who are not racists."

• Uniform recruiting safeguards against the enrolment of racists in the Armed Forces must be instituted. Additional screening should take place to ensure soldiers are fit to take part in peacekeeping missions abroad. At the time of the Somalia deployment, the Forces did not have a mechanism in place to weed out racists. CJC said one "violent" soldier, who has admitted membership in the Aryan Resistance Movement, is still a Forces member.

• Prior to peacekeeping missions, a priority should be the "sensitization" of personnel to "the cultural milieu of the country or region" of deployment.

• The ultimate goal of Canadian Forces' policy should be "zero tolerance" for racism. With that in mind, a 1993 Forces order stating that racist behavior is unacceptable can be improved, CJC suggests, by codifying standard punishments for racists acts.

PM backs pull-out

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Jean Chretien has reaffirmed Canada's support for UN resolutions calling for the eventual pull-back of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon.

Chretien made the remarks last week following his meeting with visiting Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

"Everybody wants peace in the area," Chretien said. "It's desirable for the whole world, and if we can make a contribution, we'll be there to make it."

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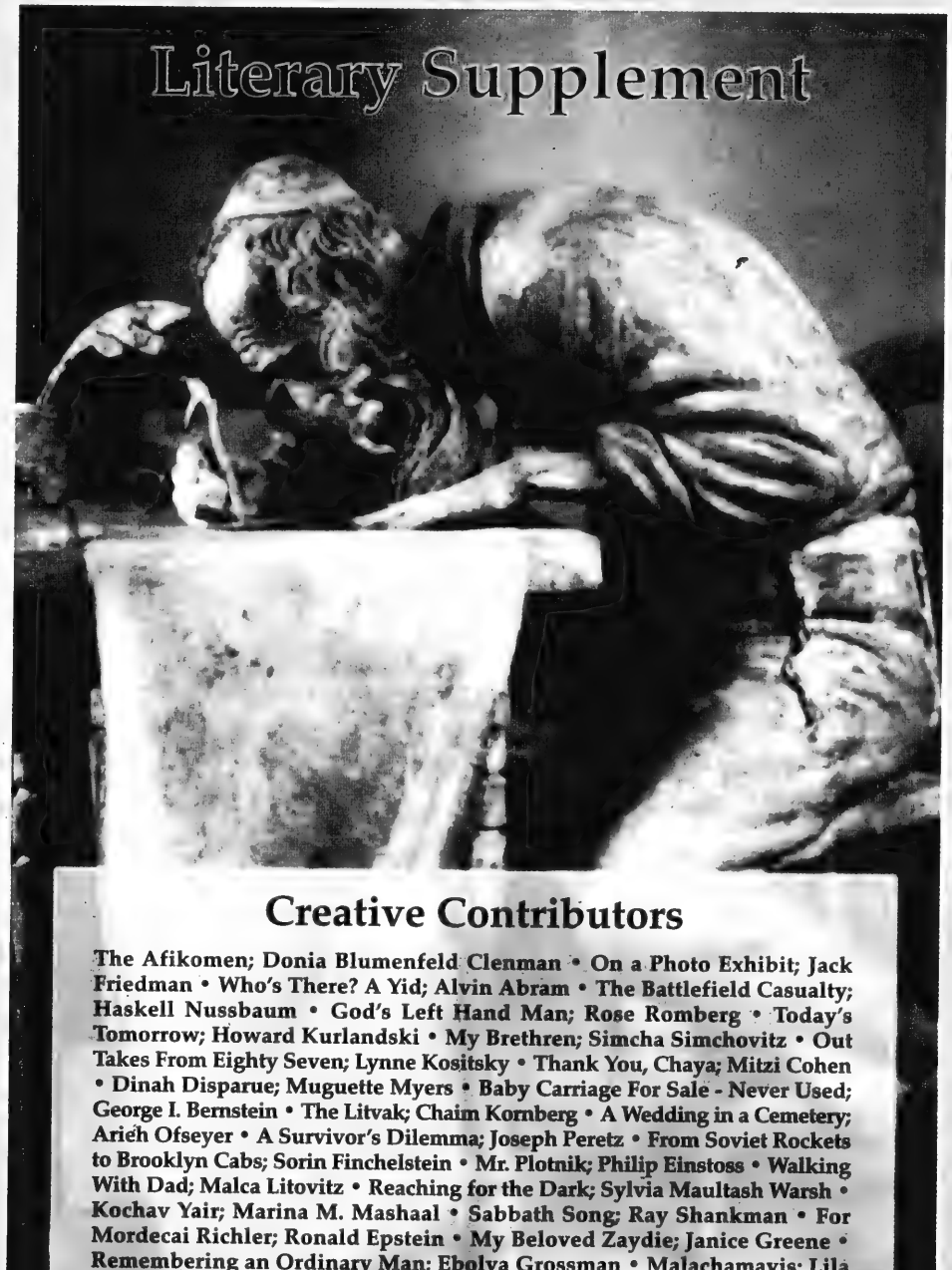
Passover Greetings



Creative Contributors

The Afikomen; Donia Blumenfeld Clenman • On a Photo Exhibit; Jack Friedman • Who's There? A Yid; Alvin Abram • The Battlefield Casualty; Haskell Nussbaum • God's Left Hand Man; Rose Romberg • Today's Tomorrow; Howard Kurlandski • My Brethren; Simcha Simchovitz • Out Takes From Eighty Seven; Lynne Kositsky • Thank You, Chaya; Mitzi Cohen • Dinah Disparue; Muguette Myers • Baby Carriage For Sale - Never Used; George I. Bernstein • The Litvak; Chaim Kornberg • A Wedding in a Cemetery; Arieh Ofseyer • A Survivor's Dilemma; Joseph Peretz • From Soviet Rockets to Brooklyn Cabs; Sorin Finchelstein • Mr. Plotnik; Philip Einstoss • Walking With Dad; Malca Litovitz • Reaching for the Dark; Sylvia Maultash Warsh • Kochav Yair; Marina M. Mashaal • Sabbath Song; Ray Shankman • For Mordecai Richler; Ronald Epstein • My Beloved Zaydie; Janice Greene • Remembering an Ordinary Man; Ebolya Grossman • Malachamavis; Lila Julius • The Photograph of the Children; Rafi Aaron

The Canadian Jewish news

Passover Greetings
Special Literary Supplement

A
Very
Happy Passover

Faigie and Rubin Zimmerman

Malachamavis

By LILA JULIUS

"I don't want to die in winter...standing outside in the cold and rain...it would be too hard on the children."

We were huddled under blankets on the corner cots in Dora's TV room. She had just come home from the hospital and I'd run in from next door to sit with her, to wait out another power failure in that winter of endless rain.

"I want to die when everyone's happy...sunshine...flowers. Around Pesach would be good!" She spoke with enthusiasm.

"*This* Pesach?" I teased. It was only a few months before the Passover holiday.

"I didn't say which Pesach." Dora laughed and shook her finger. She tucked the blankets around her a little tighter. Her leathery face took on a pensive look. "But what can I do? she mused. "When Malachamavis comes for me, I'll have to go with him." I'd never heard this pronunciation. She made the name sound friendly.

"Where do you think he'll take you?" I asked.

Dora shrugged, her mouth crinkling into a smile. "Do I know? Up to heaven."

"Maybe you'll go back to where you were, in the time before you were born."

"Where was I before I was born?" she whispered, more to herself than to me. She lay back on the pillow smiling, her eyes closed. Her face took on the brightness of a young girl's, her complexion looked smooth and creamy.

Dora sat up, making plans. "When the winter's over, I'll go to Nazareth to buy my son-in-law a calf's leg. Do you like calf's leg?" Hiding my displeasure, I told her I'd never tasted the dish. "Oh, but it's so good. The way I make it is his favorite. I'll make some for you too." She licked her lips.

I was reminded of the summer day we were standing in the

street and somehow got on to "the purpose of life." "Oh," her smile was mischievous. She stretched her hand towards the hills and orchards said, "It's for going about outdoors and looking at this, and looking at that."

The winter passed in our temperate valley with its unprecedented rains. It had even snowed. Then came Pesach pulling its load of scarlet poppies and yellow field marigolds. The neighbor's goats kicked their

Kicked their heels in the wild mustard

heels in the wild mustard and I left for Jerusalem to spend seder night with my children. When I got back. Dora was standing on the road. She threw her arms around me, kissing my cheeks. I put down my shopping baskets and we hugged each other. "My fridge is empty," I told her and rushed off to the grocery.

The following morning Dora's grandson knocked at my door, told me that she was dead. The funeral was scheduled for just before sundown. We looked at each other in shock. After he left, I did a calculation. Tomorrow would be the last day of the week-long holiday, a festival day on which mourning is forbidden. After that came the Sabbath, another day in which mourning's prohibited. I was stunned. I wanted to shout, "You schemer. You planned it all. Your prayers were answered!"

It was several months before I felt the impact of my loss, how much I missed her. Through my kitchen window I look out on Dora's house. When I do, I am touched by her loving nature. I also think about Malachamavis, how we know when it's time to die, time to be born. The angel inside us.

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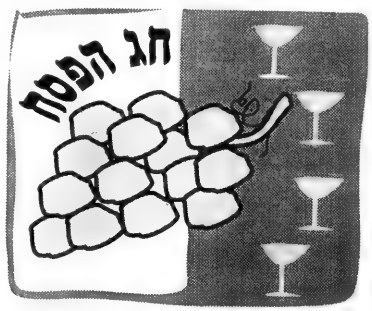

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Passover Greetings
Special Literary Supplement

A Survivor's Dilemma

By JOSEPH PERETZ

We both jumped up when the doorbell rang. Our nerves had been on edge since the newspaper reported that the first survivors of the liberated death camps had started to trickle back. Full of anticipation, I rushed to the front door.

I hope that the disappointment did not show in my face. It was not a relative, but neverthless, I was overjoyed to see a familiar face from the past. The eyes set in the gaunt face were the same. The hair on his shaven head had started to grow back. His clothes hung on his emaciated body. But there was no doubt: it was Sam, Sam Lipchitz, an old friend from our Maccabi youth group before the war. He embraced Josie who pulled him inside and immediately busied herself preparing a meal for our visitor.

He had been released from the DP camp in Germany the previous day. Upon his arrival in Antwerp, he had stopped at the Kleinblatt bakery down the street, which had just reopened. There he found out that Josie and I had survived and recently married. His hope of finding out about more survivors had brought him to our door.

After hungrily wolfing down his meal, he asked if we could put him up for the night. He had nowhere else to go. He was anxious to go to Brussels early the next morning, to arrange for papers to have a Polish girl released from the displaced persons camp in Germany and have her come to Belgium. Seeing the curious looks on our faces, he told us his tale.

In the spring of 1942, he married Magda, a German refugee who had managed to escape her native Berlin just before the outbreak of the war and had found sanctuary in Antwerp. Six months later, Magda was arrested during a raid on the train to Brussels. She had taken off the yellow Star of David in the hope of finding a safe haven in the Belgian capital for her and Sammy, as she lovingly called him.

Three months later, he was picked up in the course of a raid on their street and shipped to the infamous kazerne Dossin in Mechelen. His hope of being reunited with Magda was in vain. She had been shipped to the east in a transport two days before his incarceration. A few months later, when he came to Auschwitz after a subsequent transport, an acquaintance who had been on the same transport as Sam's wife, told him he had seen Magda go into the gas chamber soon after her arrival.

His grief was attenuated by the thought that, at least, she did not suffer long. He, himself, managed to survive thanks to his trade. Tailors were exempt from the backbreaking slavery in the stone quarries. They worked inside, sheltered from the elements.

[Cont'd on page B4]

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'Something familiar struck me'

[Cont'd from page B3]

Some days it was his task to get the food from the kitchen for his work group. That is where he first met Yanka, the Polish girl. She only spoke Polish, of which he understood a few words, and they communicated in broken German. Like him, she wore the striped prison uniform. Both had their heads shaven but he thought that she had the most beautiful eyes, which lit up when she smiled. They took a liking to each other. Yanka looked forward to the days when Sam picked up the tailors' rations and would give him an extra piece of bread she stole from the kitchen.

In 1944, Sam was striken with typhus. When Yanka found out, she managed to pull a gold crown from her teeth and to barter it in the camp's clandestine black market for medication that she was able to get to Sam, thus saving his life. After he recovered, she nurtured him back to health, stealing whatever food she could lay her hands on.

When at last they were liberated by the Red Army and transported to a displaced persons camp in Germany, their romance blossomed. She refused to return to Poland. Sam asked her to marry him as soon as he was able to secure papers for her to join him in Belgium and she eagerly accepted.

It was almost morning when he stopped talking. After a couple hours of sleep and a quick breakfast, Sam left.

A week went by before he came back, looking even more haggard than before.

I'll let him tell you the rest of the story in his own words.

"When I arrived in Brussels, I set out for the Red Cross building, located a few blocks from the station. There was already a bit of a line-up in the spacious hallway of the place.

"Standing in line, I observed the backs of the people in front of me. Something in the bearing of a woman in the line caught my eye. Something familiar struck me. The tilt of her head. Her slender, elongated neck. No, it was not possible. She was dead. I knew she was dead. As if by mental telepathy, she turned around. Her eyes widened as they met mine. Her lips opened. Her voice broke, whispering my name. Magda! It was her, my Magda!

"We flew into each others arms. As I held her, sobbing, to my chest, stroking her back, my mind went back to Yanka.

"Poor Yanka, what will become of you now?"

WALKING WITH DAD

Hand in hand,
we're timeless walkers,
footsteps easy
amid yellow flowers, brown rocks.

Past the golfers on the hill,
there's a coffee shop
where you can eat chocolates
and while away half an hour.

"It's picturesque," I say,
and make you happy
to have fathered
a child of words:
five or six I am,
and peace shines down
the whole path.

By Malca Litovitz

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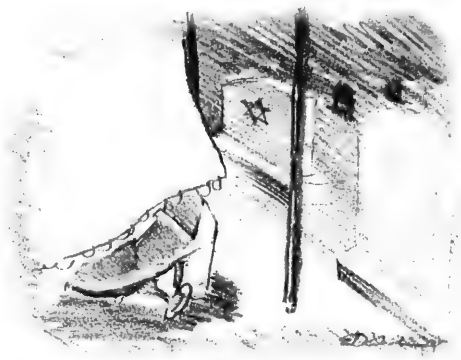
Passover Greetings
Special Literary Supplement

A wedding in a cemetery

By ARIEH OFSEYER



It happened after four years of war, revolution, pogroms and hunger. A typhus epidemic broke out throughout Europe. Antibiotics had not then been invented. Most doctors had been conscripted into the army, very few remained for the civilian population. The disease spread rapidly. Hospitals were filled beyond capacity. The toll was terrible.

I took sick then. The doctor my parents brought to our home said what he said, wrote what he wrote, but he didn't promise any miracles. They took care of me at home because there was no room in the hospital. My mother left her work in our store and devoted her days and nights to me.

My condition grew progressively worse, until I reached a crisis. My mother hurried to the synagogue. The sexton opened the Holy Ark for her, and she sobbed with a broken heart and begged for mercy.

The epidemic claimed victims without end. People wandered about downcast. The rabbis and community leaders consulted together trying to find some way to stem the tide of the epidemic. After lengthy deliberations they decided upon a most unusual proposal; to fulfil a great mitzvah.

Poor orphans

The mitzvah involved finding two orphans from among the most poor of our people and marrying them to each other, at midnight, in the Jewish cemetery.

It was not at all difficult to find such a couple since there was no lack of poor orphans in our community.

One day they announced in the town that the wedding would take place on Monday night just as it was set to became Tuesday, the day on which "It is good" was mentioned in the creation story. The entire community was invited to participate in fulfilling this mitzvah.

The musicians with their old instruments were invited. New clothes were made for the bride and groom.

The rabbis of the city arrived at the synagogue on the appointed day dressed in their holiday garb. The marriage procession would begin from the synagogue.

I was still sick. As a result I was unable to participate in the ceremony. But my parents did. Afterwards they told me what had happened.

Many people gathered to fulfil the mitzvah of "causing the bride and groom to rejoice," with the thought that the merit of this good deed would save them from the plague.

At the head of the procession marched the musicians, after them the rabbis, followed by the bride and groom. On both sides of them walked the leaders of the town, followed by the masses of townsfolk, black candles in the hands of many of them.

I remember so vividly how, from my bed, I heard the sad melodies of the band and how fear filled my heart as I thought about a marriage ceremony in the cemetery, in the darkness of night. We had grown up surrounded by foolish beliefs that we heard in cheder and outside of it. We were terrified of the dead that arise from their graves at midnight and go to pray in the synagogue. We were fright-

[Cont'd on page B6]

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wishes a joyful Passover to our members, friends and their families, a genuine and lasting peace to the people of Israel and the blessing of freedom to all Jews throughout the world.

Erika Bloom
National President

Vivian Reisler
National Executive Director

MEKSAR & SHEFRIN

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A wedding in a cemetery

[Cont'd from page B5]

ened of the ghosts, of the evil spirits. Not only was the procession going to the cemetery, but they were going at the most dangerous time. All of this in order to fulfil the most joyous act in the life of a young couple, for the sake of saving the entire Jewish community.

At the cemetery the chupah had been set up. The cantor, Reb Moishe, began the traditional ceremony. One of the rabbis read the ketubah, and the groom put the ring on the bride's finger and recited the traditional blessing "Be Thou Consecrated Unto Me." They brought the wine and made the blessing. The lights of the candles cast heavy shadows.

People stood clinging together

The people stood clinging together in fear of the dark, the awsomeness of the occasion, and in the need of a miracle. Their eyes were cast heavenward in prayer, their hearts, broken. The musicians played, and tears glistened in all the upraised eyes.

The cantor broke the glass. The people were startled out of their petrified state and cried out: "Mazel Tov! Mazel Tov!"

Tears coursed down the face of the bride, onto her new dress. She did not even know the groom. The bitter lot of her impoverished life had brought her to this, to this "wedding." The groom too, in his innocence, prayed with a broken heart for a "life in which there would be no embarrassment."

The crowd broke up into small groups. Everyone went together. Fear was upon them all. The community prepared a room for the couple, and the sexton escorted them to it.

After many days the plague broke. I, too, recovered.

There were those who believed, that the wedding in the cemetery on that night, arranged at a time of mercy, was the reason for the plague coming to an end.

I never found out what happened to the two orphans after their wedding in the cemetery.

KOCHAV YAIR

for Vicki, born August 3, 1986
for Vicki, died August 26, 1989

My Shining Light

Somewhere on your way
to Him,
the wind must have blown
snowflakes through your eyes.
It broke you in pieces,
like a silver cookie,
and sprinkled you in sparks
across the sky.
I never knew
God
but because of you
and that God
sometimes
may need a fist
filled with stars.

By Marina M. Mashaal

REACHING FOR THE DARK

Sometimes at night,
time becomes fluid and
lets me ride on it
backwards
like a silky river bearing me
past events that were not mine.
1940 in the ghetto of Krakow,
for instance
when my young uncle
of whom there are no photos
scaled the wall in his fifteenth
year,
my father's brother,
never mentioned at home,
whose story I learned elsewhere,
lobbed a grenade at some
German soldiers who promptly
shot him without a thought.

Sometimes at night
the ageless faceless figure
stoops in silhouette against
the immutable ghetto wall,
reaching
for the dark current that
brings him to me.

By Sylvia Maultash Warsh

SABBATH SONG

On Sabbath I wait for you my love
to kindle my light
so your peace shall enfold me

Truly you are my Sabbath bride
through thy light Zion will be rebuilt
and I will be Holy

Come now to me so our hearts
can laugh our joy together

Come now to me so I can be
faithful and true and dance
again and again the path of love
I have followed

By Ray Shankman

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Passover Greetings
Special Literary Supplement

Baby carriage for sale - never used

By GEORGE I. BERNSTEIN

As any Science major who has dabbled in Quantum Mechanics knows, Bell's Theorem of non-locality and inequality is the weirdest hunk of mathematics that ever bashed a coffee-drenched student's neurons at 2 a.m. before a term final.

Electrons and subatomic particles that formed the tiny spheres of super-energy and exploded during the "Big Bang" formation of the universe, even though now separated by billions of light years, are still in some way mysteriously interconnected. In effect, what happens at this instant in the spiral galaxy M82, 10 million light years from earth, can influence the lean of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, right now. Who knows if some day the tower will fall because of a hiccup on M82. Quantum theory also states that no subatomic particle can be precisely located, except as a probability wave.

Electron Alpha Sigma, a few weeks ago, casually observed her celestial calendar as she did once every billion years. The search required several seconds as she scanned dates from the edge of infinity to the outer limits of space. Horror-stricken, she realized that a tragic event would soon occur — an event that could happen only once in 10 billion years; a revelation that on December 15, 1992, on planet Earth in the Sun's solar system wedged into the edge of the

A revelation

Milky Way Galaxy, tragedy would strike at a latitude and longitude precisely intersecting in Robbie's bedroom at 602 Sunset Ave. at 3 a.m., Universal Time. In effect, all oxygen molecules would crowd into the north-east corner of the bedroom, leaving the rest of the room oxygen-depleted.

Electron Alpha Sigma, herself a mother of several billion electrons, spun out of orbit with agitation, in order to attract God's attention and alert Him to the impending disaster.

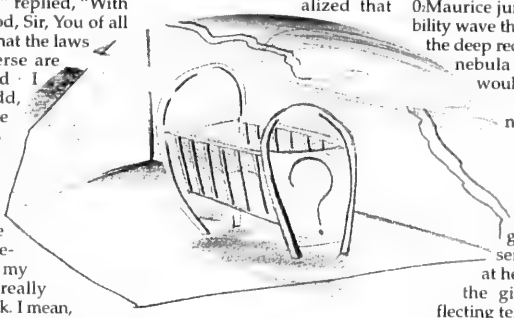
God immediately contacted his chief oxygen molecule, 0:Maurice and demanded a full explanation. It is not general knowledge, but top brass oxygen molecules can converse with God in extreme emergencies.

God said, "Look here 0:Maurice, I know you take these probability things very seriously, but can't you aggregate over the Pacific or the North Pole so no one gets hurt? After all, we have a lot of room in Our ballpark."

0:Maurice, ever impudent since his stellar performance in the "Big Bang," replied, "With due respect God, Sir, You of all people know that the laws of Your Universe are absolute, and I might add, perfect. If one atom veers from its probability wave for a micromillisecond, the whole universe would self-destruct. By doing my job, Sir, I'm really saving Your neck. I mean, Your miracles, You know, were OK for the Bible, but now, Sir, we're in the real world."

So Robbie died at 3 a.m., Universal Time. The doctor called it a crib death.

When God looked down and saw how Robbie's parents wept so bitterly during shivah, He realized that



0:Maurice had carried things too far and He would have to punish him, However 0:Maurice was alerted to God's anger by terrible tremors shaking the whole universe and figured he was in deep trouble. So 0:Maurice jumped on a probability wave that carried him into the deep recesses of the Orion nebula and there he would hide for eternity.

And as Cain could not hide from God, so 0:Maurice could not hide either.

An astronomer working late at the great Palomar Observatory, dozed off at her control panel of the giant 200-inch reflecting telescope, sitting on the Summit of Mount Palomar. She awoke with a start from a weird dream in which a voice told her to immediately focus the telescope into the exact midpoint of the Orion nebula.

This observation kicked 0:Maurice off a tiny asteroid from which he was clinging and cringing in fear.

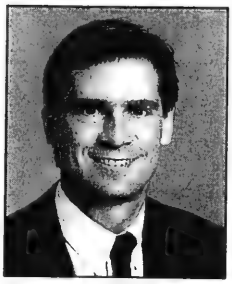
Although Prof. Jessica Morgan, of course, did not see 0:Maurice, she was almost blinded by celestial explosion, an explosion seen vividly by every observatory on Earth.

A Black Hole was thus created swallowing 0:Maurice, squashing his electrons and nucleus into a primeval soup as he was hammered into another universe ruled by a Mephistophelian nothingness.

Shortly thereafter, Robbie's parents were blessed with a son and daughter, twins, called Adam, after the first man, and Eve, after the first woman. They knew that God would now protect their children.

And so He did.

Best Wishes For A Happy, Healthy Passover



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Passover Greetings
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TODAY'S TOMORROW

Life's gyrations put our world in a spin
Corruption prevails, the yetzer hara might win.
Is it any wonder, the guides are perplexed
Can we not feel, the people are vexed?

Man lives by instinct, man lives by need
From generation to generation, from seed to seed.
Do we do, what we do, how we do, to get by
Thus the collective evokes that soundless, sigh.

Decisions, like flotsam in the sea's path
Float to the surface of life's aftermath.
Yet the swirl can break if we make our amends
For burgeoning beginnings make the best ends.

Lessons learned from Avraham and Sora
Strengthen our faith, our belief in the Torah
To ride out the crest of these troubled ages
By retaining the wisdom espoused by our sages.

Let's reach the ideal of an eirlicha mentsch
Who with hands on children makes solemn bentsch.
By making this core richer and blessèd
Lives are enhanced by our caring and chesèd.

So let's all remember just who we are
Whether right or left, near or far.
Together, as Jews, the future is unfurled
To bring joy, and laughter, and sense to our world.

By Howard Kurlandski

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Mr. Plotnik

By PHILIP EINSTOSS

When Mr. Plotnik thought he wouldn't be able to take it anymore because his head would burst into two evenly formed pieces he told his wife he was leaving for a walk and that she should save her yelling because there wouldn't be anybody there to listen.

"Where do you think you're going?! It's Shabbos soon!" she cried, waving around a chicken that looked at the world with crazy eyes. But Mr. Plotnik just waved his hand at her and left. True, she followed him halfway down the path from their front door to the old old fence that he was too lazy to fix, or so she said, yelling so loudly that their neighbors were sticking their heads out their windows including Mrs. Goldbloom who was heard to say, enough already enough, she should leave him already. But all the commotion wasn't enough to stop Mr. Plotnik and before even he knew it, he was on the dusty road in the countryside smelling the trees and flowers and caring about nothing that could be thought.

After walking a distance Mr. Plotnik discovered a place so pleasing it made him want to stay and the place was this: a brook that could be heard before seen and when seen was small and bending and cut through green and dark crumbly earth and was sheltered by great trees that seemed to have taken it upon themselves to protect, and here Mr. Plotnik chose to rest.

Mr. Plotnik lay his body down and soon before he knew it, he was asleep and not until the middle of the night when an owl made its hoot did he wake. He was startled at first because he didn't know where he was and he rubbed his eyes and then he remembered the yelling and leaving his wife and also that it was Shabbos. "Aiyy," Mr. Plotnik said with some passion and hit himself in the forehead.

Now it was true that Mr. Plotnik wasn't what one would call a religious man, and it was also true that he had once attended a meeting of the Bund when they had come to his village on a recruiting drive. But there was still tradition, and on Shabbos a woman should not be without her husband and a husband should not be sitting in a forest.

But when Mr. Plotnik got up and made himself ready to head back he didn't know which way he should go and he had to admit to himself that he was in fact, lost.

After several moments of deep anxiety where Mr. Plotnik did nothing but tremble, he started to think and he concluded the following: there were two options, option number 1 stay where he was and wait until morning when he'd be better able to figure out how to get home; and option number 2 start right away in a direction and hope for the best. Since it was turning colder and even starting to rain Mr. Plotnik decided to go with option number 2 and off he went, though it is true without much confidence.

Mr. Plotnik decided to proceed along a path where the forest seemed less dense but the less dense part didn't last very long and soon he was in woods that were thick with bushes and shrubs and vines that hung down to his nose. He decided to turn around and retrace his steps back to where he started but after marching for who knows how long he was still in thick forest. Mr. Plotnik was convinced that he was even more lost than before and he cursed himself for not going with option number 1 and he was certain that any moment he'd walk right into a pack of wolves and all that would be left of him would be his hat.

Mr. Plotnik got down on his knees and started to pray "Please God, I swear on my life that I will never leave my wife like this again, that I will be a better husband and work harder, that I will throw away my philosophy books and go back to the shop and sew buttons and mend garments and make a living."

"Hullo! Who's there?!

It was a voice, a voice. Could it be God himself?

"Is somebody there?" the voice asked again.

God certainly sounded familiar. Almost like Goldman.

"I'm asking again, is anybody there?"

It was Goldman. That voice could belong to no one but him.

Mr. Plotnik ran from Goldman's voice, crashing wildly through the underbrush, looking occasionally back to see if he was being followed, and on one of those occasions when he was looking backwards instead of forward who should he run into but Goldman himself.

The two of them tumbling and Mr. Plotnik landed right in front of Goldman, staring into the dressmaker's bloodshot eyes.

"But, but you're dead Goldman."

"Dead shmed. Do I look dead? Do I look dead?!" Goldman grabbed Mr. Plotnik by the lapels. "Nu?!"

"Then if you're not dead, where have you been all this time?"

"Lost! Lost in this forest. Just like you."

"Aiyy!" Mr. Plotnik hit himself on the forehead. That meant Goldman who he thought had been dead for more than five years had really

[Cont'd on page B23]

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Remembering an ordinary man

By IBOLYA GROSSMAN

The memory of those who died will stay alive as long as we remember them. They are gone forever when there is nobody to think of them any more.

Over 50 years have passed since the Nazi hordes took away 600,000 Hungarian Jews marked for death. There is no tombstone for any of them, but we don't need a tombstone to remember them, because their memories live in our hearts.

I especially remember a plain, ordinary man. He was one of the millions who was born, grew up, became a family man, got old and finally died. What could I say about such a simple man who was not a politician, scientist or artist, only one of the every day men who made up the majority of the population. Nevertheless, I would like to write about him because I knew and loved that man.

He was very handsome in his younger years: I saw some pictures. He had black hair, blue eyes and a perky moustache. When I first became acquainted with him, he was already in his middle age. He was slightly built with greyish black hair and trusting blue eyes and he was always cheerful. The man was blessed with an optimistic personality. In addition to his good humor he was always ready to help those in need.

Not highly educated

Ignacz — that was his name — was not highly educated because his family was poor and couldn't afford to send him to high school. But education is not everything. Honesty, kindness and a good heart sometimes have more value than scholarship. He liked children and told me lots of stories about his boyhood and younger years, stories I liked very much to listen to.

One of my favorites that I recall was a funny story. As a young man, Ignacz wandered from village to village looking for a job. Sometimes he ran out of money. Once when he had no money left, he knocked on a door in a small village asking for food. Probably he didn't look like a beggar, because the little girl who opened the door for him ran to the inner room shouting "Mother come quickly there is a gentlemanlike beggar in the doorway."

Russian soldier

Another of his stories that I still remember was so sad, that as a little girl, I cried when I heard it. It happened during World War I. The enemies were in hand-to-hand combat. Ignacz faced a Russian soldier; both had bayonets drawn. Our man was a split second faster and stabbed the enemy. But when the Russian fell back with a scream of "Shemah Yisrael" Ignacz was shocked and had tears in his eyes. "I killed a Jew," he whispered. But it was war and he would have been the one killed if the other soldier had been faster.

Finally Ignacz stopped wandering around, settled down and got married. Unfortunately his wife died and Ignacz became a widower with two little girls on his hands, girls four and eight years of age. The only solution for him was to get married again. A year after his wife's death, he was introduced to a woman who was not very young — in her mid-30s — and was willing to marry him and take on the responsibility of being a stepmother to the girls.

They moved to a bigger city where he opened a tinsmith shop. They also bought a small family house. After that, the babies were born one after another. Two of them died in infancy, but three girls survived. With the two girls from the first marriage, he had five to raise and then give away in marriage. The family had a very hard time during World War I and the years of the Depression that followed.

[Cont'd on page B11]

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Remembering an ordinary man

[Cont'd from page B10]

The parents struggled for their daily existence to provide their large family a living and Ignacz didn't have much enjoyment in his life. One of his pleasures was his pipe, which I never saw him without. He also lit a cigar once a week, since he couldn't afford it every day. On his birthday or other special events, he always got a few good cigars as a present from his family and saved them for Sundays. And Sunday afternoons were his special treat when he went to the city's coffeehouse for his card games. Occasionally at his wife's request, he went for a picnic with his family.

I often went to his shop for a chat and I liked to watch him work. He made cans, buckets, cake pans and other household items from tin. The whole city knew him because of his honesty, integrity and diligence.

The years passed and the two oldest girls got married. More debt again, to give them dowry. The father's hair became whiter and he looked so nice with his trusting blue eyes. And how proud he was of his daughters! If somebody praised them or they got good report cards in school, their father's eyes shone with tears. Years later, the third daughter got married and moved to Budapest. When the fourth girl got older, she moved to Budapest also, where she worked made a living for herself and soon married her childhood sweetheart. The youngest daughter married at age 19 and stayed home for a while. But before World War II broke out, she too moved to the capital city.

Life became more complicated

The parents sold their house and rented a small apartment near their shop. Their lives became a bit easier and more carefree because the expenses for only the two of them were a lot less. But their happiness was short lived.

World War II broke out and the father, mother and two older sisters with their families were deported, together with the city's more than 4,000 Jews. Because Ignacz never stopped believing that tomorrow is going to be better than today, he didn't believe, even in the sealed cattle car, that their lives were in any danger.

The Nazis killed them all in Auschwitz. The date on which they were deported was July 4, 1944. The city where they lived and were taken from was Pecs, the capital of the province, Baranya, Hungary.

The simple, good hearted, hard working man, with his snow white hair and trusting blue eyes was my father, my dear old father!

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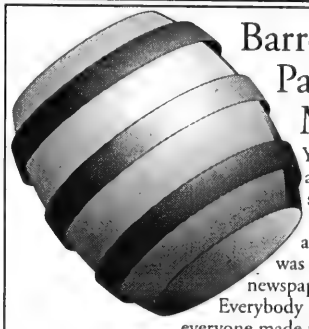

Barrels of Passover Memories

Years ago, barrels were a favourite means of storing the Passover dishes, pots, glasses and cutlery. Each piece was wrapped carefully in newspaper.

Everybody had barrels. After all, everyone made their own wine and old barrels were plentiful and withstood a year's storage and punishment in basements.

Each Passover, the family would gather to unwrap each barrel's contents and relive the memories of past generations. Treasured pieces brought from Europe were discussed and a link with the past forged.

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GOD'S LEFT HAND MAN

In the heat of the scorching sun
Noah found a spot 'neath a vine-grove.
Fell into a deep sleep.

"What are you planting?" Satan asked
"A vine" quothe Noah,
"And what is that?"
"A vine has fruit from which man makes
wine that fills the heart with joy."

"Come, let us taste this wine."
"Not so fast!" said Noah. "Oh yes, you can
eat the grapes to your hearts content, but
to make wine...that takes time. Besides
your reputation is notorious...G-d
would not approve my friendship with you."

"Ha!" Satan gave forth a burst of laughter
"Don't you know I'm G-d's Left Hand Man?
I take care of His sinners
Am I less than your animals?"

"Come with me where my wine is stored"
said Noah, "We will drink together though
my wine might make you heady."

"Don't worry my friend...I'm willing to try
new tricks, new tastes...If you say it brings
joy to the heart...I may convert to an angel."

They toasted "Life." "Wine." "Friendship."
Satan smacked his lips. "How sweet it is."
They became frisky dancing into the night.
Light-headed, dizzy, they fell in a heap
on the earthen floor.

Late that evening, Noah's wife wondered why
her husband had not come home. She searched
for him amongst the graves. Found him fast asleep.
She shook him many times...ran to the well,
filled her bucket with water
and poured it over him.

"Wake up! you sleeper in the dust...
waster of time...Who will tend the vine?"
Dazed, Noah saw his wife through bleary eyes
"Such a strange dream..." he mumbled.

By Rose Romberg

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DINAH DISPARUE

J'ai sorti d'un tiroir une vieille photo
D'une toute petite fille avec un grand manteau.
D'énormes yeux noirs étonnés,
Un sourire un peu triste,
Dans sa main une fleur fanée,
Et tirant un chien qui résiste.
Sur sa poitrine, du côté coeur
L'Étoile Jaune est solidement cousue...
Où es-tu à présent ma petite soeur,
Dans la tourmente qu'es-tu devenue?
J'ai remis au tiroir la vieille photo jaunie
Papier sans valeur qui pour moi est sans prix.
Une enfance effacée, une jeunesse éteinte.
Un affreux livre noir refermé.
Une symphonie faite de plaintes.
Le souvenir d'une époque heureusement révolue,
Que j'aurai préféré ne pas avoir vécue...

Par Muguette Myers

For Mordecai Richler

Richler was right:
when demonstrators
chanted "Québec aux Québecois,"
they didn't mean anyone
named Ginzburg or MacGregor.

Of course,
in the Toronto
of the '30s,
MacGregor had no use
for Ginzburg either.

By Ronald Epstein

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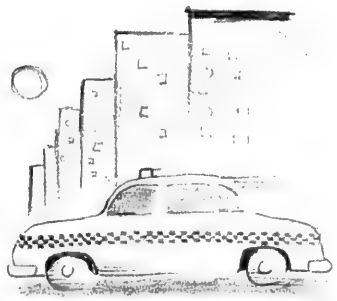
From Soviet rockets to Brooklyn cabs

By SORIN FINCHELSTEIN



Hi! My name is Boris Nathanson. Years ago, and miles away, I used to be Boris Nachumovitch Namestnikov, Soviet rocket scientist and Lenin Order laureate. Then, my brother's quaint decision to give away his hammered-and-sickled citizenship and settle outside the Iron Curtain prompted my overnight transfer from the Ballistic Research Institute in the (secret) outskirts of Moscow to a less illustrious farming machinery plant, back in my small Ukrainian hometown. (As one of my bosses at the institute put it, "Comrade Namestnikov, you must understand that scientific skills, however remarkable, cannot, and should not make up for political liability!")

As the new head of the wheelbarrow division (an interesting evolution, considering that I come from a long line of pedlars), I felt entitled to revert to my old Nathanson identity. Soon after that, I formally applied to join my, by-then-American, brother. Yet, since I was the potentially dangerous beholder of sensitive state secrets (concerning strategic fields such as rocket-craft and barrow-craft), it took another 15 years for me to eventually land in Manhattan — the very target of the rockets I had once designed.

Since my arrival here, I have developed an intimate knowledge of yet another means of transportation. Six hundred unanswered job applications convinced me that I'm out of sync with the latest — rocket-wise and barrow-wise — developments in my field of expertise.

Hence, I eventually accepted the only employment my country of adoption (actually, a cousin, twice removed on my mother's side) offered: driving a cab all over the Big Apple. This job gives me the opportunity to meet plenty of Jewish fellows, who, willing to confirm the stereotype, really love to talk.

Take my average client, for instance! He first embarks on a journey into your background. "Don't tell me where you come from! Let me guess; you must come from Poland... You came from Ukraine? Why, this doesn't make much of a difference! For who really knows where Poland ends and Ukraine begins? This riddle they haven't been able to solve for some centuries now. After all, this was one of the reasons we ended up here. My brother-in-law's half-sister just emigrated from Ukraine. Back there, you might have come across her: Inna Motzkin! She used to teach philosophy in a college. Now, she lectures on her poor husband only, so he seems to be well on his way to becoming a philosopher. Over there, things don't seem to be so rosy, do they? Did you live anywhere near Chernobyl? You didn't? Anyway, what do you think, are they eventually gonna shut it down? By the way, did you hear the one about the Lodzer Rabbi visiting Chernobyl...?"

[Cont'd on page B15]

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Passover Greetings
Special Literary Supplement

From Soviet rockets to Brooklyn cabs

[Cont'd from page B14]

The atmosphere having been set, they then move into your business area. "Wow, you are a taxi driver! This is quite a *parnosseh*, nowadays! I know it firsthand, cause my wife's third cousin — another Ukrainian-born Jew — works as a taxi driver, too. Just three years ago he was still employed as a brain surgeon and complained about making less and less money. And how could he have made more money, since, honestly speaking, our Americans had no more brains? Watching TV 12 hours a day while eating junk food by the mouthful and smoking you-know-what certainly causes one's brain to shrink. And what would a shrunken brain require surgery for, anyway?

"I kept on reminding him of these things and eventually had the *paskudnik* quit brain surgery. At that time, he didn't even have a driver's licence and used to whine a lot about spending a fortune on cabs. So I suggested that taxi driving might be worth trying, for a change. And he indeed took a driving course, passed the test; got his licence, and there we are! Ay, ay, ay, if you could only see him today, this third cousin of my wife! While he worked as a brain surgeon he didn't have a car of his own and he rented a shabby one-bedroom basement in Lower Mahnahttan. As of today, he owns a mansion in Queens, a luxury condominium in Florida, an antique Bentley for him and a brand new, Italian convertible to help his wife on her weekly shopping spree.

"Of course, he has done some investments too: mutual funds, Israel Bonds and the likes. Not bad for three years! Don't you think so? And please consider that he only works part time! Do you fancy him as ever being nostalgic about opening a skull? Then again, the shmuck has totally forgotten we were once family, however extended. Anyway, how's business been, lately?"

Or my passenger might try a different approach: "You are a brain surgeon? Wow! This is quite a *parnosseh*, nowadays! I know it firsthand, cause my wife's third cousin — another Ukrainian-born Jew — works as a brain surgeon too. Just three years ago he was still toiling as a taxi driver and complaining about making less and less money. And how could he have made more money since our Americans had obviously ceased wandering around? For watching TV 12 hours a day while eating junk food by the mouthful and smoking you-know-what leaves one with little inclination for jaunting.

"I kept on reminding him of these things and eventually had him quit taxi driving. At that time, he had just come off some minor brain surgery and whined a lot about having spent a fortune on it. So I suggested that it might be worth trying to become a brain surgeon for a change. And indeed, he took some night courses at a community college, passed the exams, got his licence, and there we are! Ay, ay, ay, if you could only see him today, this third cousin of my wife! While he worked as a taxi driver he didn't even have a car of his own and he rented a shabby one-bedroom basement in Lower Manhattan. As of today, he owns a mansion in Queens, a luxury condominium in Florida, an antique Bentley for him and a brand new, Italian convertible to help his wife on her weekly shopping spree.

"Of course, he has done some investments too: mutual funds, Israel Bonds, and the like. Not bad for three years! Don't you think so? And, please, consider that he operates only now and then! Do you fancy him as ever being nostalgic about laboring the wheel of a cab? Then again, the momzer has totally forgotten we were once family. however extended. Anyway, how's business been, lately?"

No matter which way one makes a living, the guy would always have a third cousin, or a fourth cousin, or his wife would have a distant relative involved — and quite recently — in the same trade one is associated with. ("Wow, you're a spy...my father-in-law's stepbrother is also a spy...used to be a butcher in a slaughterhouse...business went down: animal rights, red meat, cholesterol, shmolesterol...told him, 'Why not apply for CIA? I've just heard these big shots in Langley are in desperate need of people who can speak English with a heavy Jewish-Russian accent.'...if you could only see him today, this stepbrother of my father-in-law...considering that he spies part time only...")

Nevertheless, it is pleasantly reassuring to know that people who have just recently switched to your line of work enjoy such an amazing success. Hence, the only thing you need is a bit of patience. For the mansion and the Bentley and the castle in Spain and the princess' hand and the Nobel Prize for surgeons or butchers or cab drivers or — for that matter — spies, they are all anxiously waiting for you, just around the corner of 42nd and 7th.

Now, since the two of you got really acquainted, you deserve — in turn — to learn some things about this fellow. "We, too, came from Poland, some 40 years ago. Back there, my folks were so needy we could afford chicken soup but once a leap year. As the old saying goes, 'When a poor Jew eats chicken, one of them is sick.' Eventually, we played a nasty trick on Hitler, for we made it across the ocean one week before he himself made it into Poland. Considering chicken soup alone, it was definitely better; yet, we then worked so hard that — at the end of the day — even having chicken soup brought us little enjoyment."

Despite the fact that there are still a handful of matters to be, if not settled, at least, addressed, the trip is bound to end. "What a pity I have to get off, now! Never mind, I really enjoyed talking to you! Have my business card, please, just in case you might one day — and I hope this day will come soon — be in need of some financial planning! For this is my line of work. Luftshmeck, Schmeckshmalz, & Shmalzluft. I'm the first one: Melvin Luftshmeck! The other two partners are my sons-in-law. Some partners they are! There is no need to tell me your name for when one has got past 60, names barely stick to one's memory. If you ever call me — and I really look forward to it — just say you are the Yid from Chernobyl. Gut Shabbes, anyway!"

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The Litvak

By CHAIM KORNBERG

It was after I quit university. Or maybe during the desperate months before that. Several days each week I would make my way down to Kensington Market, and spend most of the day at Jack Friedman's furniture store. My friend Larry, whose father owned the business, would often be there, and there were also two or three other regulars. It was the perfect place for us.

Between the sidewalk and the store, there was an area that could hold about three couches and two tables with chairs. Shipments were delivered and dropped off into this space, deals were made, and most important for us, it served as an outdoor lounge. On pleasant days, we would sit on the couches and chat or just watch the passing parade. In worse weather, we sat inside at the tables and talked about more serious things, or stare outside into the darkness. People came and went — to buy, to get advice, to hear news or just to pass the time.

One of the regulars was a rather tall man with a distinguished mustache, who always wore a hat. He spoke slowly, with a deep and resonant voice. At that time, Jewish Toronto was almost all from Poland; so being one of a kind, he came to be called the Litvak. Only years later did I find out his real name.

If life had been different, he might have become a judge or a professor. Indeed, at times, he filled those functions for us. But life being what it was, he also spent a large part of his day sitting around the furniture store. In the evenings, I would often see him strolling along College Street with a friend, each with his hands clasped behind his back. The pace of their walk was slow, but the conversation seemed intense.

He and his late wife had both survived Auschwitz and, according to him, felt quite triumphant about it. That is, as triumphant as you could feel in the middle of death. They saw their life together as something of a miracle. Only a distant cousin, his one relative in the world, was left alive.

A while after the war ended, when they were in Austria, the Litvak's wife got appendicitis. The doctors operated on her, but according to the Litvak, they left something inside. A few days later, he saw a dark ring on her skin around the incision. He told the doctors, but they just laughed it off. Even after the fever rose, no one did anything. She died that week.

He kept asking me to help him write letters. He had to protest. He had to tell the world about this outrageous injustice. I tried to convince him to think more rationally. Who would he be accusing? Doctors? Germans? He wasn't sure. Maybe both. Maybe neither. And who would we write to? The medical association? The newspapers?

Maybe I should have acted differently. Maybe I should have kept him busy for the next few years writing and waiting for answers. He might have gotten a sympathetic letter or two, or a response in a newspaper. It would have, at least, kept his mind off the Big Pain. Why not comfort him with a long project to work off all that energy?

But, I think I respected him too much to do that. He wasn't a man I wanted to see lost in a dream. Or, it could be that I didn't understand the depth of his pain, or that I was just too caught up in myself.

At any rate, we never wrote any letters and the months passed. The Litvak would tell us about how he kept moving from one rooming house to another. One didn't have enough heat; another was too noisy; a third had something else wrong with it. We kept telling him to move north to where the Jews were. He would be more comfortable there and feel more like a part of a neighborhood and a part of the world. But he preferred to stay downtown. Up north, no one sat around furniture stores and no one strolled in the evenings.

One cold snowy night, the Litvak and I were sitting at a table, looking silently out the front window. Each of us was lost in our own dream. There hadn't been a customer for hours. He startled me when he started speaking. The Litvak's face was turned to me and his eyes looked even more intense than usual.

"I remember in cheder," he said, "they told me that G-d made the world in six days. But I have a question! I have a question!"

His eyes looked fiery now, as he pointed his index finger into my face. He was almost screaming, "What was a day?! What was a day before?!"

He was asking me what existed before the creation of the universe. I stared back into his blazing eyes. What was nothingness like? No space. No time. No up, no down. No past, no future. Nothing. What is the Creator before Creation? This is what he spent part of every sleepless night and each day thinking about. The day before. Maybe somewhere in that endless nothingness, outrageous injustices didn't contradict what you were taught in cheder. Maybe for him, the only possible harmony left was in a world absolutely beyond anything that could be imagined. Or maybe the only possible reaction to the pain beyond all pains was the silence beyond all silences.

He didn't really expect an answer from me. His finger was still in my face, but it was really pointing far beyond me.

A few years passed, and my life took more of a direction. I rarely went to Mr. Friedman's furniture store and I was usually busy with one thing or another. One day, while walking along north Bathurst Street, I saw the Litvak drinking a cup of coffee at the counter of a restaurant. I walked in, greeted him, and of course, we were both very happy to see each other. He was renting a normal apartment in a highrise in the middle of the Jewish neighborhood, and seemed happy with the change. He asked about me and was glad to hear that I was more-or-less spending my time productively. Then he smiled, and spoke more quietly.

"I'm going to Eretz Yisrael," he said.

"Are you going to visit?" I asked.

"No, I'm going to live there," he answered.

It seemed like a radical move for someone who had never been there. "Shouldn't you visit first?" I countered. "Maybe you won't like it."

He smiled a smile of total contentment. "Oh, I'll like it," he said. "I know I'll like it."

We chatted for a while, said goodbye and wished each other well. I left him sitting, relaxed, in front of another cup of coffee. That was the last time I saw him.

A few months later, a friend discovered him in his apartment. He was, of course, buried in Eretz Yisrael.

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Thank you, Chaya

By MITZI COHEN

Thank you, Chaya. With your arrival, I now have a new title, that of Bubbie. Now I fully understand the bumper-stickers that scream, "Ask me about my grandchildren." I don't like to brag about my children, but I have no compunction about raving about the wonders of my granddaughter. I delight in her beauty, in her alertness and in her cute antics.

My mother felt too young to be called Bubbie, so she asked my kids to call her Rosalie, her first name. Shalom Aleichem also felt too young to be called Zayde by his grandchildren. He asked them to call him Papa. Both the famous humorist and my mother met an early demise–Aleichem at the age of 57, my mother at 66. Perhaps my delight in being called Bubbie will be a *sgulah* for longevity.

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Mercurial are you, restless,
deep as the night is your sorrow,
glowing like sunshine is your joy.
I would recognize in the dark
by the glimmer of your eyes,
by your hurried gait.
I follow you like a shadow
in all the metropolises of the world.

In new lands, overseas,
you regained your vigor,
your sons grew tall and the daughters
blossomed like slender flowers.

No doubt they'll carry our heritage
in the adopted lands
and there where eastern skies
pour flame into the veins
of our everlasting stem.

By Simcha Simchovitz

out takes from eighty-seven

on a day
whose beauty I locked up against the future
and during a break
in the filming of a holocaust movie
we took a trip from budapest to szentendre

but as the engine pulled fitfully from the station
Adam jumped up and cried
— I've got to get out of here
I've got to get off this train right now —

there was nothing for it
death was smeared like wax across his face
annoyed reluctant captive in an alien script
I stepped down onto the platform with him
at the next stop

recently I saw an old newsreel
of nazis loading jews onto freight cars
at that same budapest station
during the war

and I knew
somewhere along the line that day
Adam had crossed tracks

By Lynne Kositsky

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The Afikomen

By DONIA B. CLENMAN

Seder was not usually a cheerful affair in the Fenigstein house. Dutiful, yes, but decidedly not cheerful. They were an odd assembly of agnostics, atheists, cynical idealists, Holocaust survivors, passionate Jews, ambivalent Jews and Jewish non-Jews. And Passover was a crumbly mortar. It just held, but not freely or joyfully. They were in bondage, each in a different prison, with Moses sound asleep on Mount Nebo.

But this year it was different. And it showed in the seemingly trifling things that matter. First the preparations. In other years there were none. The date just materialized and that was that. This time it was circled on the calendar and set aside like a festive carp. The fridge and the oven began humming noisy duets. Smells pervaded the house. Then a sound of a song was heard, a Haggadah opened, another voice joined, a piano arrangement was added, and lo and behold, a rehearsal was in swing, the voices flowing more easily, higher, faster.

At the last moment a gentile girl had been added to the party. She had been brought by the son. "Lydia would like to see a seder," he had said, and the unexpected confrontation yielded a grudging "yes" from the bewildered mother.

She was a pale girl, about 20, with round owl glasses that she constantly adjusted. They didn't know why she had wanted to come, for she looked angry and bored throughout the evening. She ate little. Wine did not relax her. She rarely spoke. At times she looked strangely old. She made them nervous. Why had she come? Was she a victim of divine objectivity or was she driven by a loneliness which made even this odd assembly preferable?

Anyway, the Fenigsteins were happy that night. Parents, children and grandchildren prayed, sang and rejoiced. Words had meaning. They rolled off their tongues like honey, voices blended like myrrh and frankincense. The atheist, the agnostic, the idealist, the survivor, all praised God the Free. Wine flowed like the Jordan. Elijah had wings and appetite. Exile was ended. "Blessed be Thou O Lord who has kept us alive, preserved us and brought us to this day" — they chanted.

They were startled when Lydia suddenly spoke up. It is the Passover custom for the father to hide the afikoman, the middle portion of the matzah which is also the dessert of the meal, and for the children to look for it. On finding it, they may claim a reward for its return. Since in the wholeness of the seder no detail can be omitted, the process can be hard and prolonged. Lydia instantly joined in the tumult. With childish enthusiasm she ran with the Fenigstein children, then joined in the noisy bargaining. She wanted a rose, "a baby rose" — she said, her voice high pitched like a bird's, her cheeks smooth

[Cont'd on page B19]

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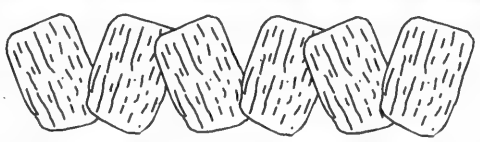

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The Afikomen

[Cont'd from page B18]

and rosy; young, pretty, transformed.

Shortly after the seder, Mrs. Fenigstein intended to buy a rose, more than one, a pretty bouquet. But she delayed, procrastinated, for Egypt again intruded on her life. Three months later she finally bought a bunch, only to find, on unwrapping, that the heads were stapled to the stems, and the poor things died on the table in a shower of faded, shrivelled petals.

It was closer to Chanukah than Passover when she again remembered and, a trifle embarrassed but happy, knocked at the girl's lodging. She waited a long time before realizing that the bell had long passed into oblivion, then rapped hard. Suddenly, she was confronted by a dirty housecoat and a head full of paper and metal.

"You lookin' for someone," barked the landlady not trying to hide her displeasure.

"Is Lydia in?"

"You a relative or somethin'?" she opened the door a crack wider, her eyes on the roses.

"No, just a visitor. May I see her?"

"She doesn't live here any more."

"Oh, when did she move out?"

"Well, she was a strange one. Didn't talk to no one. You're the first to call here. One mornin' we couldn't wake her up so we called an ambulance and they just wheeled her off to the hospital. That's all I can tell you. She was queer alright."

Mrs. Fenigstein's lips trembled. The afikoman. Lydia's prize so fairly won and never collected. "O My Lord who has kept us, sustained us and brought us to this day, what shall I do with Lydia's afikoman?"

ON A PHOTO EXHIBIT

In Poland
a picture.
Three Chassidim
walk the street
past broken windows
beside charred stalls,

A discussion
of the living Torah —
One gestures
his conviction;
the others look ahead,
distant soft gazes agree —
nothing in this life is free...

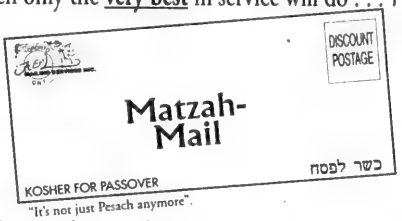
their feet tread slowly
in a world of blight
upon clouds adrift in night

their steps move
not as men
not in time
but as birds
who stroke, stroke

and climb.

By Jack Friedman

When only the very best in service will do . . . ב"ה



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Who's there? A Yid

By ALVIN ABRAM

The dirty water drips on his head distracting his muttering. Lying on his stomach, Yitzhak stretches his arms forward and digs the hoe into the earth, freeing another block of mud and water. "Stupid," he grumbles under his breath as a blob of mud drops on his head. He pushes the earth behind him, knowing Abramowicz will push it to someone further back who will fill the sacks to be taken outside when it becomes dark.

"Abramowicz," he whispers behind him. "I need another wall."

"Shhh. The Germans have ears. No noise. Water carries sound."

"No noise? You said it wasn't going to rain. What do you call what I'm lying in? Flowers?"

"Please Gott. Shah! Mr. Krajowa told me it was cloudy. No rain. Did you want I should go outside to confirm?"

"Another wall before I am buried in mud. The walls have more water in them, than my bladder."

Chaim Abramowicz pushes a wooden wall section he had constructed earlier past his lying body toward Yitzhak.

Yitzhak pounds the section against the mud wall. Under his breath, he continues to mumble. "Since when don't clouds mean rain?" He turns his attention to the tunnel wall, hacking at it. Water slips into his trousers and he can feel it dribble down to his thighs.

"How are you doing?" Abramowicz asked.

"How am I doing? Just marvellous. A lifetime in school and what am I doing? I dig a hole to hide from the Germans. A diploma on my wall, a certificate of recognition from the Polish government in my briefcase and now I am an expert in hole digging. I'm doing fine."

"I thought you were a lawyer?"

"Not just a lawyer. A prosecuting lawyer. Do you realize what I'm doing is not legal. I don't have a work permit."

"So, sue the Germans."

"Shmuck! What will I gain. A bullet in the head."

"Yes! So keep digging. This way, you gain your life."

"Gott in heaven. I know you are not a weatherman. That's obvious. Are you a rabbi?"

"No. I'm a plumber."

"Of course. I should have guessed. No wonder this water doesn't bother you. You're used to it."

"Are you used to criminals?"

"Now you want a debate. Another section Mr. Plumber. I don't like the way the wall keeps weeping. It cries more than I do."

Abramowicz pushes another section forward and Yitzhak pounds it into the wall. He turns to look at Abramowicz. "How is it behind you?"

Abramowicz turns and asks someone a question. He turns back to Yitzhak. "They're doing fine. The room is another foot bigger."

Yitzhak nods, but does not return to his digging.

Abramowicz asks, "Are you all right? Do you want to change places?"

"Who's alive upstairs? Anyone?"

"Who do you want to be alive?"

"My brother. He's all that's left of my family. They're all gone. Do you know how I became a lawyer? My brother. He worked. I went to school. I studied. He slaved. I graduated and earned a lot of money. I said to him. Take. What I have is yours. Do you know what he said? I already took. Took, what?

[Cont'd on page B21]

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Wishing is not the truth

[Cont'd from page B20]

I asked. Nachas. Pride. My brother is a lawyer. You have repaid me. But I didn't. I was too busy to share myself. I live and he's dead."

"He could be alive."

"Stop lying! They're all dead! You can't even tell if it is going to rain, how can you know he is alive." Yitzhak turned back toward the wall of earth and began hacking into it.

The hours passed and the tunnel inched further and further into the unknown. Beneath an obscure house, 16 Jews are hiding. Mr. Krajowa, a gentile who disapproves of Hitler, was building a bunker, so more Jews could be hidden. Overhead, German soldiers patrol with dogs, looking for runaway Jews. For more than two weeks, Mr. Krajowa has undertaken a task he might have reconsidered had he realized what he was starting. It began with only two Jews hidden in his basement. One night there was a discreet knock on his door and a man, woman and two children were crouched in the dark.

"Help us," the man begged. "We heard you have Jews hidden here."

Mr. Krajowa opened the door and ushered them inside. By the end of the week, he had 10 Jews. The basement could not hold them. It was decided to build a bunker to the west of the house under an open field between Mr. Krajowa's house and his neighbor's. Every day, Mr. Krajowa removed some of the excess earth and dumped it in the field.

With the money the Jews gave him, he would go to five or six different stores to buy food so as not to cause suspicion as to the quantity he was purchasing. Six more Jews had appeared and everyone feared there were too many, but no one wanted to leave.

Yitzhak asked for a break and everyone backed out to let him pass. Abramowicz joined him. "He could be alive?"

"He could have wings?"

"I wasn't lying."

[Cont'd on page B22]

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The tunnel inched further into the unknown

[Cont'd from page B21]

"You weren't telling the truth. Wishing is not the truth."

"Were you always a cynic?"

"Were you always naive?"

"The Torah said, 'As long as man breathes he should not lose hope.'"

"Common sense says, if two men say you are drunk even if you claim not to have taken a drink, then you are drunk."

"That's not common sense. That's nonsense. If this is the way you think, your brother wasted his time on you. If you are alive, he's alive. He lives in your memories."

"You sure you're a plumber? You sound like a rabbi."

"You sure you're a lawyer? You sound like a mortician."

They look at each other and they laugh.

Yitzhak stands and looks toward the hole. "It's time to dig."

Abramowicz nods.

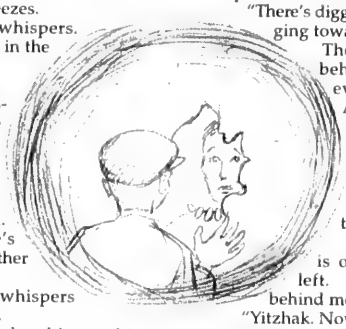
They squeeze their way into the tunnel and resume their positions.

Yitzhak turns to Abramowicz. "Thanks."

"You're welcome."

For the next hour, there is no further conversation. The grunting and straining are the only sounds that can be heard. Yitzhak thrusts his hoe into the wall and hears a new sound from the other side. He freezes.

"Shhh," he whispers. "There's a sound in the wall."



Abramowicz whispers the message back to the others.

Yitzhak scrapes at the wall carefully. He listens again. "Shhh. There's someone on the other side."

Abramowicz whispers the message back.

Yitzhak digs below him, making a hole in which to stand. He scoops the earth and pushes it back to Abramowicz.

"What do you hear?" Abramowicz asked.

"Voices."

"Germans?"

"I don't know?"

The hole is now large enough for Yitzhak to stand. He scrapes again at the wall, places his ear against it and listens.

"There's digging. Someone's digging toward us."

There is a scurrying behind Yitzhak as everyone except Abramowicz withdraws from the tunnel.

"Come out," Abramowicz whispers. "It could be the Germans."

"To where? There is only one direction left. I know what is behind me. Ahead is hope."

"Yitzhak. Now is not the time to prove me wrong."

Yitzhak laughs. "You're right. Now is the time to prove you right."

Yitzhak strikes a blow against the wall, letting the pieces fall to his feet. A section of the wall collapses. As he looks at the opening, another piece falls off from a blow from the other side.

Abramowicz whispers, "Oy vey."

Another piece falls out and the end of a shovel pushes toward Yitzhak.

"Who's there?" a voice asks in Yiddish.

"A Yid," Yitzhak replies.

There is silence.

"I don't believe it."

"Why?"

"Cause the last time I saw you, you were too busy making money.

"What?"

Another chunk falls away and the upper part of the wall collapses. "Nu. Say something. Is this the way you greet an older brother?"

Yitzhak stares into his brother's dirty face. "I don't believe it."

"Okay. Seal up the wall."

Yitzhak laughs with tears running down his cheeks. "What are you doing here?"

His brother smiles. "We've been digging for a week. We were going to make a bunker underneath the field.

[Cont'd on page B25]

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Mr. Plotnik

[Cont'd from page B9]

been lost for more than five years. God only knew how long he'd be living in the woods with Goldman.

"C'mon Plotnik, there are others. We can get a meal."

"There are others? What do you mean there are others?"

"Shmendrik! This is a big forest in case you didn't know. Lots of people get lost here."

And Goldman was right. After walking for a short time Mr. Plotnik found himself in a small encampment with a roaring fire and people all over the place. "Everybody, we have a new member in our little group. Now some of you may know him, some of you may not." Goldman turned and whispered to Mr, Plotnik that not everyone was from their village. "This here is Mr. Plotnik."

Mr. Plotnik bowed his head slightly. "Hey Plotnik!" "Well, look who it is." "Mr. Plotnik good to see you, though not under these circumstances of course." Mr. Plotnik could hardly believe his eyes. There was Mrs. Cohen and Mrs. Steinbok and Mr. Geld, and even the Goodman twins, still with all their lipstick.

"But you're all, I thought you had..." Mr. Plotnik backed away from the approaching acquaintances.

"No, no." They said in unison. "We've been lost."

"But I, I know, I saw your bodies," he said pointing at the Goodman twins. "You had fallen into the river and..."

The girls' laughter disarmed him and he when he remembered as best he could the incident he had to admit that he had only seen them being fished out of the water from a distance and that he had not stayed around to actually see their bodies because the sight would have been too awful. Maybe they had run away and really had gotten lost. God only knows how many times they had run away before and to God only knows where, and maybe their mother was so embarrassed by their taking off she had just made up that they were...

The girls' laughter disarmed him

"Anyway Plotnik," said Goldman gruffly, "now that maybe you've stopped acting like an idiot you can sit down and have something to eat. How about a little soup?"

The idea was very appealing to Mr. Plotnik because after all he hadn't had a thing in his stomach for hours, since noon now that he thought of it, so he nodded his head in agreement with Goldman's suggestion and sat down. He was passed a large bowl of soup by Mrs. Cohen who leaned over in Mr. Plotnik's direction, her breath as garlicky as ever, to tell him how wonderful it was to see him, and without his wife who in her estimation was never good enough for him, when seemingly out of nowhere a strong loud voice commanded Mr. Plotnik to put the bowl down.

"You don't belong here!"

It was Mr. Plotnik's old doctor, Dr. Rosen, who he could have sworn had died from diphtheria.

"Oh sure he does, Dr. Rosen," offered Goldman timidly. "I found him wandering lost in the forest like the rest of us."

Dr. Rosen appeared before Mr. Plotnik, put his hand on his shoulders and pulled him up "Come with me." He quickly led Mr. Plotnik by the arm through the forest. Mr. Plotnik stumbled several times and called for Dr. Rosen to stop or at the very least to rest for a moment but the doctor was oblivious to his pleas and continued his hurried pace and before Mr. Plotnik could properly focus on exactly where he was he was standing in the middle of his house and the doctor had vanished.

Mr. Plotnik looked confusedly around the room, his eyes resting finally on his wife.

"I'm home."

"So big deal."

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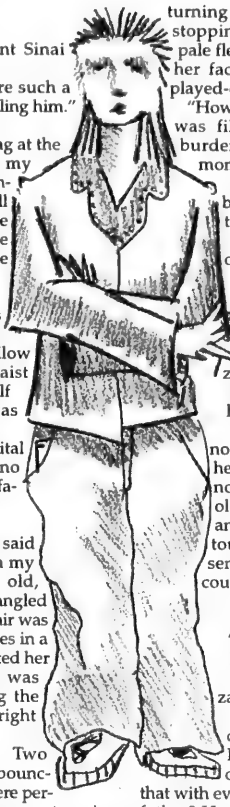
My beloved Zaydie

By JANICE GREENE



"He's in ICU at Mount Sinai Hospital and it's all your fault. You're such a disappointment to him, you're killing him."

The receiver went dead.

A lone pigeon was busy picking at the grey crust of snow outside my window sill. Something was pushing on my sternum...pushing it till it would break in two — since there was no heart to break — she often told me — she often told me — my sternum would do.

* * *

The hospital waiting room was empty except for my mother. White walls with a beige and yellow stripe all around the room — waist height — cutting the world in half — all around the room. She was sitting looking small.

"How can you come to a hospital dressed like that? Have you no shame? You can't see your grandfather, not like that!"

She had spoken.

Before anything else could be said about my appearance, a woman my mother's age, around 65 years old, walked in. Three gold bracelets jangled her proclamation of arrival. Her hair was copper red, cut to fall over her eyes in a peek-a-boo-look whenever she tilted her head slightly to the right. She was fleshier than my mother, filling the room with sweet perfume and bright greens and blues.

I watched them together. Two strangers lit by filtered sunlight bouncing off old snow. The windows were perspiring. The woman was holding a steaming coffee in a styrofoam cup. Her left hand was busy turning the large diamond ring on her third finger, turning and twisting, twisting and turning; stopping; then digging, digging it into her pale flesh over and over. She had a smile on her face directed at my mother; a quiet, played-out smile.

"How's your husband?" My mother's voice was filled with concern over another's burden. I was not in existence at that moment.

"He's still in very serious condition, but they say he's at least stable for the time being. Thank-you for asking."

Her voice was a surprise. It was that of a 6-year-old, light, airy, take-care-of-me kind of voice. It annoyed me with it's prepubescent sweetness. She tilted her head slightly to the right, hair falling just so, smiled her smile, then went to check out the magazine pile on one of the chairs.

My mother sat alone. I watched her flip through the pages of last month's *Chatelaine*, confident that no one knew: She saw nothing without her reading glasses. Her white hair had none of that butterscotch tint so many older women have. It was cut for wash and dry, quick and easy. I watched her touch the hanging skin of her neck absentmindedly as I wondered how she could make herself look so small when it served her.

* * *

"Just tell me where he is."

My voice had returned from the shadows. I wanted to see my zayde.

"You're not going in to see Pa dressed like that. Look at that jacket! It's a shmatte! You want to shame your own grandfather? Forget me — you do that with every breath you take...but your grandfather? Have you no respect at all?" Her voice hissed through perfect teeth.

[Cont'd on page B25]

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My beloved Zaydie

[Cont'd from page B24]

* * *

My jacket was my pride and joy. It was ruddy brown lamb. The sleeves were attached, so that if I unsnapped the snaps, they would become like wings — mini capes my arms would hang from. I had spent many hours in my favorite second-hand clothes store searching for just the right coat.

There was always something I could find in Second Hand Rose. Barrels upon barrels of silk and polyester kerchiefs cluttered the floor. Dresses and shirts lined the flowered walls, hung on misshapen wire hangers. The clothes were from the '40s and '50s. I wore them well. It was 1972 and Twiggy reigned as the image of perfect womanhood. An icon I could never emulate.

* * *

He was on one of those trolleys on wheels. My zayde. My wonderful, big nosed, spitting zayde. He never claimed shame and my name in the same breathe. He never claimed to understand either. He would shake his proud pink head, white strands of hair across his soft scalp. Shake and laugh and point at me with his arthritic claws.

'It's Shaindel Malkah'

He would say, *"Mishigah tzitoit*, but it's OK, it's Shaindel Malkah."

That was me, Shaindel, the daughter of his favorite son and beloved daughter-in-law. The one who begged for his stories like a mongrel begging for scraps of food from this little 5 foot 6 inch man.

He was tough, lean, strong, with blue eyes so washed out I wondered how he could see through them. I could never get enough of his stories. Like when he marched in Poland leading a rally against conscription of Jews. Or when he was put in jail, and his Sophie, the grandmother I never met, would come and visit him against her family's orders. She, from an old learned family of rebbes living in a small shtetl; him, my zayde, a poor self-taught tailor.

I was the one who would ask again and again about the pictures hanging on his mustard walls, his diverse collection of books all in Yiddish, and the one he would hand challah to under the table during Friday night dinner, and laugh when my mother would say: "Pa, she's a girl, she'll get fat." He'd laugh as spit would fall from his teeth.

* * *

He was lying on his back, mouth open, lipless, toothless, white strands of hair all on the wrong side of his head — all on the wrong side.

Tubes up his nose, tubes stuck ferociously into his arms, tubes hanging. Bags all around filled with different colors: red, orange, clear. And then the low hanging bag — the yellow one — *the indignity one.*

His eyes were closed. I knew his scent. I would always know his body scent, the one that loved me.

I couldn't go up to him. Maybe she was right. Maybe I was being disrespectful by being me. Maybe I was responsible for killing this one person I knew loved me. Never the words but always a cluck and a smile.

'His voice got stronger'

I stood looking at him from the distance.

"Shaindel?" I heard a weak voice. I heard zayde's voice.

"Shaindel? *Voos machst du?"*

"Zayde." My voice trembled with so much love I didn't know it could speak. "Zayde...ya it's me."

His head tried to turn. The weight of the tubes made it difficult. But those eyes — those washed out blue eyes that looked straight through you — they were seeing me.

"Kimme here Shaindel" His voice got stronger, more demanding. *"Kimme here"*

His fingers reached out and called for me. I walked slowly towards this old man hoping, praying, that when he saw me, he wouldn't die immediately through my so-called powers of shaming and killing people.

"Kimme here"

He pulled as strongly as he could grabbing onto my jacket — that jacket. I saw his fingers touch and feel the material with years and years of experience.

This is it, I thought.

And then he said in a low gurgle,

"Shaindel, nice material. Where did you get this, I like it."

Who's there?

[Cont'd from page B22]

The rain collapsed the end of the tunnel, so we changed directions this morning."

"I thought you were dead."

"There was a time I thought so too."

"I'm sorry for forgetting about you."

"I'm glad you remembered."

"A real friend feels no need to excuse himself for some failing," came a voice from behind Yitzhak.

"Who's that?"

"Chaim Abramowicz. He gave up a job as a weatherman to become a plumber, but he thinks he's a rabbi who has blessed us."

"From his mouth to God's ears," Yitzhak's brother said as he reached over the broken wall and grabbed his brother in his arms.

"Amen," said Abramowicz.

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The battlefield casualty

By HASKELL NUSSBAUM

"He leads me on paths of Justice."
Psalms 23

The soldiers prepared their ambush site silently. They moved automatically, familiar in their role as Israel's guardians of the Lebanese border. As second in command, Gideon Horowitz scoured the terrain for hidden bombs and motioned his approval to Beni, the officer in charge. Beni nodded and made a downward jab of his hand. As one, the soldiers dropped into position.

Gideon thought about the men around him carefully. They were all Reserve soldiers like himself, and, with one exception, all hoped that the night would pass uneventfully. Gideon was the exception. Gideon hoped that tonight the terrorists would try to get through. Ever since Sarah's brutal murder, Gideon had been filled with an unending rage.

The waiting was torture. It was hard not to think of Sarah. The nightmare of finding her body, of counting the wounds and seeing the finality of the lifelessness in her eyes. He continued to blame himself. If he had only been there that night, he knew things would have been different. He would have stopped the bastard with the knife. He would have killed the terrorist himself, saving his wife. He would have — the rational part of his mind intruded. She had been killed in her sleep and had he been there, he would have been killed as well. I wish I had been, Gideon thought bitterly. He could still see her smile, and he ached with the memory.

Suddenly machine gun fire erupted to his right. Deafening noise shook Gideon out of his reverie.

"Infiltrators at two o'clock!"

All at once the night was ablaze with orange and red as tracer bullets lit up the sky lighting the way to their targets.

"Moshe, fire a grenade!" Gideon shouted, as he pumped away bullets from his submachine gun. He could make out forms in the distance and directed short bursts of automatic fire in that direction. Suddenly he heard a scream from nearby and in a quick glance saw that Beni had been hit. He couldn't determine whether Beni was wounded or dead, but it suddenly didn't matter, as he realized that he was in charge now. He barked orders at the other soldiers and, at the appropriate time, Gideon shouted "Storm!" and the ambush team quickly rose and ran shooting at the terrorists now hopefully dead from all the previous fire.

"Hold fire!" Gideon shouted. He counted four dead terrorists and one wounded. Beni was dead.

All of a sudden, Gideon saw Avner, a small wiry man, aim his submachine gun at the wounded terrorist and Dror, the machine gunner, screamed, "Stop!"

Avner paused, startled. "What's the matter? What happened?"

Dror stepped up to Avner and pushed Avner's gun down. "He's helpless. He's not a threat any more."

"He's a terrorist," Avner countered, clearly confused. "He deserves death. What's wrong with you?"

"He's wounded, he's on the ground, he's not a threat any more," Dror repeated stubbornly, "It's not necessary to kill him and it's wrong. If you were wounded in their hands do you think it would be right for them to kill you?"

"Do you think they wouldn't? Do you think that this —" Avner pointed to the man bleeding and screaming on the ground "thing that you think is human wouldn't cut you down like a dog? Look at them! Look at how they're armed!"

Avner bent down and went through the man's pockets, ignoring the screams emanating from him. "Look at this map! Do you think that they were coming to give us candy?"

Avner turned to Gideon "Look, Giddy, your town — Kiryat Shmonah — is marked in red too. Your town. Let me finish him off. Let me give the bastard what he deserves."

Gideon stood and stared at the map. He could almost see his house circled with a bulls-eye. There was no doubt what the terrorists' intentions had been. Vengeance, his mind cried.

"It's wrong. Giddy," Dror was entreating him. "It makes us like them — hitting on the helpless. Let him come before a court, let him be tried, but don't kill him. That's murder."

[Cont'd on page B27]

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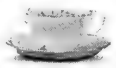

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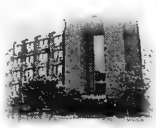

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The battlefield casualty

[Cont'd from page B26]

Gideon stared at Dror. Murder? He wanted to ask. He couldn't seem to open his mouth. His mind didn't know how to direct his mouth to speak. Sarah was dead and terrorists like this wounded man had committed the crime. Had Sarah been alive, her life would have been endangered by this man. All at once the terrorist before him seemed to be the symbol of all terrorists, indeed of all the evil in the world. Smite this man, his mind was inducing him, and you'll be ridding the world of a vicious evil.

"Try him?" Avner scorned. "Give him hospital care, too, I suppose? Feed him, clothe him, allow him to live when Beni is dead? Look at Beni, Giddy! Think of his family. Why in hell should this terrorist's family be better off than Beni's? And for what — so that he should be released in the next prisoner exchange — hundreds of them for one of us? No way, I say, no bloody way."

Avner sidestepped Dror and aimed the gun again. By this time, the terrorist on the ground could see what was going on and was crying something unintelligible Gideon saw the pain and naked fear in the man's eyes, yet was unmoved.

From the deep recesses of his mind, he heard a teacher's voice proclaiming the immorality of killing prisoners of war; he felt the conviction of his own beliefs that killing the helpless was wrong. And he knew the law. Yet he could not move. Oh, Sarah, he pleaded, tell me what course is right? Which is the moral course to take?

Dror addressed Avner desperately and scornfully "Who do you think you are? Prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner all rolled into one?"

Avner turned and stared defiantly into Dror's eyes,ignoring Gideon completely. "Do you doubt his guilt? Would you play advocate and plead his innocence? A trial is to determine guilt. But there is no question of his guilt. A judge is to pass an appropriate sentence. Is death not an appropriate sentence for a terrorist attempting murder of innocent civilians, women and children, not to mention Beni? As for executioner — ask not of others that which you lack courage to do yourself."

Gideon saw Dror start to protest and Avner turn away, Dror grabbed Gideon's arm.

"Giddy, stop him!" Dror demanded.

Gideon couldn't breathe. The man deserved death. Gideon wanted to kill him himself. Suddenly he heard his father's voice. When he spoke it was his father's words.

"Enough, Avner. Jews don't kill. We are not killers."

Avner stared at Gideon. "Jews don't kill?" He repeated scornfully. "For 2,000 years Jews didn't kill and we got the Holocaust. Well, this Jew kills."

With that, Avner turned toward the terrorist in one swift move. Gideon heard the burst of automatic fire, saw the terrorist's body jerk and knew that his command was no longer relevant. Avner had done the job. Dror looked sick.

Within moments, the helicopter carrying the base commanding officer approached and Gideon knew that when it landed, he should report Avner. He knew that strictly speaking he should turn himself in. As the commander in charge at the time, he could have stopped Avner and by all the military legal rules, he knew that what he had witnessed was murder. He knew that he himself was guilty, that his eyes had egged Avner on even as his voice commanded otherwise. But the thought hit him with terrible clarity that no one need know. He realized that Dror would not make a formal report on his own. He knew that the other soldiers did not for a moment consider the act of terminating a wounded terrorist murder at all, but simply justice. And that was the rub, Gideon thought ruefully, it had been justice. Hadn't it? What did Jews say about justice?

The helicopter landed. It was suddenly the moment of truth.

"Anything unusual to report, Giddy?"

Gideon stared back at the CO who had asked him, and immediately he knew what he had to do.

He felt himself draw a deep breath, readying his courage.

"No, Sir, just five terrorists getting exactly what they deserved."

Gideon turned away and walked off. Strangely, for the first time since Sarah's death he felt calm, almost serene. He did not blame Avner. He dismissed Dror's qualms and his father's. If justice is getting what's coming to you, then justice was served, he decided. Suddenly, he had an acute pang of doubt. He wondered if Sarah was smiling. He couldn't see her face. As he loaded his equipment onto the helicopter it occurred to him that only now did he know what it was like to be alone. Alone to walk down one path of justice. He decided that Sarah was smiling.

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and that is all, out of the five children
my Bubby and her brother Max survived the rest
were never mentioned

my eyes would drift to the teenage sister
the youngest with straight black hair
and eyes that looked beyond you
once i asked "Bubby what was she like"
"she had a good head, excellent Hebrew
and always talked about Palestine"

how many times did my Bubby look at that photograph
a young woman alone in a strange land
it calmed her as she spoke to her little sister
teased the eldest and touched
the forehead of her brother

when she worked
the immigrant hours
stitching days to nights
it was tucked inside her
— the hope
that her family would cross the sea
where the water thinned at the channel
of her breasts and ran through her cotton dress

she sent one ticket to her brother
who arrived in Montreal, the others:
sisters parents uncles aunts and cousins
erased the family name
one step at a time as they walked
into the gas chambers

my eyes always find
the youngest child
in the lower left hand corner
i see her separated from the others
and finally parted
from her long black hair
as the razor rides over her head
i wonder about her last moments, her last gasp
the mark her thin nails made
as she scraped the walls
for a hand full of air

by Rafi Aaron

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From coast to coast

CJC ready with questions for federal candidates

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Candidates for the federal election coming as early as June should expect to face more Jewish community demands to deal with the war crimes issue, a recent Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q) meeting was told.

That could come in the form of a much stronger emphasis placed on the issue as it already exists in CJC's federal *Political Action Guide*, a primer used to apprise candidates on CJC positions prior to elections.

The effort also falls in line with a new thrust within the Jewish community to rally the grassroots. The community has been increasingly frustrated by Ottawa's foot-dragging and is responding to the revelations of American private eye Steven Rambam.

Rambam made international news and embarrassed the Canadian government after easily discovering hundreds of alleged war criminals in Canada, dozens of whom freely admitted to him their involvement in atrocities and showing Canada to be one of the simplest places for war criminals to find safe haven.

On May 5, nationwide mass rallies are being planned to coincide with Yom Hashoah and a meeting between CJC officials and Justice Minister Allan Rock in Ottawa. In Montreal, the Jewish Community Foundation is providing special funding for a noon-time rally at Place du Canada.

CJC was upset by Rock's recent out-of-hand refusal to release figures and statistics on the government's war crimes investigations — numbers freely available in the United States at the American counterpart of Ottawa's War Crime Unit, the Office of Special Investigations.

Recent revelations have also come out to the effect that since the Deschenes Commission a decade ago, the Canadian government's investigation of possible war criminals living in Canada has been hampered by a chronic lack of will, internecine disputes over strategy, and even possible anti-Semitic bias.

Rabbi Reuben Poupko said that in Canada, the issue has truly "come to a head," with plans by CJC to reveal publicly the names of alleged war criminals on a regular basis and to continue its snitch line for informants.

One member of the executive, survivor Issie Veisfeld, took issue with the latter strategy, saying there should be "no deals, no deals made with Nazi collaborators."

But Rabbi Poupko said CJC is recommending "an offer of consideration, not immunity" for informants, a practice in other countries.

"We both agree that the main issue is putting pressure on government," he said.

Singles Events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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From coast to coast

Groups cooperate in Foundation 1 Project

MONTREAL — The City of Vienna's School Board, Montreal's Kleinmann Family Foundation and the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) are cooperating in an educational program called Foundation Project 1/Global Outreach.

The aim of the program using the theme of Transforming Memory Into Knowledge is to encourage critical thinking and moral responsibility amongst youth.

The first event took place in Vienna last month and was hosted by Dr. Kurt Scholz, president of the City of Vienna's school board, and Magistra Franz Schimek, its international affairs representative.

The week-long conference was attended and sponsored by political representatives of Austria, Canada and Israel.

Israeli ambassador to Austria Yoel Sher's opening comments summarized the mandate of this pilot seminar: "Ethnic cleansing, hate literature, genocide, killing fields and xenophobic nationalism are contemporary terms evoking images of the past. As the experiences of today elicit haunting echoes of the past, there is an urgent need to educate the public about what prejudice can and did lead to during the Shoah."

The 21 participants included historians, educators and museologists from six countries: Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany and Slovakia who met in Vienna to exchange interpretations of educational resources and attend workshops.

The seminar was structured around *Visualizing Memory...a last detail*, an educational video produced by the Kleinmann Family Foundation in cooperation with the MHMC and accompanied by pedagogical guides and an academic text, co-authored by Naomi Kramer and Ronald Headland. Using the experiences of Montreal's Peter Kleinmann, a survivor of the Shoah, the video examines topics of both contemporary and historic relevance. The video had previously been shown at several academic conferences.

Kramer said enthusiasm and commitment to the outreach was so great that a second seminar is scheduled to take place in Munich, Oct. 26 to 31. It is being organized by German participants Dr. Robert Sigel and Peter Hagedorn in conjunction with Kramer, education director of the MHMC.

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From coast to coast

Anti-racism awards presented

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Pacific region and the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre were both recipients of the first annual B.C. Eliminates Racism Together Recognition Awards.

The awards were presented recently by Multiculturalism B.C. in a two-hour ceremony to commemorate the Day for the Elimination of Racism.

CJC received its award for its Anti-Racism Education Outreach Project, while the Holocaust Education Centre was cited for heightening awareness of the Holocaust by staging mock Nuremberg trials. Awards were presented to five other organizations.

According to Patsy George, director of Multiculturalism B.C., "the purpose of the awards is to recognize initiatives that have contributed to the elimination of racism in communities throughout the province."

Ujjal Dosanjh, attorney general of British Columbia and minister responsible for multiculturalism, human rights and immigration presented the awards.

Marilyn Berger, associate director of CJC Pacific region, accepted the award on behalf of CJC.

CJC talked to students, communities about anti-racism education

In a later interview with *The CJN*, Berger explained that CJC travelled across B.C. "to talk to students and communities about anti-racism education, teaching the lessons of the Holocaust and incorporating those lessons into fighting racism and hatred today."

Berger led CJC's anti-racism delegation to five towns in B.C. to speak to high school students and adults. The delegation also included Holocaust survivors Bronia Sonnenschein and Robert Waisman as well as Sandy Dore, a representative of the B.C. Teachers Federation Program Against Racism.

Chochinov Park win first round in fight against development

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Supporters of a north Winnipeg park named for a Jewish farm family from the area have won the first round in their battle to save the park from developers.

Recently, area city councillors turned down an application by Asper Properties to purchase the 3.37-acre park and build a Canadian Tire outlet on the site. About 100 residents and family members attended the meeting to oppose the development.

Chochinov Park was named after the Chochinov family, which operated a dairy farm on the site from 1914 until the mid-1950s. The family sold the land to the city in the early 1980s. In addition to the park, there are also two restaurants on the south edge of the old Chochinov property and a Safeway and Wal-Mart to the west. The park was dedicated four years ago.

"It is an historic site as far as our family is concerned," says Lou Chochinov, who grew up on the farm. "We have put up as much of a fight as we can to stop this development. People in this area are up in arms. The matter has to go to the city's Parks and Recreation committee from here. The city spent money to develop this park. It is unfortunate that the developer has enough pull that the development will probably proceed."

Don Armstrong, a spokesperson for the Department of Parks and Recreation, said sites should not be given official names until their long-term use is considered. Names cause neighborhoods and communities to develop an attraction to a site, he noted.

Sensitive situation

"A situation like this is always sensitive," he said. "The family and neighborhood feels that the city is not following through with the original proposal. On the other hand, we have a company that is willing to build a $12-million store here that would contribute $400,000 a year to the city in realty taxes."

Armstrong says the Asper group's original proposal would have been rejected by councillors in any case because it would have taken up the entire park site. A new proposal brought forth by the developer would only use the southern half of the park site that has not been developed yet.

At the same time, money would be put in to further landscape the remaining park land and create more of a memorial square with photos and a history of the Chochinov family. Currently, the only commemoration is a boulder with a plaque on it which is far from the nearest street, Armstrong says.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

Due to Passover holidays, Thursday, April 17, is deadline for May 1 issue and Thursday, April 24, is deadline for May 8. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, April 17

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

The 25th anniversary screening of *Fiddler on the Roof*, a fundraiser for Canadian Spinal Research Organization, at Eglinton Theatre followed by reception at Four Seasons Hotel. Hosted by director/producer **Norman Jewison**, chaired by **Michelle Levy.** Special guest is **Chaim Topol** (the movie's Tevye the Milkman). $95 screening and reception, $50 screening only. 905-508-4000.

JEWISH WOMEN'S TALENT

A Night of Jewish Women's Talent, dancing, singing, music, poetry, celebrating the creative talent of Jewish women, 7:30 p.m., The Silver Dollar. Benefit for LIFE and Mazon Canada. $8 sliding scale. **Beth** 449-2915 or **Sarah** 599-1455.

Saturday, April 19

SHABBAT HAGADOL DRASHA

Rabbi Moshe Stern, of Shaaarei Tefillah Congregation, delivers the annual Shabbat Hagadol Drasha, Why Punishment: A Philosophical Analysis of the 10 Plagues, 6:30 p.m. Men and women invited.

SURVIVAL AND RESISTANCE

United Jewish People's Order and Morris Winchevsky Community School's commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, with Auschwitz survivor **Judy Cohen,** Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, writer **Jacquie Buncel**, Morris Winchevsky Youth Group, graduating class (candlelighting), **Ben Shek, Kathe Kollwitz** art exhibit, 7:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

Sunday, April 20

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Toronto **Mayor Barbara Hall** and **Archdeacon James Boyles**, General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Canada are among the speakers at the Annual Christian Service in Memory of the Holocaust, 4 p.m., Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 354 St. Clair Ave. W. Now in its 17th year, service was conceived by Christian Jewish-Dialogue of Toronto.

GREASE

Adath Israel USY (United Synagogue Youth) present *Grease,* 10 a.m. to noon and 2-4 p.m. at the synagogue. $8 at door or synagogue office.

EARTHDAY

Sponsored by North York Parks and Recreation Department, featuring displays, nature walks, activities for the whole family, noon to 4 p.m., Earl Bales Park. 395-7873.

BALLET OPEN HOUSE

National Ballet of Canada opens the doors of its new home, Walter Carsen Centre, 407 Queens Quay W. for the Esso Kids Open House, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. No charge, 345-9686, ext. 317.

Monday, April 21

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Blood donor clinic at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., 10 a.m.—2 p.m. Photo/signature ID required.

Thursday, April 24

VARIETY SHOW

Come to the Cabaret Variety Show, light and lively entertainment with **Cantor Benjamin Maissner, Cantor Louis Danto**, violinist **Sasha Weinstangel**, pianist **Natasha Tiomkina,** Neimot Singers, Zemer Chorale, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Tickets $18, students $10, at synagogue office. 633-3838.

SINGLE PARENTS' LECTURE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation Single Parents (ages 30-50) lecture, Managing Your Anger, speaker **Nancy Kumer** of Jewish Family & Child Service, 8 p.m. 633-5500. $5 at door.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members election meeting, 7:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Club House.

And What Else Is New

BAYCREST CHALLENGE

The 17th annual Baycrest Challenge is Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, beginning 8 a.m. at Baycrest Centre. Enter the 5-km or 10-km runs, 5-km walk or 10-km wheelchair division. Guest appearance by Olympic silver medalist for rowing, **Derek Porter**, at 5-K line. Pre-register before May 11. $20. Challenge Hotline, 256-2RUN.

A FEMINIST SEDER

Canadian Women for Reform Judaism Feminist Seder Sunday, April 27, 1:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple, with **Rabbi Ariel Friedlander**, assistant rabbi. Reserve. $25, seniors/students $18. (A portion of proceeds donated to Holy Blossom's Out of the

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 34]

Cold project). Sister of Yocheved $50 ($25 tax receipt). Sister of Miriam $100 ($75 tax receipt). **Janice Babins** 781-4338.

FAMILY PASSOVER CONCERT

United Congregational Schools of Greater Toronto presents **Fran Avni** in Mostly Matza, a Passover concert for families, Sunday, April 27, 10 a.m. to noon, at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Tickets at school office 633-1338 at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, at Beth Emeth 633-3838 or at Aleph Bet Judaica 781-2133.

ADULT YIDDISH CLASSES

Sponsored by Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation; Workmen's Circle Peretz School and North York Board of Education. **Sylvia Lustgarten** 635-2883, ext. 155:

Yiddish 3 (advanced), emphasis on Yiddish literature, **Ellie Moidel**, begins Monday, May 5, 7-9 p.m., Lipa Green Building.

Yiddish Language and Culture, literary themes, discussion, for Yiddish speakers, **Aron Fainer**, May 20, 27, June 9, 7-9 p.m., Workmen's Circle, $30.

History of Yiddish, **Richard Bassett** Workmen's Circle. Dates TBA.

KOSHER CANDY TREES

Jordana-Yamit chapter, Hadassah-WIZO is selling kosher candy trees for Passover gifts. $12, free delivery. **Carol** 499-9534 or **Ruth** 665-4053.

HOST AN ISRAELI VETERAN

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Beit Halochem Canada) has sponsored visits of disabled war veterans from Israel since 1978. Help celebrate the 20th anniversary by opening your home to a veteran this summer for two weeks. 488-7649.

ISRAEL HOCKEY CAMP

Israel Hockey Camp for ages 15-18 in Metulla, Israel, Aug. 10-24, staffed by **Roger Neilson**, former head coach of Toronto Maple Leafs, Vancouver Canucks and other NHL teams; two NHL players and other coaching staff. $895 Canadian plus airfare. Canadian Israel Experience Centre, 398-8931.

SINGLES GATHERING

International Get-Together for Singles, Istanbul, Turkey, May 21-26. Sponsored by World Zionist Organization Department of Leadership Development and Dor Hemshech. 212-339-6074 or 800-313-1367 or fax 212-318-6178.

FAMILY LIFE GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800

Single Parent Challenge: Joys and frustrations of parenting alone, begins May 5.

Bereavement Group for people who have recently lost a spouse, begins April 17, 10 a.m.

Living With Your Teenager: Realistic expectations and appropriate consequences for your teen. Discuss drugs, alcohol, dating, peer pressure, begins May 13.

Single Again: Improve communication skills and consider new relationships and dating, begins May 14.

HAVURAH WEEKEND

Sixth annual Canadian/American Havurah Weekend Retreat, June 6-8 at Canterbury Hills, a religious retreat centre outside Hamilton. Toronto 927-1796, Hamilton 905-524-2687.

FOR SENIORS

Bathurst Jewish Centre and Bernard Betel Centre fun-filled week July 15-21, at Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills. Twin occupancy $869, single $1,069. **Teme Kernerman**, 636-1880 or **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 1, Avon Cosmetics demonstration; May 4, Spring Fair; May 5, Thornhill Square; May 6, free blood pressure clinic noon to 2 p.m.; May 13-15, Ottawa Tulip Festival; May 21, Casino Rama; May 22, group discussion, Taking Charge, media celebrity **Leonard Rubenstein**; May 29, Markville Mall; June 4, *Forever Plaid*. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m., Thursdays at 15 Hove St., (B'nai Brith Building). April 24 is a general meeting. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: June 1, musical *Dames at Sea*. Buffalo; Sept. 17 *Camelot*, Stratford; in the planning, theatre trips, Boat Farm, Kingston cruises. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Dorothy Bloomfield 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club, Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.: June 25, *Shirley Valentine*, Stage West; Sept. 3.*Camelot*, Stratford. Tickets at the centre or at the luncheon Wednesday, May 7. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Association of Jewish Seniors Second seder, Tuesday, April 22. Doors open 8 p.m. $18. Reserve **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

The movie, *Folks*, Sunday, April 20, 2:15 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Closed April 23 for Passover. **Anna.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Community Integration Program, a joint program of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the BJC, needs Canadian families to host recently arrived families from the former Soviet Union for either the first seder, Monday, April 21, or the second seder, Tuesday, April 22. Seder Hotline, ext. 261.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club: Registered massage therapist **Jocelyn Misner**, tells all about Massage Therapy, Thursday, April 17, 2 p.m.; Molly Picon Film Festival, Part Two, presents *Yidl Mitn Fidl* (Poland, 1937, in Yiddish with subtitles), Thursday, April 24, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

JSU PRESIDENT

Elana Lavine has been elected president of the Jewish Students' Union (JSU) at the University of Western Ontario for the 1997/98 academic year, after serving as vice-president of communications. She succeeds **Shayna Rosenbaum** who graduates at the end of this school year.

LAW SOCIETY AWARD

Toronto lawyer **Bert Raphael** is the recipient of the Law Society of Upper Canada Bi-Centennial Award for the County of York for service to the community over and above the practice of law. In addition to his service within the legal community, he has been involved in minority rights in the Soviet Union, the State of Israel, and the mentally and physically disadvantaged.

Bert Raphael

JWI OFFICERS

Jewish Women International of Toronto officers for 1997/98 (from left) Francine Fogel, vice-president; Barbara Swimmer, immediate past president; Fern Sussman, president; Noreen Shelson, president-elect; Beverley Mandel, vice-president.

HONORED BY SHAARE ZEDEK

Pictured at the inaugural Shaare Zedek Medical Center North American conference held in Newport Beach, Calif., are (from left) Nathan Starr; Joe Kerzner; Prof. Jonathan Halevy, director of the Jerusalem-based medical centre; and Bernie Abrams, national president of Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation. Starr and Kerzner were honored for their many years of dedication to Shaare Zedek.

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Features

Jewish Authors

A treatise on the history of Hungary's Jews

BY BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

The Jews of Hungary: History, Culture, Psychology, by Raphael Patai (Wayne State University Press) is a 720-page treatise that traces the history of the Jews of the Carpathian basin from their origin in Roman times to their near-obliteration in 1944 and beyond, right up to the present.

Patai a distinguished anthropologist-historian who has written a shelf of works on Judaic subjects died recently at 86. This book must certainly stand as one of his finest. He wrote it, he explains, to compensate for the relative neglect of the subject by many Jewish historians, including Graetz, Dubnow and Baron.

From the earliest moment on, Patai's confident hand paints both the big and small pictures, so that we feel the grand sweep of history with all of its irrepressible momentum, even as we are introduced to an intriguing cavalcade of characters who inhabit this rich, promising, but ultimately tragic story.

Thus, we meet the Mendels, a hereditary succession of seven Jewish prefects who served as liaison between medieval kahal and king. We meet Jewish physicians, criminals and other types to 1800, and thereafter a veritable Who's Who of Hungarian-Jewish writers, editors, journalists, artists, scholars, physicians, lawyers, industrialists, merchants and financiers.

When the Turks conquered much of what was then Hungary in 1526, the Jews were evidently spared the wrath of the Muslim scimitar. Although thousands were removed as captives to Turkey, more than 100 Jewish families were permitted to remain in Buda.

After the Turks were repelled in 1686, Hungary joined the Austro-Hungarian dynasty and tens of thousands of Jews from the neighboring territories of Moravia, Bohemia and Austria repopulated the Hungarian countryside.

The Habsburg monarchs were deeply ambivalent toward the Jews. In 1746, Maria Theresa signed an order of expulsion against the Jews of Buda and imposed an annual toleration tax upon every Jewish head in the empire.

Later in her 40-year reign (1740-80) she enacted protective measures as well. Her son Joseph II, who reigned from 1780 to 1790, ushered in an era of reform and emancipation, and in 1788 ordered Jews to adopt Germanic family names. Roughly a century later, many Jews 'Magyarized' their names to reflect their sense of inclusion in Hungarian society.

Although the revolution of 1848 brought with it manifestations of anti-Semitism, the Jews participated wholeheartedly in the popular uprising. Especially after their legal emancipation in 1867, they participated fully in academic life, medicine, the arts, the economy and the trades. Within the multi-ethnic Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Jews were a valuable ally to the Hungarian Magyars in their quest to become a majority in their own country.

Not even Theodore Herzl, born in Pest in 1860, could persuade any sizeable proportion of Hungarian Jewry to surrender their deeply-rooted sense of Hungarian nationalism for psychological membership in the dream-state of Israel. As Patai chronicles, they considered themselves full-fledged and patriotic "Magyars of the Mosaic faith."

The period from 1867 to 1914 was a golden era for Hungarian Jewry, whose members yearned for social equality as never before, even in their admissibility to the Uri (gentlemanly) class of Hungarian society. Jews, especially those with money, became barons and counts and fought duels; many converted to Christianity. For the Jews, this was a time of intellectual fermentation, upward mobility and increasing migration from village to city.

The golden era ended with WWI, when Hungary lost two-thirds of its territory and the Jews lost their strategic importance as a group tipping the balance in favor of a Magyar majority. Reduced to despondency and bitterness, the country began looking for scapegoats. The denouement was swift.

Numerus Clausus, the first racial law, came in 1920; others followed beginning in 1938. Late in the Nazi era, in 1944, nearly two-thirds of Hungary's 775,000 Jews were deported and killed. It was because Hungary's Jews clung stubbornly to their nationalistic patriotism, Patai explains, that so many were ultimately caught in the Nazi's baleful trap.

Hungarian-Jewish family traced in new chronicle

BY BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

As Montreal-area author Elaine Kalman Naves was preparing to write the book that became *Journey To Vaja: Reconstructing the World of a Hungarian-Jewish Family* (McGill — Queen's University Press), she considered carefully whether to present the story as a non-fiction chronicle or as a novel.

The book tells the story of the Weinbergers, a farming family that for two centuries lived in the Nyirseg, a sandy region between the Great Hungarian Plain and the foothills of the Carpathians. The Nazis deported nearly half a million Hungarian Jews, including the Weinbergers, to death camps in the spring of 1944.

Since Naves is telling the story

[Cont'd. on page 37]

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Features

Hungarian-Jewish family chronicled in docu-novel

[Cont'd. from page 36]

of her own family, this is one woman's poignant search for her roots. "I became very interested in writing it after I had my first daughter," she explains. "I wanted my daughter to know about her past."

In doing the research, Naves conducted more than 150 interviews, including many with her father, Gusti Weinberger, one of the few members of a vast extended family to survive the Nazi era. She also did much archival and historical research and visited Hungary three times.

The book also relies upon a packet of some 100 letters written between family members in the 1930s and 1940s. Most were penned in the six painful weeks of the Nazis' frenetic annihilation of Hungarian Jews in April and May of 1944, which Winston Churchill described as "probably the greatest and most horrible crime ever committed in the whole history of the world."

Naves focuses more on the vibrant life of Hungary's Jews than on how they died. She wrote *Journey to Vaja* in a style that she describes as "narrative non-fiction." While the book has "reconstructed" conversations and details of life of centuries past, she asserts that nothing was made up and that every word is backed up by reliable human or documentary sources.

"Some people call this type of book 'creative non-fiction' or the 'non-fiction novel,'" she says. "What it means is that you're completely wedded to telling the truth, but you're telling it in a narrative way because a lot of readers enjoy acquiring information by means of a story."

For Naves, a writer and journalist, it was important not to tell her family saga as a novel because "I wanted the reader to trust me and to trust that I'm telling a true story."

Naves said the stories that her father (who died in 1990) and a cousin of her grandmother had told her contained the voices of many long-dead ancestors, relatives and others. "There were already voices and dialogue passed down in these stories. I wasn't inventing it. All I had to do was translate it from the Hungarian into English."

Complete with photographs, family charts and maps, *Journey to Vaja* is family history at its most vivid. CBC radio ran an hour-long documentary based on the book last fall.

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Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah

Sunday, May 4, 1997

יום ראשון כ"ז ניסן, 5757 זונטיק, דעם 4 טן, מאי 1997

The EJSZYSZKI TOWER at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C. Professor Yaffa Eliach, a prominent scholar and Holocaust survivor, collected more than 10,000 photos of her lost community and documented its history in a nine century chronicle.
(Copyright "The Yaffa Eliach Shoral Collection.")

Holocaust Commemorative Service

1:00 p.m.
March from the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street
2:00 p.m.
Commemorative Program at Earl Bales Park
For more information call (416) 631-5689

Sponsored by Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, Consulate General of Israel, Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto Toronto Board of Rabbis, Toronto Vaad Ha-Rabbanim

Features

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO
Notice of
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Take notice that a meeting of *Members of the Jewish National Fund of Toronto will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, 1997 at the Inn on the Park Hotel, 1100 Eglinton Avenue East, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 1H8.

Tom Ungar *(President)*

*All contributors to Jewish National Fund are regarded as members.

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Concert introduces new chazzan

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Shlomo Sufrin (left) and Yaakov Motzen. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

TORONTO — The new chazzan on the block last week gave a tantalizing foretaste of what he will bring to Toronto's cantorial scene.

Cantor Yaakov Motzen, who has been at Shomrim Laboker-Beth Yehuda-Shaare Tefillah Congregation in Montreal since 1978, will assume the position of cantor of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation July 1. If his performance at the annual Mizrachi concert is any indication, the community is in for a treat.

From a heartbreakingly tender plea *Bring Him Home*, a song begging G-d to bring a young Israeli soldier home safely, to traditional chazzanut like Yossele Rosenblatt's *Elokai Neshamo* and Samuel Vigoda and Moshe Stern's *Shomer Yisroel* to a lilting Israeli piece *Hechalil*, Motzen showed a range of musical taste and style that had the audience spellbound.

He moved from a deep baritone to a full-voiced high tenor to a falsetto with facility and ease, displaying a seeming lack of effort that kept the audience relaxed and smiling.

A highlight was *Lo Tida Milchama*, a wish for peace, that ranged from a gentle yearning to an almost military climax.

Even Yiddish was included in the program, with a delightful version of *Hamavdil*, from the Havdalah service after Shabbat, that Motzen livened up by switching accents during the song from the Litvishe *a guute volk* to the Galicianer *a gitte volk*.

Shlomo Sufrin, assistant chazzan at Shaarei Shomayim, who is carving out a very successful career in the modern, up-tempo "Yeshivish" Jewish music using the name Shlomo Simcha, more of a showman than Motzen, gave a beautiful rendition of the blessing of the Kohanim.

His *Lecha Eten*, a song asserting that G-d has promised the land of Israel to the Jews, was sung with a verve and enthusiasm that had the audience clapping and rocking in their seats.

The Cudyk Weinberg Memorial Scholarships, designed for students graduating from day schools and planning to study in Israel, were presented by Paul Brown, president of Toronto Mizrachi and Stanley Zlotnick, Weinberg's son-in-law, to Beth Jacob student Mindy Simon and Talia Rosenfield from Ulpanat Orot.

The Max Zeifman memorial scholarships, also given to students planning to study in Israel, were presented by Sol and Sam Zeifman and national Mizrachi chair Kurt Rothschild to Aaron Winter, from CHAT, and Tehila Adams of Ulpanat Orot.

Zeifman, who died last year, was a dedicated worker for Mizrachi, and religious Zionist causes, and had a special affection for the concert.

In his memory, Shaarei Shomayim donated a sefer Torah to a hesder yeshivah in Dimona.

The family of the late
RENEE GRUNFELD ז"ל
would like to thank all their relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy during their recent loss

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Hillel Jewish Student Centre
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Genetic engineering raises ethical concerns

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The appearance of new diseases, the creation of a super race, and abuses by insurance companies and employers were some of the concerns voiced at a recent panel on genetic engineering held at Temple Sinai Congregation.

Taking part in the discussion were synagogue Senior Rabbi Lawrence Colton; Alan Bernstein, director of the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital and a specialist in genetic research; and Gilbert Sharpe, director of legal services at the Ontario Ministry of Health.

They were speaking at the second of a three-part series called A Jewish Response to Biomedical Ethical Concerns that was a part of the synagogue's 1997 adult education program.

While most of those attending the program saw great possibility for the prevention and treatment of disease, they were concerned about who would control future technologies, and about the costs, not just financial, but ethical and legal as well.

Clones were a major issue, with people questioning such matters as the cloned person's possible relationship with his or her siblings and society as a whole.

These concerns are very real, the panelists said.

Bernstein said there are 100,000 genes in the human body — the blueprints for "an amazingly complex" system. "To tamper with any part of that is complicated, because we don't know what else we will affect."

The real issue, he said, in many cases, is how much of a person's natural ability or nature is from the genes and how much is from their upbringing or the world around them.

Bernstein pointed out that even if we know that a certain gene predisposes one to a disease or condition, there is seldom an absolute guarantee that the person will develop it.

Doctors can now identify those people who will most likely develop breast cancer. "But we can't do anything about it," Bernstein said. "So should we still offer that test?"

On the other hand, we can prevent colon cancer in those genetically susceptible; so being tested can "remove anxiety from those with that genetic mutation."

Sharpe outlined some of the legal questions about DNA testing, such as screening people out of certain jobs, or insurance companies who might charge higher fees or refuse insurance entirely to certain people,

Is there an obligation, he asked, for people to be tested genetically before marriage, for such diseases as Tay-Sachs? "Can society say that you must be tested, and then [if the test shows your child will have a certain disease] say you must have an abortion or society won't take responsibility for its care?"

There are laws in Canada, particularly in human rights codes, which can be adapted to protect against abuses, and several states in the United States, as well as the federal government there, have issued prohibitions against cloning of human beings, or in some cases, restricting genetic engineering altogether.

Sharpe's concern is that in the rush to prevent abuses, "we will wind up prohibiting constructive genetic engineering too."

Sharpe said that "if it is demonstrated that a certain procedure or test can help us, by preventing or curing disease, laws say that they must be covered by health insurance."

Rabbi Colton said he is concerned about whether economic considerations will overshadow moral principles.

"We all know that the highest principle [in Judaism] is the saving of a life," the rabbi said. Medical services are deemed essential for a community, Sabbath laws can be suspended when a life is threatened (even potentially threatened), the training of doctors and the establishment of hospitals is considered essential, as is providing for future contingencies.

There are already responsa for genetic problems. "For instance, if we indeed know that a child will be born, suffer and die (from Tay-Sachs, for instance), then abortion is recommended — and all authorities agree with that."

But Judaism does not say that one is obligated to be tested, he said, because that would invade the privacy of an individual.

While genetic testing for the sake of potentially saving a human life is allowed, Rabbi Colton said, all testing must be judged by that parameter. "If the reason is neutral, or creates that which was not meant to be created, it is forbidden."

Mastectomy fashion show planned

TORONTO – The third annual Shoppers Home Health Care Mastectomy Fashion Show will take place on April 23, at 7:30 p.m., in the Churchill Ballroom at the Delta Chelsea Inn, 33 Gerrard St. W.

Admission and refreshments are free, and there will be door prizes.

Guest speaker will be Sharon Hampson, of Sharon, Lois and Bram fame. Founding president of Willow, the Ontario Breast Cancer Support and Resource Centre, and honorary chair of the North York General Hospital Breast Diagnostic Centre campaign, Hampson will discuss her personal experience with breast cancer.

The evening will be hosted by Arlene Bynon of CHFI FM98.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am trying to eat more fruit and vegetables, but find them difficult to buy in the winter months, as well as expensive. What do you suggest?

A. Fruits and vegetables do not have to be fresh to provide vitamins, minerals and fibre. Canned and frozen produce are just as healthful and may even be the fresher choice during winter months. Enjoy!

Q. I try to include a variety of foods in my diet, but some days I am too rushed to eat as well as I know I should. I am wondering whether it would be worthwhile for me to take a multivitamin?

A. Taking a multivitamin can provide you with necessary vitamins and minerals on a daily basis. However, do not let it be an excuse for letting your diet diminish. Greater benefits are derived from the vitamins and minerals that we eat in food than from the ones we take in a supplement.

One reason for this is that the, in combination and may work together to provide their protective effects. While a multivitamin can be appropriate, be careful not to let it replace a healthy, balanced diet.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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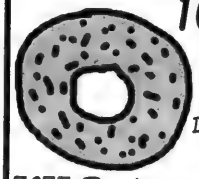

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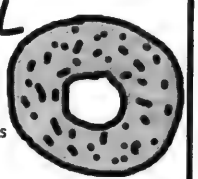

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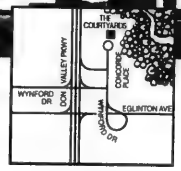

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Health

Overcoming stuttering

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Imagine knowing what you want to say but not being able to get the words out.

"People who have never stuttered can not imagine the pain, fear, rejection, and humiliation that a person who stutters feels" says Charles Marcus, 45, who has stuttered most of his life.

Marcus describes his youth as "a nightmare." Growing up in Manchester, England, his parents tried traditional speech therapy, which he says did not work.

Although speech therapy has been successful for many stutterers, Marcus says there are "a significant number of people like myself who did not overcome their impediment."

Speaking slowly but with no trace of stuttering, Marcus explains that when he was in his 30s, he decided to take matters into his own hands, as the stuttering was "physically, emotionally and mentally" ruining his life.

Over a three-year period, he began studying successful speakers, experimenting with different approaches and finding techniques for breathing and projecting sound, as well as examining ways to reduce tension and anxiety.

"I completely changed my attitude to speaking, my whole way of speaking, and my lifestyle. I have been fluent since 1987 and I became a much calmer and confident person."

Marcus has spoken to stuttering self-help groups and to non-stuttering groups and organizations about stuttering in the hope of bringing public awareness and understanding. He contributes articles to magazines and newsletters and has become an advocate for those who stutter.

By sharing his personal experiences and having an awareness of the problems stutterers face, he says that "if I can help in a small way to save one person the fear and humiliation I suffered, then it will be worth it."

Last year, Marcus established the Speech Development Centre, which offers programs and workshops using the approaches and techniques that have worked for him as well as for other people.

Working with small groups, he presents a one-day workshop which includes a motivational session and teaches the basics of his approach, concepts, and principals.

For those who stutter severely and require further help, he offers a four-day intensive immersion program. With commitment, dedication and a lot of practice, it is possible to control a stutter and maintain fluent speech, he says.

He explains that there are different kinds of stuttering — hesitation, repetition, blocking of a word or avoidance by changing to another word.

Experts give different explanations for stuttering. Some say it is physical, others say it is emotional and yet others believe it is a combination of both.

Marcus believes that first, a positive attitude is needed to attack a speech impediment. "You must remove your negative thoughts and doubts. From their experiences, people who stutter have a low self-esteem and their increasing fear and anxiety creates even more problems."

This year, Marcus will be the keynote speaker at a major conference on stuttering in the United States, and he's been invited to run a workshop in August in Saint John, N.B. at the Canadian Stuttering Conference.

By EDITH ROTHSCHILD

The sugar from cane
Will effect your brain;
If in a bad mood
Just change your food
The decision of the panel
Is change the channel!
From junk food and sugar blues,
Which will only cook your goose.

Nuts, seeds, legumes and fruit
Will keep you in a tranquil mood,
Veggies and a variety of grains
Will bring you each day healthful gains;
A well balanced, whole and natural meal
Will keep your spirits on even keel.

Smart bacteria fight antibiotic,
Thus losing your immunity is idiotic.
Cut down on hormone-laden meat;
Instead do fish and tofu eat.

Don't take a pill!
Exercise your will!
Cut out static and frantic noise
And listen to your inner voice;
Become quiet like babies with nipples,
Calm like sea without ripples.
When such a lifestyle is our choice
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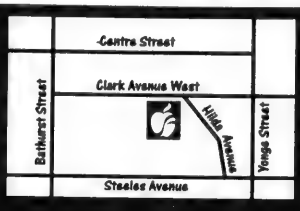

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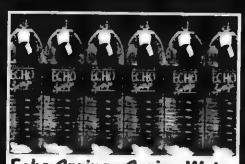

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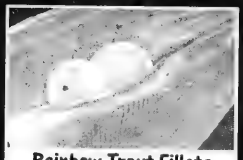

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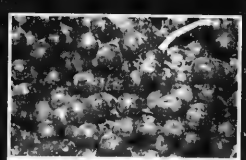

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PM revives talk of national unity government

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once more revived speculation about a national unity coalition last weekend, when he told television interviewers that he had not yet reached a decision on whether to invite Labor to join his government.

He said he is weighing the options and expects to make up his mind soon. Netanyahu then went on to supply reasons both for and against the national unity option.

A new rumor was also floated that Labor party leader Shimon Peres might agree to join the government without his party, if he fails to win central committee majority for such a move. The Prime Minister's Office has denied this.

Peres has been an enthusiastic advocate of unity and the consensus in Labor is that he wants to have his party join the government before a new party leader is elected in the June 3 primary. He would thus become the senior Labor minister and retain a seat in the cabinet no matter who is elected in his stead. For this reason, too, front-running leadership candidate MK Ehud Barak opposes a national unity coalition.

The prime minister's statements intensified the turmoil in Labor and served to polarize divided opinions even further. Barak accused Netanyahu of chicanery, while Peres expressed confidence that he can muster a majority in Labor for joining the Netanyahu government.

Speaking from Italy, Netanyahu used scheduled interviews on both TV stations at peak viewing time to refer to national unity.

He said he was in a quandary.

"I have been weighing the matter, but I have not yet decided. I have consulted colleagues and several ministers...some have clear views and others are undecided, as I am." He said he expects to reach a conclusion soon.

The advantage of a national unity government, he said, lies in the fact that "if we indeed enter final-status negotiations, these will be the most critical in the state's history, and we must then ask whether expanding the government will improve our ability to conduct these negotiations and conclude them."

However, Netanyahu said he is also well aware of the dangers. "We might end up with a situation in which there are two centres of power inside the government, which Arafat will just play against each other."

Barak lambasted Netanyahu for "speaking disingenuously. He knows it is nothing but base trickery to foment more discord inside Labor and to confuse the general public. He knows the positions of the large parties are too far apart and he is not ready for a total radical overhaul of the government guidelines, which is what it would take to get Labor to join the government.

"Netanyahu would have to get up and admit he is an utter failure in everything. He would have to say that he was wrong about everything from the outset and to change his policy accordingly. This does not seem likely. National unity is a facade, a sure recipe for a government of shame. Responsible government under Netanyahu is a contradiction in terms."

Barak said he is sure "19 out of every 20 Labor members are dead set against national unity."

MK Avraham Shohat, a leading Barak supporter, referred to another aspect of the question. "No move whatever is possible until the Bar-On affair is finally over for good," he said. "We don't know when that will be and it is unlikely that this government will escape untarnished, even if there are no indictments."

Barak's chief opponent in the race for Labor leader, MK Yossi Beilin, also opposes national unity, saying that "instead of national unity, we will get national paralysis."

But from Sao Paolo, Brazil, where he is vacationing, Peres sounded upbeat about his ability to bring his party to approve national unity.

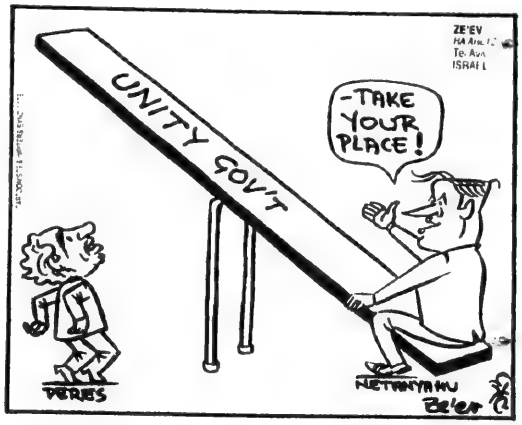
Peres noted in radio interviews that "an official invitation still has not come from Netanyahu and nothing can begin until he makes his decision. We cannot initiate this."

He dismissed the notion of Arafat's playing both ends of the government against each other. "There will not be two governments, but one, which will operate on the basis of new, agreed-on guidelines, not the guidelines of the present government."

Peres expressed confidence that "there is a majority in Labor for joining a national unity government, just as there is a large solid majority for such a government in the general public."

Sources close to Peres hinted he might consider joining the government on his own — as Moshe Dayan entered the Begin government in 1977 — if Labor refuses to join. They intimated that such an offer had been made by Netanyahu, who is very interested in having Peres in the government to give it the same legitimacy abroad as Dayan gave Begin.

Inside the government, tension mounted with the resumed unity speculation. Likud partner Tsomet announced that it was against a national unity government.



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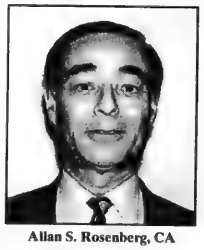
Mr. Mozessohn has been active in the valuation of businesses and litigation support for the past sixteen years and specializes in the valuation of knowledge-based companies for financing and transaction purposes worldwide.



Allan S. Rosenberg, CA

Allan S. Rosenberg has obtained his CA designation in 1970 from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ontario and the order of Chartered Accountants of Québec in 1976. He is also a licensed municipal auditor.

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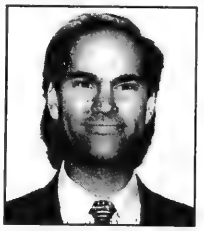

Brett M. Starkman, CA

Brett M. Starkman graduated from the University of Toronto in 1985 and obtained his CA designation in 1990 from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ontario.

Mr. Starkman joined the firm in February 1994. He is a tax partner who specializes in corporate restructuring, owner managed businesses, cross-border transactions, estate and retirement planning.

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Israel & the Jewish World

High court ruling keeps Bar-Ilan open

By HAIM SHAPIRO and *JERUSALEM POST* STAFF

JERUSALEM — The High Court of Justice last week overturned Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy's decision that Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan be closed to traffic during prayer times on Shabbat and holidays.

At the same time, a majority of the seven-member justice panel said that if a solution could be found for the secular residents of the street and the neighborhoods along it — court president Aharon Barak suggested issuing them with special decals that would allow them to drive during the hours the street is closed to other traffic — Levy's decision could stand.

Security for Barak and the other six justices was increased following the decision, Israel Radio reported.

In this decision, Justice Tsevi Tal — the court's only religious justice — who wrote a separate opinion upholding the total closure of the street on Shabbat and holidays, joined Barak and justices Shlomo Levin and Eliyahu Mazza for pragmatic reasons.

Justices Theodor Or, Mishael Cheshin and Dalia Dorner opposed closing the street under any circumstances.

In his majority opinion, Barak wrote that if there were not alternate routes to Rehov Bar-Ilan, a main traffic artery linking the northern and northeastern parts of the city with downtown and the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway, the street could not be closed. He noted, however, that alternate routes do exist, and add at most a few extra minutes of travel time.

He added that if the possibility of closing either of the two alternate routes, which also pass near haredi areas, on Shabbat is raised, the Bar-Ilan case would be reopened. He also said there must be no interference with Shabbat traffic on Bar-Ilan during non-prayer times and that security and emergency vehicles can use the street at any time.

The three justices in the minority argued that Bar-Ilan is a major artery and not a neighborhood street, which can be closed on Shabbat. They said such an artery cannot be considered the "private property" of the people who live along it, and that the fact that the smaller streets in these neighborhood are closed is a sufficient compromise.

Last night, about 100 Haredim demonstrated along Bar-Ilan as dozens of policemen stood by. On several side streets off the main thoroughfare, haredi youths set garbage bins alight and threw stones and bottles at police cars. No one was injured and two youths were arrested.

Yehuda Meshi-Zahav, the so-called "operations officer" of the Eda Haredit, predicted a "hot" summer, with protests and demonstrations, as a result of the ruling.

"This is the first time that the High Court has determined the weather," Meshi-Zahav said, adding he had not expected a favorable ruling and predicting there would continue to be protests as long as there is traffic on the street on Shabbat.

Ornan Yekutieli, the Meretz Jerusalem City Council member who has spearheaded the fight to keep the street open to traffic, promised that haredi action would be met with counter-action.

"If the Haredim start to make pogroms, we will return to the street," he said.

Jerusalem district police chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki said the police would enforce the court's decision even if it is necessary to act with a heavy hand against demonstrators. At the same time, he asked for a meeting with Meshi-Zahav in an effort to ensure that the Shabbat before Pesach, traditionally known as Shabbat Hagadol, would not be a violent one.

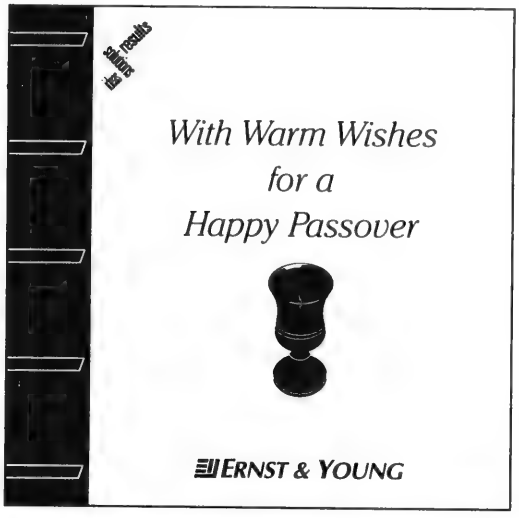
Attorney general Elyakim Rubinstein called for restraint and for obeying the law on Bar-Ilan. He said in a statement that, while the law enforcement authorities would certainly show restraint, it is first incumbent upon the residents — without infringing on their right to demonstrate — to avoid breaking the law. He appealed on the Eda Haredit leadership to do so, saying, "This, too, is the path of Torah."

Levy expressed surprise that the court said he had not fully considered the needs of the secular residents of nearby areas. Levy noted that there had been two commissions and numerous other studies of the issue.

In light of the court's ruling that the street could be closed during synagogue services if the needs of nearby secular residents are met, Levy is expected to call an urgent meeting of Transport Ministry staff, police and city officials to discuss ways to implement this, probably with a system of special stickers for secular residents.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau expressed disappointment at the court's decision, but also called for no violence of any kind. Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron said it is up to Levy to prevent desecration of the Sabbath.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said the court had proven for the umpteenth time that there are responsible, wise and brave judges in Jerusalem. He said the secular public has been willing to accept a compromise all along, but the Haredim want no compromise with the secular public.



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Residents upset by ruling

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — "Haters of Israel" was only one of the epithets used by haredi residents on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan to describe the High Court of Justice hours after the decision to keep the street open on Shabbat.

"It's like it says in Ecclesiastes, justice and evil go hand in hand," said Shimon Meir, of the nearby Shmuel Hanavi project. "It's okay to give half of the country to the Palestinians to make peace. But to make peace between Jews, they can't give back 200-300 metres.

"What are people asking for? That once a week there be a little quiet for the people who live here. All week long the road is busy. People who live here need a break, religious or secular. In Dizengoff, they closed down a street and made it a pedestrian mall. There it's okay because they're secular, but here it's forbidden."

"It's just terrible I'm stunned," said Avraham Fuchs, a local resident, as he took his daughter to a store on the street. "There's a road that bypasses this place. Only Haredim live here. If it was a place where secular and observant people lived together, that might be different. It's inhumane, even from a logical point of view. We won't use violence, but we will demonstrate in a legal manner."

"When it comes to dealing with Esau, Jacob our father used gifts, prayers, and battle," said Haim, who did not to give his last name. "We don't have anyone to give gifts to, but we'll use prayer and battle."

Nurit Maman, of Katamon, who was taking her daughter into a drugstore at the Bar-Ilan/Shmuel Hanavi intersection said however, "The decision to keep the street open was the wisest one possible," she said. "I hope they'll be able to bear up to the pressure. We [secular Jews] have the right to exist as well. They can live without us having to suffer for it. We can all live in the same city, with everyone living in their own neighborhoods. The road must stay open, because it's a major artery."

Hanan Rivkin, of Ramat Eshkol, agreed, saying he is "all in favor of the decision, because [Bar-Ilan] is one of two exits from my neighborhood, so it's a great time-saver."

"It was developed as a main thoroughfare. If you want to make me an alternate thoroughfare that will get me to Hadassah on Shabbat, fine, but otherwise, this main artery must stay open," said his wife, Helen.

But Meir Sirotta, of Sanhedria said, "This decision hurts a lot, and I don't think the haredi public will stand for it. [They will] launch a huge campaign against it. The High Court of Justice won't decide about Shabbat, which God gave us. It's not up to them to decide such things."

Bar-Ilan kiosk owner Shoshana Ben-David said "I think it's a big mistake to make such a ruling against observant people, because they're stubborn and they'll go out to demonstrate, and that will lead to a civil war. They'll throw themselves in front of cars if necessary.

"When the Haredim yell 'Nazis' at the police, this hurts me a lot. The road being open causes a rift between the Jews. When they come to blows, when they hit soldiers or the police, it also hurts me. Who are the police? They are Jews, the soldiers are Jews — they're our brothers," she said.

A resident who refused to give her name, said "We live here, and while we don't demonstrate, we suffer a great deal from both the traffic and the demonstrations. We're not against anybody; we're part of the Jewish people, and we'd like to see them live in peace in this country. I don't think this is the most important problem this country needs to deal with, but it's my problem because I live here. Unfortunately, now it won't get any better."

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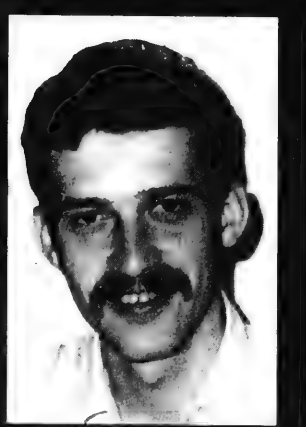
11 years in captivity

Zachary Baumel
15 years in captivity

Zvi Feldman
15 years in captivity



Yehuda Katz
15 years in captivity

FOUR MISSING SONS — FOUR PAINFUL QUESTIONS

• WHY ARE THESE SONS DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER SONS?

On June 11, 1982, Zachary, Tzvi, and Yehuda were taken captive in the Battle of Sultan Yaqub, in Syrian controlled Lebanon. Later that day AP International, La Stampa, and Time Magazine, reported that three Israeli soldiers were paraded through the streets of Damascus. "Their hands and ankles were chained. They looked deeply saddened if not shamed by their plight..." (Time Magazine correspondent, Dean Brelis). On October 16, 1986, Ron Arad was captured after his plane went down over Lebanon.

• WHY ARE THESE PRISONERS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PRISONERS?

Since 1993 Israel has demonstrated her goodwill by releasing thousands of Palestinian prisoners, but has not received even the most basic information about her missing men. Although officially listed as MIAs, Israel's missing soldiers have been treated as hostages. In violation of the Geneva Conventions, none of the men has been allowed a single visit from any humanitarian organization.

• WHY ARE THESE HOSTAGES DIFFERENT FROM OTHER HOSTAGES?

In 1991 Israel was instrumental in helping secure the release of all the remaining American and European hostages being held in Lebanon. Those hostages returned home while the Israeli MIAs still remain in captivity.

• WHY MUST THIS PASSOVER BE DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHERS?

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Israeli army faces uphill battle in Lebanon

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

A year ago this month, following 16 days of fierce cross-border battles in Operation Grapes of Wrath, an uneasy truce settled over Israel's last active front, Lebanon.

Both sides, Israel and Hezbollah, have more or less abided by the unsigned ceasefire agreement, having largely refrained from bombarding each other's civilian areas. But in all other respects, the often bloody status quo ante remains in force.

A mini-war rages in southern Lebanon, as it has since the early 1980s, consuming the lives of Israeli soldiers. In 1996, 27 Israeli troops fell in battle, compared to six so far this year. This figure excludes the 73 servicemen who perished in last February's mid-air collision of two Israeli helicopters near the Lebanese frontier, a tragedy which intensified the debate over Israel's role in its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

Proponents of a unilateral Israeli withdrawal argue that in this era of long-range rockets Israel's northern frontier can be secured by less costly means. They further claim that, in maintaining its enclave, Israel encourages Iran to finance Hezbollah's operations and prompts Syria — the predominant foreign power in Lebanon — to give Hezbollah political, moral and logistical support.

This group cuts across Israeli party lines and includes Interior Minister Avigdor Kahalani, Yossi Beilin of the Labor party, Ran Cohen of the Meretz party, several high-ranking former intelligence officers and Yisrael Harel of the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

By all accounts, the right-of-centre members of this informal coalition fear that a unilateral pullback would exert unbearable pressure on Israel to withdraw from the Golan Heights, whose fate is inextricably linked with that of southern Lebanon.

Opposing them is a group led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who in vain has called on Syria to rein in Hezbollah, and whose Lebanon First diplomatic initiative died at birth last summer. Netanyahu's bedfellows are Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Chief of Staff Gen. Amnon Shahak, Israel's chief point man in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, and Ehud Barak, Shimon Peres' successor-in-waiting of the Labor party.

They believe that a unilateral withdrawal would be unwise, not only because it would bring Hezbollah perilously close to the Israeli border but because a lasting arrangement must include the participation of Lebanon and Syria.

Seventy-nine percent of Israelis agree with them, judging from a survey published in the Tel Aviv daily *Maariv* recently.

There is another way out for Israel: the deployment of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to the international border, as called for in UN Security Council Resolution 425, passed in the wake of Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon in 1978 (Operation Litani). But for a number of reasons, Israel has not complied with this resolution.

In the absence of a political solution, the skirmishes go on, with no end in sight. Hezbollah fighters penetrate the security enclave at will, and once there plant increasingly-effective radio-controlled road-side bombs and lay ambushes, disabling Israeli patrols and convoys with rockets, mortars and missiles they receive from Iran via Syria. Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has warned Israel that the "war of attrition" will continue.

To counter Hezbollah, Israel has doubled its troop strength (to about 2,000), changed its patrol tactics and moved combat troops around by helicopter. And now all Israeli troops headed for Lebanon must undergo special anti-guerrilla training.

Israel, however, appears to be fighting an uphill battle in the hostile environment of southern Lebanon. Hezbollah has broadened its influence there by providing social services to the poor and, with the help of the local population, has improved its intelligence-gathering skills, all at Israel's expense.

The Week in Israel

Apr. 7

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu began a visit to the United States in an effort to restart peace talks with Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat. President Bill Clinton planned to ask Netanyahu to postpone all settlement activity in exchange for a Palestinian crackdown on terrorists and a resumption of talks.

•An Israeli-Arab woman, already raising 17 children, is pregnant with quintuplets.

April 8

• Two Palestinians were killed and over 100 wounded in clashes with Israeli troops in Hebron. The clashes were sparked by the death of another Arab earlier in the day, when two Jewish seminary students opened fire.

• Netanyahu returned to Israel after holding a "frank, candid and long talk" with Clinton. Netanyahu proposed moving directly to expedited final-status talks with the Palestinians to revive the peace process.

• An Israeli lawmaker demanded an investigation of a rabbi's religious ruling that supports suicide attacks made by Jews.

April 9

• Violence continued in Hebron as Israeli soldiers wounded some 30 Palestinian in clashes. An Israeli border police officer and photographer were also hurt.

• Jordanian police detained 11 youths accused of planning a terrorist attack on Israel's embassy in Amman.

April 13

• Two Israelis and a Palestinian were lightly wounded when a Palestinian woman opened fire during a security check at the Allenby crossing at the Israeli-Jordanian border. The woman, who was arrested after the shooting, was a resident of the West Bank town of Kalkilya.

• Sharon Edri, the Israeli soldier whose body was found after the arrest of Hamas members, was buried with full military honors.

With files from the JTA

Israel & the Jewish World

Rabbinical Assembly slams conversion bill

By MICHAEL GELBWASSER
The Jewish Advocate

BOSTON — The debate over conversion in Israel took centre stage in Boston as members of the Conservative movement's Rabbinical Assembly, which recently held its annual convention in Cambridge, protested outside the Consulate General of Israel to New England.

About 200 Conservative rabbis — and at least one Reform sympathizer — called the demonstration to protest against the passage during the first reading of a bill in the Knesset that would bar non-Orthodox rabbis from conducting conversions in Israel.

Such conversions have long been banned in Israel, but a Supreme Court ruling last year said they must be recognized. Conservative and Reform leaders accuse the Orthodox of wanting to block recognition by Israel of all non-Orthodox conversions, no matter where they are conducted.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week said that Conservative and Reform leaders were "misrepresenting" the bill.

The Conservative rabbis met with Bobby Brown, adviser to the prime minister for Diaspora Affairs. Netanyahu had met previously with Conservative leaders in Washington, D.C. Rabbi Gila Doro, a past president of the Rabbinical Assembly's Israel region who attended the meeting, said the prime minister heard the rabbis and "understood we were concerned about the spiritual welfare of the Jewish people."

Brown and Knesset member Alexander Lubovsky met with Conservative and Reform leaders in New York last week.

Brown said their "exploratory talks" would be "an attempt to see if there can be a way of avoiding both litigation and legislation. With that, there are a lot of 'ifs.'"

The protest marked the fourth time in three days that Conservative rabbis worldwide voiced to Israeli officials their outrage over the conversion bill. While the bill as currently written does not affect Israel's recognition of non-Orthodox conversions done in the Diaspora, Conservative rabbis anticipate that a clause stating that Israel would not recognize these conversions either, will be added to the bill's final version.

Toronto rabbis

Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum of Toronto's Beth Tzedec Congregation was one of half a dozen Canadian rabbis to attend the protest. He has participated in demonstrations outside the Russian, Canadian and American embassies in the past, but the Israeli consulate was a "saddening" first.

"It takes a major sense that Israel is not going the right way in order to come out publicly and stand on the street," said Rabbi Tanenbaum. "[Those] pushing this bill have moved from Halachah to politics. To me that's devastating to the Jewish community at large."

After the protest, 10 of the Conservative rabbis met for about 30 minutes with Consul General Dan Kyram and Consul Ofra Farhi at Kyram's invitation. The rabbis argued that the conversion bill would cause a large rift in the Jewish community by redefining Israel as the homeland only for Orthodox Jews. The rabbis urged the Israeli government to recognize and accept non-Orthodox Jews as legitimate, "on the basis of justice, not on the basis of numbers."

Kyram noted that Knesset members sympathetic with the non-Orthodox cause hoped to reach "a compromise that would keep Jewish unity intact." However, he doubted that the haredi members — those who support the bill the strongest — would be willing to move from their position, saying that "when we talk about the Haredim, we can't look for flexibility. We all know that."

"I hope something will be found that will enable us all to live happily ever after," Kyram said.

During the protest, the rabbis blocked pedestrian traffic in front of the building in which the consulate is located. They held signs stating "Mr. Prime Minister, Keep Politics Out of Religion," and "Knesset: Don't Overstep Your Bounds," among other things. They also chanted songs such as *Am Yisroel Chai* and *Hinei MaTov*, recited the mourner's Kaddish, and blew a shofar.

Tucker read from the resolution the Assembly passed during the convention and asked Farhi to ensure that Netanyahu received it. She agreed.

"American Jews are worried about what's happening in Israel, and we are trying to do the best we can," Farhi said.

"People are pretty upset about it," said Rabbi Gary Karlin of Hamilton's Beth Jacob Congregation. "It's a very serious thing, and I think that my people understand that even those not touched by it directly are affected." Some of Beth Jacob's more active synagogue members are converts, he noted.

"I hope the long-term implications aren't as bad as I fear," he added. "I hope it doesn't represent a split between the haredi and the rest of the community."

Rabbi Philip Spectre, executive director of the Masorti movement in Israel, noted that non-Orthodox rabbis perform their conversions and wedding ceremonies according to Halachah and in a "very careful and responsible way." He predicted there would be "a great outcry" in Israel if the proposed bill passes.

"It means that Israeli law for the first time will explicitly discriminate against the non-Orthodox — I believe, for purely political reasons," added Rabbi Dr. Gil Nativ of Haifa. "They claim our conversions are non-halachic. That's a false claim. The real reason is the desire of Orthodoxy to maintain a monopoly" over performing conversions.

With files from The CJN*'s Frances Kraft in Toronto.*

Renowned Bible scholar dies at age 92

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF

JERUSALEM — Prof. Nehama Leibowitz, the Bible scholar, Israel Prize winner, and much-loved teacher of Torah to thousands of students in Israel and abroad, died last week in Jerusalem at the age of 92.

Born in Latvia, she was educated at Berlin and Marburg universities, and immigrated here in 1925. From her early years, she worked in education, particularly adult education.

She gained worldwide popularity with her Gilyonot (sheets on the weekly Torah portion), which were mailed to students all over the world.

The sheets consisted of questions on the portion, to which students responded. For years, she personally checked each set of answers. She was also a popular lecturer and for a time spoke regularly on the radio, in addition to lecturing at several universities.

Leibowitz wrote more than a dozen books on the Bible, including her popular Studies series of commentary on each of the five books of the Torah.

In recognition of her research, she was awarded the Israel Prize for Education in 1957. She was also awarded the Samuel Rothberg prize in Jewish Education in 1986. She was buried in Jerusalem.

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New sound on Samuels' latest CD

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

Richard Samuels

TORONTO — Several years ago while vacationing with his brother, Richard Samuels was at a bar in Tel Aviv listening to a piano player. During the musician's break, Samuels' brother encouraged him to get up and play.

"So I got up to play a couple of songs and the manager of the bar approached me and offered me a job," Samuels, 30, says from his home on Bathurst and Wilson here. Soon, with his brother as manager, Samuels was performing at a five-star hotel in Eilat. "It was a terrific experience for me performing American songs for Israelis and in the process I learned some Israeli songs." And the rest, as they say, is history.

Samuels has just released his second CD *Now* and is hoping to top the success he had with his 1993 debut self-titled CD which produced three charting singles including *Missing You* that climbed to number 11 and *Between Friends* which hit 18.

While his first album was a bit on the fluffy, over-produced side, Samuels decided to go a different direction with *Now*. "It's a more country format, a much different sounding record." This time around, Samuels went for a more stripped-down approach. "I wanted to see what my voice would sound like without the effects we used on the first album."

On the first album his voice was a soft, romantic, Chris De Burgh-ish style. This time his voice is more like Greg Keelor of Blue Rodeo which seems to better fit the new country-pop style of *Now*. "Yeah, I guess we went the Eagles, James Brown, Blue Rodeo route," he says.

Now is a collection of 14 strong, hummable country-pop crossover songs like *Steel Blue Dress* and *Love Will Find You Again,* and some milder, mostly harmless ballads like *Wild One* and *Will I Ever See You Again.* Samuels wrote, sings and plays the piano on all of the songs.

His strong voice and multi-talented band including Kim Mitchells and Katrina and the Waves alumni blend well-together. Most of the songs are very radio-accessible particularly the rocky *Talk About Love* and his upcoming single *Wild One.*

Most of Samuels lyrics tend to have one theme — love. "Most of my songs are from personal experiences in my life though not necessarily ones that I've lived through."

He said he's a close observer of people and writes songs based on stories other people might tell him. "I like to write songs people can relate to. That's what the songs I listened to did to me."

Samuels musical influences are Billy Joel, Elton John, James Taylor Bonni Raitt and Bruce Hornsby. However he's also been influenced by the Latino sounds of Sade. *Missing You* from his debut single has a close *Smooth Operator* feel to it. "I'll have a feeling I'll be doing a lot more of them [Sade-inspired songs]. It kind of comes naturally to me. Israeli music is also similar, it has the same minor chord changes."

Samuels is a very versatile songwriter. The last track on *Now*, and totally out of synch with any other song on the album, is *Have You Ever Loved A Woman*, a bluesy bar song. A wonderful surprise.

In May 1995, Samuels joined a group of 23 children in singing *Sharing A Dream,* a song he co-wrote for the launch of the fundraising dinner for the Jerusalem Foundation in Toronto. "It was an honor for me. Vivien Shapiro wrote the lyrics and I wrote the music. It was a song about Israeli kids of all religions and cultures and it was very inspiring to write that song. We performed the song with the children's choir and it was very magical and very powerful."

Back in his early days performing in piano bars in Israel, Samuels was approached by a booking agent to play a 40-minute set as an opening act for pop superstar Tina Turner. "The opening act cancelled and I was asked to do it. I didn't have a lot of original stuff so I sang two of my songs and did covers. They were very well received and it gave me a lot of confidence to perform and make records." Also encouraging was winning the 1987 Gordon Lightfoot Songwriters Scholarship by the Canadian Music Publishers Association.

Samuels is ready to go on the road with his band but is waiting to get on the right bill with a major act. In the meantime, he'll be appearing at the video release party for *Wild One* May 12 at Hemispheres in the Metropolitan Hotel, one of his major sponsors.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

■	C	H	A	D	■	S	N	O	W	■
S	H	O	R	E	■	H	O	R	A	■
E	A	S	E	L	■	O	V	E	R	■
E	S	E	■	I	S	L	E	■	F	A
D	E	A	D	■	E	E	L	■	A	B
■	■	E	T	A	M	■	I	R	S	■
G	E	R	A	H	S	■	S	T	E	A
E	L	I	T	E	■	D	O	S	■	L
T	I	S	H	A	B	A	V	■	H	O
S	E	E	■	T	U	B	■	R	O	M
■	■	■	J	E	T	■	S	E	G	■
A	L	B	E	R	T	■	H	I	S	S
B	E	E	S	■	O	V	E	N	■	I
E	V	E	S	■	N	A	M	E	■	N
L	Y	R	E	■	S	T	A	R	■	G

C	L	A	N	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
H	O	B	O	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
O	S	L	O	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
A	S	T	E	N	■	■	■	■	■	■
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F	E	E	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
N	G	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
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Travel, Arts & Business

Touring Israeli teenagers strike the right chord

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With the exception of a few isolated giggles from jet-lagged members of Israel's Moran Choir, the teenage ensemble's performance last week at Beth Habonim Congregation seemed to strike all the right chords.

Forty singers, all between the ages of 12 and 19, charmed the capacity crowd, a mix of English- and Hebrew-speakers, with their talent and personality.

A girls' choir based in Moshav Beit Yitzhak near Netanya, the Moran Choir kicked off its 1997 North American tour here before leaving to perform in Montreal and five American cities.

Neshema Carlebach made a special guest appearance, following in the footsteps of her late father Shlomo with her soulful singing and telling of mystical tales.

The event was sponsored by the Beth Habonim, Canada-Israel Experience Centre; March of the Living; Young Leadership Cabinet, UJA Federation; and United Israel Appeal of Canada (UIA); in co-operation with the Consulate General of Israel. Les Aaron, co-chair of UJA's young leadership cabinet, emceed the evening. Eli Rubenstein, spiritual leader of Beth Habonim, and director of young leadership of UIA Canada also spoke.

The professional calibre choir is directed by Naomi Faran, who has taught advanced master classes in conducting and was awarded the Outstanding Conductor prize at an international choir competition held in Israel last year.

The group performs 30 times a year, singing regularly with the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra, the Israeli Chamber Orchestra and the New Israeli Opera.

Accompanied by award-winning pianist Saar Ahuvia, the singers demonstrated musical and linguistic versatility in a program that ranged from Israeli children's songs to French opera (*The Street Children* from *Carmen*) to a bouncy Russian "nonsense song," a Yiddish ballad and the somewhat incongruous (for a synagogue venue) Christmas carols by Benjamin Britten.

[Cont'd. on page 50]

Three featured singers harmonize at the Moran Choir's first Toronto appearance. [Paul Appleby photo]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

FAMILY FINDS PAINTING LOOTED BY NAZIS

Members of a Chicago Jewish family have located an impressionist painting they claim was stolen half a century ago from their grandfather, Freidrich Gutmann, a wealthy Dutch banker who was killed in a concentration camp.

The painting, *Landscape with Smokestacks*, was painted by **Edgar Degas** in 1890. Ten years ago, philanthropist Daniel Searle acquired the work from collector Emile Wolfe for $850,000. Now brothers Nick and Simon Goodman, and their aunt Lili Gutmann, have launched a lawsuit to reclaim the painting.

Searle, former head of G.D. Searles and Co. and a trustee of the Art Institute of Chicago, has acknowledged through his attorney that the painting did belong to Freidrich Gutmann "sometime in the 1930s," according to a report by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Searle's lawyer asserts that Searle did not know the painting had been stolen when he acquired it in 1987, and that a statute of limitations concerning the Goodmans' claim has expired. But the Goodmans' lawyer counters that the family made extraordinary and diligent efforts to find the painting "over a lengthy period of time in the face of very significant obstacles" and they are not about to relinquish their right to it.

The *Art Newspaper* describes the case as "the most significant World War II art restitution case ever to reach a U.S. court." The court date is set for Nov. 3.

Film Notes

• Running May 1 to 8, the fifth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival has released its program. The fest opens with a 1996 Israeli-Italian co-production, *The Italians Are Coming*, a "charming, sweet comedy" that touches on everything from "the declining interest in kibbutz life among Israelis to stereotypical perceptions of Israelis and Italians." That's just the first of a full roster of films. To purchase tickets or attain a program, phone 416-324-8600, fax 416-324-8668, or e-mail [tjff@interlong.com]. The festival Web site is at [www.web-sights.com/tjff].

• *The Un-Canadians*, a new film and video that recently made its premiere, focuses on the victimization of Canadians who hold anti-Establishment views in the post-McCarthy era. Winchevsky Centre, April 18, 8 p.m. Admission free but donations welcomed. 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 416-789-5502.

• California-based veteran filmmaker **Saul Zaentz**, a New Jersey native, recently picked up an Academy Award for producing *The English Patient*, voted best picture of the year at the 69th annual awards. It's Zaentz's third Oscar in as many decades. Previous wins were for *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* in 1975 and *Amadeus* in 1984.

Music & Dance

• AshkeTANTS, a special Yiddish dance party to celebrate spring, features the likes of the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**, comedienne **Deb Filler**, Yiddish singer- actor **Beth Anne Cole**, Yiddishist **Michael Wex** and dancer-choreographer **Shula Saltzman**. Bloor JCC, April 26, doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets $10. Hosted by Ashkenaz. 416-924-5711.

• **The Russian Dance & Music Company** presents a Gala Variety Show featuring energetic and colorful Russian dancing, Viennese, Gypsy and classical music, a circus high rope act, plus a tribute in dance and song to North American jazz and ragtime music. May 14 and 15, 2 p.m., and May 31, 7:30 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre. Adults $20. 416-224-1296.

• **OMO Dance Co**. premieres three new works by Debbie Wilson —*Abendstanze*, *Third Swan From the Left* and *Song of Solomon*. Winchester Theatre, 80 Winchester St., east of Parliament. Adults $15. April 18 to 20, 8 p.m. 416-979-8209.

• Two Peas In A Pod Productions presents *A Night of Jewish Women's Talent* involving dancing, singing, "awesome music and poetry in motion." A benefit for LIFE. April 17, 7:30 p.m. The Silver Dollar. $8 (sliding scale).

• **Toronto Senior Strings** performs a program of Vivaldi, Mozart, Pachelbel, Prokofiev and other classics at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, King at Simcoe St., April 17, 2 p.m. Tickets $10 at the door. 416-769-5071.

• United Congregational Schools presents **Fran Avni** in Mostly Matzah: A Passover Concert For Families, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, April 27, 10 to 12 noon. For tickets (adults $10) call school office 416-633-1338, synagogue office 633-3838 or Beth David 633-5500. All proceeds to United Congregational Schools.

Touring Israeli teenage choir strike the right musical chord

[Cont'd from page 49]

sung in English and Hebrew, as well as an expertly executed operatic German version of Mozart's *Riddle of the Flowers*, which prompted one enthusiastic audience member to call out, "Bravo!"

Along with *Lay Down Your Arms*, one of the evening's most poignant numbers was *Song of Peace*, written for the choir on the occasion of the Israel-Jordan peace treaty signing, when they performed the song on Israel Television.

The lyrics, translated into English, read, in part: *"Welcome to you peace. We don't really know you, only what we've heard in stories and in songs...*

"Forgive us if we are still careful, but don't forget, we are still strangers to each other... You will see that soon we will be friends."

A Canada-Israel link of friendship was extended when Ben Prossin, executive director of the Jewish National Fund (JNF), presented a JNF certificate to choir member Natali Geva, whose Canadian-born mother was a friend of his in university.

Prossin told of a link between the two countries going back to 1927, when then JNF president Menahem Ussishkin visited Canada on a fundraising tour that yielded donations of over $300,000 toward purchase of the Hefer Valley area of Israel, where Moshav Beit Yitzhak is now located.

Travel, Arts & Business

Coming of age on a Tunis beach

BY BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

There is a dreamy, almost fairy-tale aspect to *A Summer In La Goulette*, the nostalgic comic-drama by Tunisian director Ferid Boughedir that opens April 18 at Toronto's Carlton Cinemas.

La Goulette is a lush, sun-bathed Tunisian harbor and resort town near Tunis where Muslims, Christians and Jews live together in friendship and harmony. At least they do at the beginning of the film.

In Boughedir's sensual allegory, three families of different faiths live together in an apartment building owned by the wealthy Arab Double Hadj. The fathers are inseparable friends and so are their three 16-year-old daughters — Meriem, Gigi and Tina — who are eager to burst from sexual innocence to experience.

Each of them vows to lose her virginity to a boy of a different religion by the end of the summer, but their fathers find out and explode.

This North African variant of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has a darkly disturbing undercurrent, as though Boughedir wants to show us how easily paradise falls apart at the seams. The crusty old landlord, Double Hadj, whose name suggests he's a devoted and pious Muslim, begins to lust after Meriem, whom he has accidentally glimpsed undressed. When trouble erupts among his tenants, he threatens to evict them, but he's actually most interested in getting his hands on the girl.

Boughedir excels at colorful cameos, such as the character — a sort of village idiot — who keeps his ears glued to the radio, listening for news of the war that has been imminent in the region. As we eventually learn, the year is 1967.

It's important to understand that the Arab-Israeli Six Day War that erupted in June of 1967 exacerbated inter-ethnic tensions in the Arab world to the point that Jewish families, particularly in the Maghreb, were forced to uproot themselves and flee. With the outbreak of war, the sunny idyllic life of La Goulette instantly vanished under the dark political clouds that had been threatening all along.

Boughedir gets good and credible performances from his cast, some of whom (particularly the youngsters) had not acted before.

However, there is a lightweight, disjointed quality to this Paradise Lost, which is perhaps why Variety called it "an entertaining trifle with an affectingly bittersweet edge."

La Goulette is a lush resort town near Tunis.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

First birthday wishes to our wonderful twins Hannah & Jordan Scolnik on Dec. 19. Much love from great-grandmothers, grandparents, all the aunties, uncles and Pepe.

Happy 50th birthday to Allen Small, a son, brother, husband and father, from his whole family, especially his parents Morris & Paula Small.

Happy 65th birthday to Ben Kachuck on March 4 from Connie, Sheryl, George, Halli, Joshua, Beth, Stephen, Tanya, Sam, Joel, Sindi, Fern and Mark.

Daniel Kinrys recently celebrated his bar mitzvah. Mazel tov from Mom, Dad, Meredith, and grandparents Eve & Ben Daniels and Sol & Rene Kinrys.

Mazel tov Sharona & David on your engagement from parents Abraham & Brenda Reubeni, George & Suzanne Bookbinder and grandmother Eva Tanenbaum.

Mazel tov to Arnold & Eva Schwartz on their 50th wedding anniversary. Love from Vera & Jack Zarek and granddaughters Rebekah and Daniella Zarek.

Mazel tov Sally & Mike Rosen on a special anniversary Feb. 2. Best wishes for a life of good health and happiness. Love from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Janette & Morris Elias who are celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary. Love and best wishes from your family.

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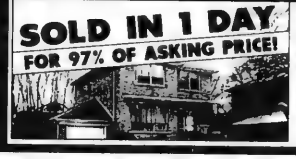

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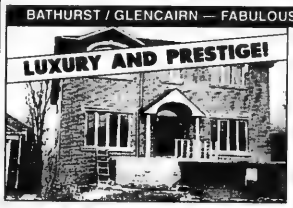

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4 Bdrm., 3 bath, large principal rms. A must see. Susan Smith* 488-2875

BATHURST/WILSON JUST $224K
Spacious 3 bdrm. bung. on 50'x120' ft. lot. F. Sversky** 488-2875

BRAND NEW 2 BDRM TOWNHOME $222,000
Yonge/Eglin., 2 parking, SOLD appl. B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

$619,000 BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
160'x127' 3 bdrm. & fam. rm. bungalow. J. Lerner*/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

EXCLUSIVE - NEW LISTING - YORK MILLS
Reno 4 bdrm. ranch bung. & pool. A. Pollock* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/HIGHWAY 7 SHOWS 10+
Gorgeous 4 bdrm., 4 baths, custom built home. F. Sversky**/ C. Jong* 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

ARNOLD AVE. DREAM HOME - JUST BUILT
$899,900 Loaded-custom-5 br. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

BATHURST VILLAGE - LARGE BACKSPLIT
5 Bed., 4 bath. Must sell. Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

JUST LISTED THORNHILL
3 + 1 Bdrms., stunning home totally upgraded. B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

3 BDRM DET - 1ST AD- EXCLUSIVE $255K
Main fam. rm., 2 car gar! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATT: 1ST TIME BUYERS - 3 BR - $209,900
Atkinson & Clark - Hurry! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK "ELEGANCE" 1775 SF APPROX.
2 Bdrm., 2 bath, fam. rm. & sol. S. Train** 226-1987

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

GEM OF A STORE JEWELLER RETIRING
Walk-in and sell 43 1/2K. A. Eidlitz*/M. Cowan* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

31 ACRES IN UXBRIDGE!!
2 stry res., 2 barns, 14 horse stalls. J. Lerner*/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

$250,000 COTTAGE IN MUSKOKA
On beach frnt. lake. 1 of 9 cottages. J. Lerner*/A. Pollock* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

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all the Best,
Cindy Jusko

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

Wishing All Our Clients & Friends
A Happy & Healthy Passover

FOREST HILL - NEW HOME TO BE BUILT!
$1,525,000. Kilbarry Road! Outstanding French Provincial, limestone facade, high ceilings, magnificent kit. with huge windows overlooking park-like backyard, main flr. family room & den, great master suite, finished lower level with high ceilings, double garage, Richard Wengle design, plans may be changed to suit purchaser. **Alan Newton

• • •

YONGE-CENTRE - MAGNIFICENT 5000' HOME!
Over $300K in extras! 3 car garage, huge lot & more! *Al Sidofsky

• • •

JUST REDUCED! ON RAVINE LOT!
Thornhill, gorgeous 5 bedroom! All the bells & whistles, gourmet kitchen, spa, sauna, etc. Must see! *Saryl Spector

• • •

CUSTOM BUILT ON SPRING GATE BLVD.
4+2 bdrms, absolutely stunning! Finished bsmt. with separate entry, mature trees, steps to plaza, bus & synagogue. *Sarah Tamin

• • •

CUSTOM HOMES UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Bathurst-Centre, about 3600 sq. ft., 4 or 5 bdrms, 91/2 ft. ceilings, top quality finishings, too many extras to list! *Cila Fleischmann

• • •

BATHURST & CENTRE $429,900
Lovely 5 bdrm home, 2,900 sq. ft. Including appliances, custom kitchen, hardwood & more! *Allen Sidofsky

• • •

ATKINSON & CLARK "SPRING FARM" $429,900
Fantastic 5 bdrm., quiet cres. steps to shul, features hardwood flrs., designer kitchen, huge lot, appls., skylight & much more! *Al Sidofsky

• • •

BATHURST & YORK DOWNS BUNGALOW
4 bdrms., 50'x150' ft. lot, fin. bsmt. + sep. entry, value ++. *T. Waxman

• • •

DON MILLS & STEELES - 1ST AD!
Fabulous 3 bdrm. townhome, walk-out bsmt., air, fireplace, large kitchen, appliances, shows great!! *Ted Waxman

CONDOMINIUMS

110 PROMENADE - ABOUT 1,500 SQ. FT.
Over $30K in upgrades! Granite floors, upgraded kitchen, balcony, 2 parking spaces. Call *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

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BATHURST-STEELES - BRAND NEW BUILDING!
11 TOWNSGATE! JUST LISTED! $179,000!
Very bright 2 bdrm., modern kitchen, split bdrms., balcony, all appliances. * *Berta Kogan (905) 881-7248 or (905) 764-7200

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BATHURST-STEELES "PRIMROSE" $189,900
Largest corner unit! 2 bdrms. & solarium, balcony, very large kitchen, huge living room, 2 parking spaces & locker. Must sell quick! **Berta Kogan (905) 881-7248 or (905) 764-7200

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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PASSOVER
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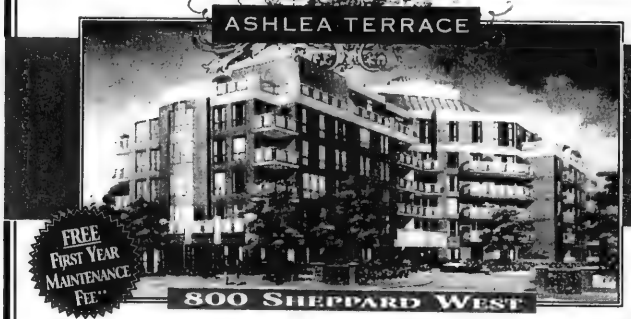

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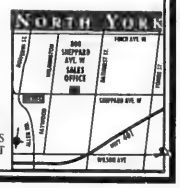

* Principal & interest based on 6.25% 3 year term with 15% down. To qualified purchasers.
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"ARMOUR HEIGHTS" JUST LISTED
2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., good size liv. & din., up-dated kit., fin. bsmnt., mature treed 55'x125' fenced lot, 2 private drives, gar., move-in cond., don't miss!.

• • •

SHEPPARD/BATHURST BUNGALOW
5 rms., 2 bdrms., liv. & din. comb., rec. rm., gar., extras. SOLD

• • •

FINCH/WILMINGTON RANCH BUNGALOW
3 bdrm., 2 bths., 2 kits., huge liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., dble drive, gar.

• • •

LAWRENCE/ALLEN AREA - 6 PLEX
Just listed! 5 - 3 bdrm. + 1 [illegible]m., baths ens., balcs., excellent income. SOLD

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OVERBROOK/WILMINGTON - 50'x165' LOT
Bright & spac., 2-storey, 3 bdrms., 3 bths., huge liv. & din., up-to-date kit., w/out to deck, rec. rm., w/out to breathtaking scenic ravine lot, quiet cres., steps to everything.

• • •

BATHURST/SHEPPARD JUST LISTED
2 bdrms., liv. & din. comb., sooth facing lot, fin. bsmnt. SOLD

• • •

BLUE FOREST AREA SPLIT LEVEL
5 bdrm. + library, huge liv. & din., w/out to deck, kit. w/built-in appls., 4 bths., completely fin. bsmnt., dble drive, gar., don't miss!

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- **BATHURST MANOR** - $259,000. Spac. 3 bdrm. + den, sidesplit, 50'x121' lot, fin. bsmt. C/A. Reduced to sell!
- **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 10 units. $534,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Triplex, $275,000. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.

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Bathurst/Glengrove - New Listing!
$619K - Gorgeous custom-built home, 5 br., 4ba., all the bells & whistles! Marble foyer, granite kit., 9 ft. ceilings on main flr., full apt. in bsmnt., steps to shul, schools, shopping! Don't miss this one!

Yonge/Sheppard - Ravine! Ravine!
***NOW!* $574,900** - Fabulous new 4 br., 4 ba home on quiet cres., gorgeous lot, walk-out from bsmt., still time to customize!

Avenue/Lawrence - Oasis in the City!
$689K - Incredible park-like property. 212 ft. deep. 100 ft. wide at rear. Large 4 br. home with M.F. family room and powder Room! SOLD

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!
SALLY ROSEN (905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

A GOOD BUY
Willowdale/Spacious B/Split, $385,000 on Prestigious Cres. Eat-in kit., fam. rm., w/o and lge. principal rooms. For appt. call:
ELEANOR LONDON, *Sales Rep.*
449-0090
Bridlepath Progressive Real Estate Inc. Rltr.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath. Village, spac. sidesplit, 3 bdrm., hollywood kit., L-shaped liv. & din. rm., 4 bths., fam. rm. with w/out, rentable income bsmt. 665-1090.

Bath./Centre, new, approx. 2900 sq. ft., 4 bdrms, ceramic/hrdwd flrs, upgrades! Open concept, 50 ft. lot on quiet Crt. Asking $379,900. For app't. call 905-707-9993.

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,$675K,**Priv.** 905-884-3847.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, lge. bung., 4 bdrms, study, fin. bsmt, 3 baths, lge. rec. rm., dble. gar., near subway & shuls. 633-7067.

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
NORTH YORK & THORNHILL SPECIALIST

- Townsgate luxury 2 br, 2 wr, balcony, locker $229,900.

Happy Passover to all my clients & friends
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

FOREST HILL PENTHOUSE
Rare 2000 sq. ft. 2 bdrm., 9' ceilings, skylight, sep. dining rm., huge liv. rm. w/frpl., kit./fam. rm., 2 car pkg. +++$589K. For appt. call:
B. JACOBS, *Sales Rep.*
449-0090
Bridlepath Progressive Real Estate Inc. Rltr.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Clark, lux. 2 bdrm condo, 1,080 sq ft + balc, $159,900. 905-764-5697, anytime.

Primrose - like new, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, den, 5 appls, locker, pkg, $167,000. 650-5467,please lve. msg. **No Agents.**

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3555 Bath., 1 bdrm, cac, util. incl,immed.$875./mo. 445-0549

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath/Shepp., bright condo, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $1050/mo, avail. May 5, min. 1 year. 444-4813.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Law student needs male or female to share lux 2 bdrm/2 bath condo at Bath./Steeles, full amen & secur, 10 mins. to York, date negot, $600./mo. Call David 661-9746.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Cottage, Lake Simcoe, Barrie, lakefront, 4 bdrms., 2 baths, fully furn., winterized, $399K. 486-8300, lve. msg.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Tennis,prv sandy beach. Dock. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

Lake Simcoe, sandy beach, lge 6 bdrm cottage, mins from Balfour Beach, n. of Keswick, for summer. 416-482-1422.

Muskoka cottages for rent this summer, fun family retreat, beach/play area, great for kids, sauna/more, scenic Sparrow Lake, 90 min. drive, reasonable rates: 905-731-0040.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST

BATHURST & STEELES

RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS
REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS
TWO BEDROOM AVAIL. IMMEDIATELY $950
ONE BEDROOM AVAIL. MAY 1ST $800
THREE BEDROOM AVAIL. JUNE 15 $1100

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
445-8811
WYCLIFFE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIMITED

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Carscadden,beaut. 2 bdr June 1st, quiet bldg, secluded grnds 636-0137 or 398-3628

Bath./Shepp.,1 bdrm. with underground pkg. in an apt. bldg. Ca 635-5031.

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$975. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

85 APARTMENT WANTED

Bath.area,clean small apt, furn/unfurn,short lease. 493-1868.

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

St.Clair/Bath., prime exec, 2 bdrms + spec. loft & treetop deck, marble baths, granite frplce, cathedral ceilings, unique new accomm. in the heart of the city. Avail. May 1, $2,850/mo. 229-4663

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE SIMCOE
ISLAND GROVE/JACKSONS POINT
Fab 5 bdrm., 1½ baths, winterized, 100'x273' waterfront lot, all the extras, best loc. First time offered in 40 years. Act fast $349,800.
STEVEN SCHMEISER
905 - 889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Ft. Lauderdale, Inverrary, estate sale, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, furn, walk to shul. 416-449-6484.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Ra-anana, 3 bdrms, lounge din rm,all facil, no dishwasher, July-Aug, $500/wk. U.S. Call: 011-972-3-771-3978 or write: Sheila & Izzy Suiski, 6-8 Moshe Dayan St., Ra-anana, Israel, 43-580.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Victoria, B.C., furn. 1 bdrm apt in Heritage home, walk to beach, park, shopping, downtown. Wkly/mo. 250-385-7917.

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Bomboniere & Gift Business for Sale, outside Woodbridge. Manufacturer/Retailer, making profit. Est. 7 years plus. Asking $85K. Please call between 12pm - 6pm. 416-661-0998.

Talmud Torah for sale, est. 1954, currently operates Sun. mornings. Greater potential, very lucrative, organizational and "people" skills very important. 416-785-1161, Mr. Rubinoff

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Youthdale Treatment Centres Longterm Residential Program are seeking strong staff to work with teens having a range of emotional and behavioral difficulties. Excellent opportunities for professional development for recent graduates, driver's license a must. Fax résumé & diploma of post-secondary education. Entry & senior positions available. Fax to: 416-368-3192 or mail to: 227 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1T8, Attn:Pauline Williams-McDonald Only applicants to be interviewed will be contacted. **No phone calls please.**

247 DAY CARE

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher + assistant nurse, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.

A Young Polish lady seeks cleaning job, 2 yrs exp. Call 537-6760, 8-9 pm only.

Cleaning lady avail. 7 days/wk, exper. Call 695-1645.

Cleaning lady for homes/offices, good rates, exper. 259-8654

EC Access Employ. Agency
(filipino owned & operated)
Low fee/nanny/housekeeper
Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

European cleaning lady seeks job cleaning homes, refs, 246-9064.

Exper. cleaning lady avail. for homes & apts. 416-244-2549.

Exper. help for Passover, cooking, shopping & serving, or nurse/companion, driving "with your own car", 2 days/wk. or Mon.-Fri after 3pm. exc. refs. Call 923-7639, lve. msg.

Exper. lady seeks job cleaning houses or apts, refs. 248-6605.

Exper. lady with HCA Certif. seeks job looking after elderly, also cleaning. 690-9761.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Hskpng, 3 days/wk, or take care of elderly,exper. 245-0774.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RNs, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

No. 1 Domestic Service Need Help For The Holidays? Qualified ladies, preparation for Pesach and Kosher food serving and cleaning. **We do it All!!** Book now for the holidays. **Mavis - 630-0674 or 224-9907**

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Why not *enjoy* Passover this Year? Marla's Domestics has qualified people avail. to help serve and do dishes. Call now, book early! **Call 416-226-4325.**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

ALWAYS CARE
SINCE 1986
•Live-in helpers •Homemakers •Health Care
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3-24 HRS/7 DAYS A WEEK • SERVICE PROVIDED WITHIN 4 HRS.
NO LANGUAGE BARRIERS
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AFFORDABLE RATES
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Find The Caregiver Match For Your Lifestyle
We help you put the Pieces in Place!
Senior Lifestyle Solutions
Book now OR arrange for a free consultation
Highly Qualified Companions, Homemakers, Health Care Aides, available now
Part-time, Full-time, and Respite Care. We care, let us start helping you today, whether at home, in the hospital, or in a seniors home
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(Gov't of Ontario Licence No. 6172)

APPLE DOMESTICS NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Caring, responsible, exp. woman avail. to look after elderly person. Superb cook, exc. refs. Willing to work weekends. Live in/out. Eileen, 747-8318.

European cleaning lady,Tues. & Thurs., exper, refs 532-6693

Polish exp. lady with refs. avail. for houses/apts. 249-2430

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Occasional babysitter wanted for energetic 15 mo. old boy, exper. & refs. req'd. Call Judy at 440-0385.

258 HEALTHCARE

Caregiver for the elderly avail, 5 yrs exp,NW Toronto.783-9985

Exper. HCA seeks job with elderly, any shift, home/facility, day/night, refs. 283-1102.

HCA certif., Jewish girl, avail. for elderly, exper. & refs. avail. 416-588-7202.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Introduction Service!** The last Service you'll ever need! Thousands of upscale clients.
Call Evelyn 905-709-3868

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

MARLA'S DOMESTICS would like to wish all their clients & friends a Happy Passover
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, Jeanne Bonded references
Call MARLA 226-4325

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1300** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED
People are needed to care for children/youth, 24 hrs/day, as part of your family
We provide training, support, a Board rate and cover most expenses
Call
Foster Care Co-ordinator
Selma Elzas
at
Jewish Family and Child Service
638-7800 ext. 298

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

28 yr. old male, 6 ft. tall, very athletic, loves rock climbing, mountain walking, guitar playing and singing, loves skiing, is looking for a girl with similar interests. CJN Box 6909.

A fine, considerate, reliable, indep. brother, 41, who has a slight learning disability & dreams of meeting a caring, sensitive woman for a long term relationship. 221-4714.

Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - late 30's. 633-1728.

If you're a SJF who wouldn't need a dictionary to understand what either "lev - tov" or "guteh neshama" means...I'd like to hear from you. SJM, 35, 5'7", hoping to meet fit, fun, down to earth, active, traditional woman. CJN Box 6910.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Slim,charming,40ish JF seeks prof. man 35+ who enjoys dining in & playing outside for long term relationship.CJN Box 6911

Vienna born indep. widow, 62, 5'3", 110 lbs would like to meet an intelligent gentleman interested in cultural & other activities. 955-0904.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted are valid for 30 days only (from issue date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cooper-Mintz. Ernie & Barbara Kovinsky and Henry Cooper are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Wendy to Sean,** son of Lynn Dnieper and Elaine & Marvin Mintz. Proud grandparents are Mary & Sam Goldbach & Mary Mintz. A May '98 wedding is planned.

Grossman-Gordon. Sharon & Sam Grossman and Sharon & David Gordon take great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their children, **Mickey** and **Rick**. Proud grandparents are Murray and the late Frances Eisen & Goldie Gordon. Mazel Tov to all.

IT'S ANOTHER GIRL! Robin & Eli Ovadia are thrilled to announce the birth of their second child, **Ezra Urise**, born Saturday, March 29, 1997 at 5:42 pm. Proud grandparents are Gloria & Roger Baker & Mazal and Gershon Ovadia, and great grandmother Ida Feldman. Many thanks to Dr. Sonia Kurtz & all the nurses at North York General Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Zober are pleased to announce the forthcoming engagement of their son **Robert Joseph** to **Debbie**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. A. Montlake.**

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Set of encyclopedia Judaica, in any condition. 633-7990.

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as The CJN will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of The CJN. The CJN reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of Carole & Bernie Zucker

PORTNOY, Larry - on March 27, 1997, late of 173 Overbrook Pl.
SEIDER, Janie - on March 27, 1997, late of 177 Linus Rd.
AIZENBERG, Maisa - on March 29, 1997, late of 5900 Yonge St.
GRYN, Luba - on March 29, 1997.
JUPITER, Ida - on March 29, 1997.
SHAPERO, Ada - on March 29, 1997, late of 101 Brighton Ave.
VEFFER, Jacob on March 29, 1997, late of 199 Haddington Ave.
TICKTIN, Syme - on March 30, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr.
HURWITZ, Sonia - on March 31, 1997, late of 7300 Yonge St.
KRAKOVITS, Elizabeth - on March 31, 1997.
LUNSKY, Sonya - on March 31, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
MOUSSADJI, Jacques - on March 31, 1997, late of 3896 Bathurst St.
KLIGERMAN, Bert (Bill) - on April 2, 1997, late of 16 Elgin St.
RESNICK, Martin - on April 2, 1997, late of 15 Shallmar Blvd.
REZNICK, Alex - on April 2, 1997, late of 160 Codsell Ave.
FISHER, Ruth on April 3, 1997.
LANGER, Ruth - on April 3, 1997, late of 534 Woburn Ave.
TAECHBERG, Anna - on April 3, 1997, late of 426 Lawrence Ave. W.
WOLF, Helena - on April 3, 1997, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W.
COHEN, Fay - on April 5, 1997.
VINOKUR, Rakhil - on April 6, 1997, late of 155 Antibes Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

NEWMAN, Stanley - on March 27, 1997, late of 44 Charles St. W., #1201.
JACOBSON, Irving - on March 28, 1997, late of 5 Silverton Ave.
KLUPT, Allen - on March 28, 1997, late of 1111 Steeles Ave. W., P.H. #4 .
ROHER, Dorothy - on March 28, 1997, late of 55 St. Clair Ave. W., #300.
SCHWAB, Lillian - on March 29, 1997, late of Seniors Health Centre.
BORENSTEIN, Paul - on March 30, 1997, late of 7 Lambert Rd.
MALLEN, Ida - on March 30, 1997, late of 130 Dunn Ave.
LEAVENS, Saul - on March 31, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SAFIR, Nisan - on March 31, 1997, late of 65 Spring Garden Ave.
STEINBERG, Mary Pearl - on March 31, 1997, late of 3595 Keele St.
SUSSMAN, Irving - on March 31, 1997, late of 25 Canyon Ave., #1805.
ZELDING, Florence - on March 31, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
SINGER, William - on April 1, 1997, late of 325 Brighton Ave.
REBICK, Norman - on April 2, 1997, late of Greenview Lodge.
ROEBUCK, Manning H. - on April 2, 1997, late of 298 Spadina Rd.
SCHLUSSEL, Moe - on April 2, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KRANE, Tillie - on April 3, 1997, late of 6091 Bathurst St., #415.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
GERRI LASH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CELIA SPIVAK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 20th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved husband, father and grandfather
Eugene Jack Buckler ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 20th at 2:00 p.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Bathurst, north of Finch
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Sonia Biderman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 20th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue)
Independent Friendly Workers Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Maccabi tennis team a mix of 'youth, experience'

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The 41 budding tennis stars hailed from across Canada.

But when the last ball was volleyed and the final serve aced after 66 matches, 12 players from Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia and two alternates proved good enough to qualify for Maccabi Canada's tennis team at the recent national trials in Montreal.

"It's a good mix of youth and experience," said Norman Katz, the tennis team coach who will accompany the squad to Israel July 9 to 24 for the 15th Maccabiah Games. "I'm excited about it."

Katz, who at 32 will be attending his first Maccabiah Games, felt he had good reason to feel pretty optimistic about the prospects for a Canadian tennis medal, which has so far eluded Canada.

"Tennis is one of the most popular and competitive sports at the games. Virtually all of the 50 countries coming to the Maccabiah will field tennis teams. They will play at the Israel Tennis Centre in Ramat Hasharon, about 15 minutes outside Tel Aviv. (Medal matches will be played on the centre's "Canada Court.")

Canadian players will have their work cut out for them, since they'll have to outserve and volley top-ranked players from Israel and the United States, which traditionally field the strongest teams (past U.S Maccabiah tennis veterans have included players like Brad Gilbert, a former top pro).

But Katz feels a tennis medal in '97 falls within the realm of possibility.

The team, which will compete in Men's and Women's "open" and Boy's and Girl's "junior" singles, doubles and mixed doubles play, includes Montreal's David Abelson, whom Katz described as a "class player" and Canada's best medal bet.

Abelson goes to Miami University in Ohio and is ranked as an NCAA "division 1" player, which is in line with a "pro" ranking, Katz said.

The two best female players, Katz's believes, are sisters Shiera and Yael Stuart of Richmond, B.C.

Both are Maccabiah veterans, as is Charles Wright, of London, Ont., who at 29 will be the oldest player on the team.

These young tennis players were all smiles after they qualified recently for Maccabi Canada's tennis team at the Rockland Sport Tennis Club.

Other team members include Ben Zigglestein of Toronto and Dr. Chaim Edelstein of Montreal (Men's Open category); Tracey Winter of Montreal and Kelly Kives of Winnipeg (Women's Open category); Jeremy Perez and Julien Wolfson of Montreal (Junior Boy's category); and Helena Vander of Toronto and Cassianne Robinson-Cohen of Montreal (Junior Girls' category).

Two other players, Daniel Kives of Winnipeg and Jordan Bohnen of Toronto, will also likely be going to Israel as "quasi-alternates," Katz said.

With only seven months to go before the Maccabiah, Katz, the full-time pro at Rockland Sport Tennis Club for the last eight years (where the trials took place) and involved with the Maccabi Youth Games for the last nine, has his work cut out for him.

Besides having to institute a training regimen that will have to be conducted largely by phone and fax (for the non-Montrealers), the team will be seeking to raise about $5,000 per athlete to pay for their trips to Israel.

At the national trials, which were sanctioned by the Fédération québecoise de tennis and included the participation of the team's assistant coach, Jackie Feffer, trials director Brian Wexler and Leon Elfassy, sponsors proved easy to come by.

Rockland Sport, for its part, donated $2,000 worth of court time, while corporate sponsors Wilson Sport supplied the tennis balls and Gatorade provided the refreshments.

Winnipeg student wins Canadian judo champs

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Aaron Pfeffer, a Grade 9 student at Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate, Winnipeg's Jewish high school, is the Canadian Juvenile Judo Champion for 1997. Pfeffer won the title at a recent, two-day competition in Halifax.

He has been doing judo since he was seven after becoming interested through an older brother's friend. He has won the Manitoba provincial championship in his age category for the past three years and won a bronze last year at the national championships in Calgary.

The tournament is a modified round robin affair, he says. The contestant is eliminated after two losses. If you lose once, the highest you can go is bronze.

Pfeffer has one more year in the Juvenile category. Now, as Canadian champ, he's looking forward to international competitions.

Eventually, he's hoping to compete in the Olympics.

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The Inside Back

The new Haggadot

By JORDAN MAX
Special to The CJN

Here is a sample of this year's new Haggadot which I have recently previewed, soon to be available at a bookstore near you.

The Common Sense Mega Haggadah. A revolutionary, re-interpreted and downsized Haggadah containing 22 percent fewer characters. Recasts Egyptians as modern day multi-tiered governments piling up crushing debt on poor taxpaying Jews and the story of how a single tax-fighting leader led them through a revolution to the promised land of fiscal Responsibility, Prosperity and a Tax Cut. Interesting section on the Ten Plagues of Debt and the efficiency of splitting the Waters of the Reed Sea 50/50. Explains the significance of the Omnibus Revelation Amalgamation of the Tribes at Har Sinai. A little short on details, some inconsistencies, however, its pamphlet format travels well, from boardroom to seder table to golf course. Likely to appeal mostly to neo-conservatives and special groups, but its simple answers makes it comprehensible for all ages.

Little Yasser's Jihadaggah. This soon-to-be-classic for children is based on new research which proves categorically that it was actually the Palestinian people who were enslaved in Egypt by the rich and powerful Jews, liberated from Egypt, given the Torah and led through the desert to Eretz Yisrael, with Jerusalem as its capital, before being wrongfully evicted by the Romans for merely falling behind on their property taxes. Recommended by the UN as "a bold and brilliant re-discovery of history." Some political overtones. For parents who want a more "balanced" presentation of Middle East history.

The Martha Stewart Haggadah. A really tastefully decorated Haggadah, stressing the paramount importance of food, proper decor and mood lighting to your seder. Includes how-to sections on early Israelite planters, table centrepieces and party favors, etiquette on whole roast lamb presentation, and cleaning tips for getting blood off doorposts. Tends to ignore most of story line and concentrates mostly on the Shulchan Aruch (meal) and table setting, and their importance to Jewish culture and society today. A perfect gift for someone with all the time in the world planning an intimate 150-guest seder.

The National Midnight Sun Haggadah. Interesting concept of the story of the Exodus as portrayed through tabloid-style articles and real, uncensored pictures. Many sidebars on the relevant Exodus personalities. Includes Moses' murder trial, Was Pharaoh an Alien? the all-Manna Diet, Miriam's Miracle Cure, Eliyahu sightings and much more. Appeals most to those who get their hard news at the supermarket checkout line and soap opera fans.

The Virtual Reality Haggadah. This version is actually a special headset to be worn by the "reader." Allows you to sit with your family at the seder without actually sitting with your family at the seder, or to reprogram for another family, movie stars, Blue Jays, Raptors, Elvis. Experience hard physical labor in Egypt. See Pharaoh's chariots charging after you. Feel the crunch as you bite into that first bit of matzah. Actually taste the maror and Bubbie's chicken soup. Relive (or alter) all your memorable seders with this technological innovation. Still a few bugs to work out, as all food at the seder still tastes like matzah. Appeals to techies and people who wish they had different families.

With these new versions, you are guaranteed that no one at your seders will have an excuse for asking the forbidding fifth question "When do we eat?" Chag Samayach!

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
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CHOCOLATE MATZO TORTE

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Torte:	Filling:		Chocolate Frosting:
8 matzohs	1 cup sugar	1 cup boiling water	6 oz. chocolate chips
sweet red wine	3 tblsp. potato starch	2 tblsp. margarine	2 tblsp. margarine
	1/8 tsp. salt	1 cup chocolate chips	2 tblsp. water
		1 tsp. vanilla	chopped nuts

Filling: Cook sugar, starch, salt and boiling water stirring constantly until boiling for 1 minute. Remove from heat. Stir in chips until smooth, then margarine and vanilla. Spread while warm.

Dip a matzo in wine on both sides, and place on serving dish. Spread with filling. Repeat layers, ending with matzo. Melt chips with margarine and water. Frost sides and top of torte. Decorate with chopped nuts, chill.

MARTIN & FRAN CAPLAN EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY & HEALTHY PASSOVER

About Life

Dear Ella,

Although I don't keep kosher throughout the year, and I'm not shomer Shabbat, I have always been a stickler for kashrut on Passover. Making our home kosher for Passover was something we always did together as a family and it is one of the religious things that I continue to observe in my own life.

Eric, my boyfriend, wants me to go to his house for a seder this year. This is the first Passover we will be spending together. His family are traditional Jews, but they don't observe many of the basic kashrut laws for Passover. They claim there is no chametz in their home, but just the fact that dinner is served on their "good dishes" that have been used all year is not acceptable to me.

Eric calls me a hypocrite and says I'm just using "this chametz thing" as an excuse to spend both seders with my family. How can I make him understand?

Kosher Clashes.

Dear Kosher Clashes,

Religion is a very personal and spiritual thing. It not only signifies a bond with G-d, but in your case, it also brings back what sounds like a happy and comforting experience that you were able to share together with your family. Your parents have instilled the importance of Pesach in you, and you must now try to explain it to Eric.

Tell him in detail of the way you kashered your home. Explain the hard work of changing everything over, all the cleaning, all the cooking, all the fussing to make sure that everything was just right. Then the feeling of sitting down to the seder with your family, the togetherness, the bonding, the fun and the importance of knowing why this holiday is different from all other holidays. If you can explain to Eric how special Passover is to you, it may just become special to him too.

I would also like to thank everyone who sent in those long lost recipes of the past and helped "Food for Thought" and myself. You have helped to make her Pesach a little more special this year. The recipe is above in the Herb Caplan ad.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

YOU CAN NOW SEND YOUR LETTERS BY
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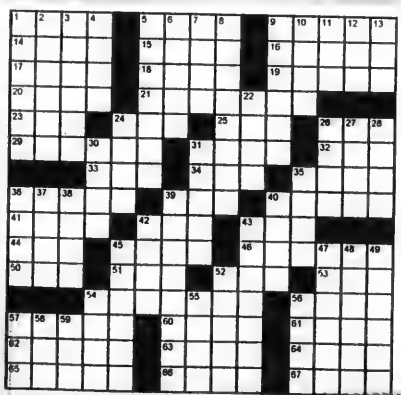
The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. "One Destiny" writer
5. Egyptian snakes
9. Order
14. Agadah
15. Eighteen
16. Make aliyah
17. Tu B' Shevat need
18. Inform
19. Like Chanukah goodies
20. Israeli city
21. Storehouse city
23. Age
24. Over to Ha Levi
25. Biblical fishing device
26. Shikker's choice?
29. Breaks the second
31. Remain
32. Emulated Joshua
33. Owns
34. Everyone
35. Haman or Amalek
36. Break the eighth
39. Purchase
40. Tel-Aviv sister city
41. Rachel's resting place
42. White Sox Abrams
43. Israelite city
44. Supply with Uzis
45. Therefore
46. Jacob's favorite
50. Tay-Sachs carrier
51. Used his tuches
52. Daniel's test site
53. __ Carte
54. Israel's progeny
56. Departed
57. Son of Ishmael
60. Dead and Red
61. Strauss
62. Emulate Abba Eban
63. "Bambi" by Salten
64. Challah maker's equipment
65. Wilder and Hackman
66. Bezalel specialty
67. Shikker

Down

1. Dimahs
2. Tisha B' av mood
3. Genesis activity
4. Listen
5. Perlman or Midler
6. Nazarite no no
7. Lulav frond
8. The Amidah, at times
9. El Al specialty
10. Greenberg stats
11. 502
12. Haifa to Eilat dir.
13. Edom people
22. Crest
24. Sabin vaccine
26. Hebrew letter
27. Eden wear?
28. Writer Ferber
30. Seventh king
31. Raskin and Bellow
35. Artist Chagall
36. "__ Trek". Nimoy's show
37. Like shiva clothes
38. "The New Colossus", poetess
39. Baseball player
40. Comedian Rivers
42. "__ Gadya"
43. Shmatas?
45. Hebrew letters
47. Poet
48. Joseph's brothers
49. Sephardic language
52. Played Canasta
54. Golden or Herod
55. Seder salt water
56. Movement
57. Chazzer (Eng.)
58. Exist
59. Bilhah's boy

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 48.)

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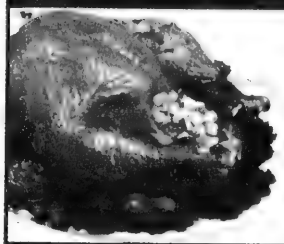

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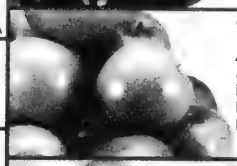

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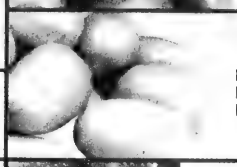

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This Week

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Last-ditch effort underway to save Branson Hospital. **Page 4**

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Religious issues create division in Israeli-society. *Analysis.* **Page 27**

Arts

Exodus documentary closer to the truth than the original movie. **Page 30**

Comedian Michael Wex to perform at Ashkenaz preview. **Page 31**

Sports

David Nemirovsky hopes to help the Panthers capture the Stanley Cup. **Page 38**

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Shabbat Chol Hamoed: Pesach
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Coalition faces new hurdles

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Although Israel's attorney general has announced his conclusions in the Bar-On affair, the ramifications of the investigation into influence-peddling in the Netanyahu government are not yet over.

Analysis

While Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu eluded indictment in the affair, he has been continuing to maintain his political stature even as he sought to reassure his coalition partners.

Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein announced last Sunday that he had not found sufficient evidence in a 995-page police report to indict Netanyahu in connection with corruption allegations surrounding the short-lived appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

Citing a similar lack of evidence, Rubinstein said the file on Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi also would be closed.

The attorney general did find grounds to indict Aryeh Deri, Shas leader in the Knesset, for alleged breach of trust, fraud and extortion.

Speaking at a news conference where he and State Attorney Edna Arbel announced their decision, Rubinstein said that a "dismal picture" of the norms of government had emerged from the police investigation, but that insufficient evidence of criminal behavior was found.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gives the "thumbs-up" sign before his speech to the Likud last week.
[Reuter/RNS photo]

The police had recommended bringing charges against Netanyahu, Hanegbi and Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Premier's Office, but the final decision was in the hands of Arbel and Rubinstein. They have not yet made a decision about Lieberman.

"We based our decision on purely professional elements: Is there enough evidence to file criminal charges?" Rubinstein said.

Netanyahu welcomed the attorney general's decision, saying he felt vindicated.

"I made a mistake, I admit that, but I did not commit a crime. There is a big difference between the two," he said in a televised statement.

The attorney general's announcement followed intensive consultations on the findings of a three-month long police probe into allegations surrounding the aborted appointment in January of Bar-On, a Jerusalem lawyer and Likud activist.

Bar-On, whose appointment was endorsed at a Jan. 10 cabinet meeting, stepped down two days later amid a controversy over his professional qualifications.

Continued on page 26

Israel mourns Chaim Herzog

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In the grand hall of Beit Hanassi where for 10 years she had greeted so many people at presidential receptions, Aura Herzog received the condolences of the nation on the death of her husband, Israel's sixth president, Chaim Herzog.

At her side were her children, Joel, Michael, Isaac and Ronit, and other relatives.

Representatives from the former president's many areas of activity were among the hundreds of people from all over the country who came to pay their last respects to the man whom his successor, Ezer Weizman, described as "the personification of the Zionist movement."

Aura Herzog said she was amazed by the flood of messages she had received from monarchs, heads of state and government leaders from all over the world since her husband's death last week.

With his passing, Herzog changed the balance of the most exclusive fraternity in Israel, the Presidents' Club. Prior to his death, it had a membership of four of Israel's seven presidents. Now there are three: Ephraim Katzir, Yitzhak Navon and Ezer Weizman.

Please see pages 8 and 9

Among the people who for over four hours filed through Beit Hanassi where Herzog's flag-draped coffin lay in state were Judge Israel Feinstein and his wife, Marion, whose wedding Herzog had attended in London 50 years ago. Herzog and his wife would have celebrated their own 50th wedding anniversary in three weeks.

Many of the visitors wrote inscriptions in a book of remembrance alongside which were a black-ribboned photograph of Herzog, a memorial candle and his military decorations.

At one stage, the area of the room in which Aura Herzog was seated, appeared to represent the human saga of the creation and development of the state.

Alongside her were Ezer and Reuma Weizman, her brother-in-law Abba Eban and Teddy Kollek.

The sight prompted British Ambassador David Manning to remark that Herzog himself had been "a living link with the past."

Nissan Limor, who had been director-general of Beit Hanassi for the whole of Herzog's tenure, and Ami Gluska, who had been his military adjutant for five years, both said his visit to Bergen-Belsen was the most memorable and emotional event of his term.

Herzog was the first Israeli president to set foot in Germany, Gluska recalled. As a member of Montgomery's forces, Herzog had been among the liberators of Bergen-Belsen and for him the controversial visit was the closing of a circle. But he had made it very clear that neither Israel nor the Jewish people would forgive or forget.

Continued on page 26

OFFICES CLOSED

The offices of *The CJN* will be closed Monday, April 28 and Tuesday, April 29 for the concluding days of Passover.

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Police arrest Haredim at protest — please see page 25

The News in Brief

CANADA

Jewish Unity Welcomed

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress has welcomed the consensus expressed by representatives of all branches of Judaism, criticizing the recent divisive pronouncement of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis in the United States.

Okanagan News

KELOWNA — The Okanagan Jewish Community recently held an International Day for the Elimination of Racism arranged by the Kelowna Multicultural Society.

ISRAEL

Burial Controversy

JERUSALEM — Israel's chief rabbis and Ministry of Absorption have agreed on a way to resolve the controversy over burials for some immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Many of the immigrants are not considered Jewish by the Orthodox rabbinate and burial societies.

The agreement allows those Israelis whose Jewishness is in question to be buried in separate sections of existing Jewish cemeteries.

Bedouin Students

JERUSALEM — Twenty-six 12th graders recently received diplomas from Ben-Gurion University (BGU) of the Negev for successfully completing a two-year course of enrichment in medical sciences. Two of the graduates – both girls – will be applying to BGU's Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School.

That is a major milestone, for there is not a single Bedouin female physician in Israel, nor is there a female Bedouin nurse in the Negev.

WORLD

Rabbi Sentenced

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — Rabbi Sidney Isaac Goldenberg was sentenced recently to three years in state prison for sexually molesting a 12-year-old student during private bat mitzvah tutoring sessions.

Judge Mark Tansil of the Superior Court here issued the sentence after an emotional hearing, during which the victim and her family called for a harsh sentence while Rabbi Goldenberg asked for leniency.

Citizenship Lost

NEW YORK — An Illinois man who took part in a World War II massacre of Jews and who served at Treblinka has been stripped of his American citizenship, the U.S. Justice Department announced.

District Judge David Coar in Chicago ruled late last week that Bronislaw Hajda was ineligible for citizenship because he concealed his wartime activities from U.S. officials when he applied to immigrate in 1950 and when he applied to become a citizen in 1955.

New Russian Envoy

MOSCOW — Russia will soon be sending a new ambassador to Israel.

Alexander Bovin, who has served more than five years as ambassador said he would be replaced in mid-May. Bovin was Russia's first ambassador to Israel since the two countries broke off diplomatic relations in 1967.

Search For Lost Gold

BRASILIA — Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has signed a decree creating a special commission to trace gold and other assets stolen from Holocaust victims and believed to have been smuggled into the country by Nazis after World War II.

The commission will also attempt to determine whether any former Nazis, many of whom found a safe haven in South America after the war, are still living in Brazil.

Accord Approved

STRASBOURG — The European parliament has approved a trade and cooperation accord between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority.

While the agreement covers economic issues, diplomatic sources say its true significance is political, because it reflects the European Union's desire for closer ties with the Palestinian Authority.

Priebke on Trial Again

ROME — Former Nazi SS Capt. Erich Priebke went on trial last week to face for a second time war crimes charges related to Italy's worst World War II atrocity.

The retrial opened when the military court ruled that another ex-Nazi, former SS Maj. Karl Hass, would be tried jointly with the 83-year-old Priebke on similar charges.

Both face charges in the March 1944 mass execution of 335 men and boys in the Ardeatine Caves south of Rome.

Arrests in Frankfurt

BONN — Two people were arrested last week in Frankfurt after scuffles outside the opening of an exhibition on the crimes of Hitler's army.

The exhibit, which shows the involvement of the German army in the mass killing of Jews during World War II, has been shown in dozens of towns across Germany since it was launched two years ago.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday April 21, 1972

ISRAEL SETS OUT WEST BANK PROPOSALS

Israeli leaders, responding to King Hussein's plan for a federal Jordan, are at long last beginning to come forward with tentative counter proposals in regard to the political future of the West Bank.

The government has avoided adopting a clear public stand on this issue in order to avoid a split in its own ranks, for while most Labor party leaders believe the disposition of the West Bank is negotiable, most of their coalition colleagues in the National Religious Party hold that the West Bank, as part of the historic land of Israel, cannot be abandoned under any circumstances.

STAND PAT BUDGET FEARED

Stringent provincial and municipal budgeting this year could seriously affect Jewish child care programs in Metropolitan Toronto.

Although Toronto's Jewish Family and Child Service director Jerome Diamond was cautious about becoming excessively pessimistic or making positive predictions, he expressed concern that child care workers will face enormous difficulties coping with the community's rising demand for assistance.

A steadily increasing child care case load may signal a stop to program expansion this fall, or, even service cutbacks.

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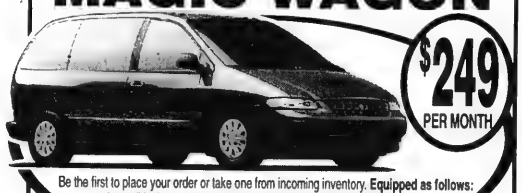

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Harris Tories come under fire for cutting anti-racism program

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish organizations are calling on Ontario's cost-cutting Tories to reverse their axing of a highly-regarded government anti-racism program.

Both Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, and the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) say the scrapping of the anti-racism branch of the Education Ministry was a mistake that will make it easier for hate groups to recruit at schools.

The ministry's Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunities branch, set up by the previous NDP government in 1993, wound up operations April 11. According to branch director Nora Allingham, two of its 10 employees have been declared surplus, including Allingham, and the remaining eight will be assigned to other ministry positions.

The branch was responsible for helping school boards develop and implement anti-racism programs, and to help schools fend off the aggressive recruitment tactics of groups like the neo-Nazi Heritage Front.

"We've lost an important tool in the fight against racism," remarked CJC's Steve Shulman, "and it's not clear how the gap will be closed."

Shulman said the program was the "primary" way to fight the spread of racism at Ontario schools, where hate groups can encounter fertile ground for new recruits. "We believe that one of the main reasons the increase in [campus] racist groups was curbed was because of this program. The result was that racist groups were barred from schools and students weren't reeled in."

CJC, he said, is calling on the government to reinstate the program. "Not all government programs are successful," he said. "This one was."

Karen Mock of the League for Human Rights said the scrapping of the program is "unconscionable."

She particularly slammed the Tories for failing to deliver to educators a guidebook on how to confront racist groups on campus.

"It was ready to go and they sat on it. Now, it will never see the light of day," Mock said.

She said the League, which worked hard to ensure the unit was created, "will do whatever we can to make sure these initiatives continue."

No one from the Education Ministry was available for comment.

Steve Shulman

Karen Mock

PESACH AT LEO BAECK
Junior kindergarten students are seen standing in front of a seder table as they learn and prepare for Pesach. Seen (from left) Marli Mucher, Eric Berger, Samantha Bender, Laura Katz and Sam Vlessing.

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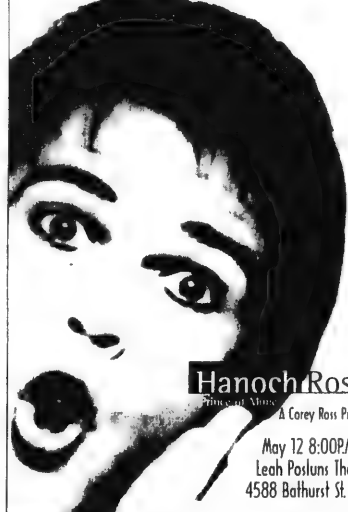
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Greater Toronto Area

Last-ditch appeal made to save Branson

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A last-ditch rescue effort is underway to help keep open the doors of Branson Hospital, a facility that is important to the health of the Jewish community.

The area served by the hospital has many elderly residents at risk for heart attacks, who count on the emergency department.

Branson is to close before the end of 1999, according to an order of the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC), which also ordered the closing of 10 other Metro hospitals.

Last-minute appeals are being made to save Branson, which admitted more than 400 heart attack victims in 1994-95.

The effort is being spearheaded by two leading Jewish organizations, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

They have sent copies of their appeal to Premier Mike Harris, Minister of Health Jim Wilson and Attorney General Charles Harnick. Harnick, who represents an adjoining riding, has already replied that he is ready and anxious to meet on the issue. They are also asking that residents write to Harris and their MPPs to express their concern.

An unexpected ally in their cause is the Metro Toronto District Health Council (MTDHC), which has sent its own appeal to the commission to keep Branson open as an ambulatory care centre (emergency and outpatient services).

The council originally recommended that Branson's acute care beds be closed, but that it remain open for ambulatory care.

Significantly, this would keep one-third to one-half of Branson's facilities operating in the present building, according to Lorne Zon, the council's executive director. This would include doctors trained in emergency services.

Branson serves the largest Jewish patient caseload of any Metro hospital, states a letter to the commission from UJA Federation and Congress.

They estimate that one-third of Branson's inpatients are Jews, as well as 50 percent of those treated in emergency or outpatients clinics.

Another major point in the appeal is that as the only Seventh Day Adventist hospital in Canada, Branson has developed a lot of special ritual and religious services for the Jewish community.

Also, closing Branson completely will seriously affect the many Jewish physicians on its staff who will have no place to admit their patients. If doctors leave the community because of this economic pressure, then the medical needs of the area's population will not be met.

The appeal zeroes in on the fact that 25,000 elderly persons, 10,000 of them Jews, live in the immediate vicinity of Branson, and that an even larger number reside in the hospital's larger catchment area.

Keeping an ambulatory care centre open at Queensway General Hospital for senior citizens, while shutting down Branson, even though it serves more seniors than Queensway, is discriminatory, the federation and Congress state.

"Branson provides almost twice as many ambulatory care (i.e. outpatient) services as does the Queensway Hospital," their appeal says. "Comparing the combined emergency and outpatient departments of Queensway with that of Branson, it is clear, based on the HSRC's own statistics, that Branson provides many more medical services. The HSRC, inequitably and discriminatorily, has determined that the people in the Queensway catchment area are in need of greater provision of health care services than are those in the Branson catchment area."

In view of the community's needs, closing Branson is "unconscionable" states the appeal signed by Harold Brief, vice-chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and Alan Sandler vice-president, community planning and allocations, UJA Federation.

Among Branson' services which are uniquely welcomed by the Jewish community, their letter lists the following: The hospital is one of only two in Metro with an on-site Jewish chapel; Jewish holiday and ritual services are provided on-site for people in the hospital community; it provides kosher meals and respects Sabbath observances; it is accessible by foot so that Sabbath visits by observant Jewish patients, their relatives and physicians are possible; it provides sleep rooms for Jewish physicians on-call during the Sabbath; it allows for the ritual needs of deceased Jewish patients and is sensitive to Jewish beliefs on autopsy and burial of limbs.

The appeal states that the concern for the elderly is acknowledged by the MTDHC report, which noted that the elderly in the Branson catchment area are among the highest users of health care services and have the most difficulty when it come to access. Furthermore, many of these people are recent immigrants with few English language skills and little access to private transportation.

The Jewish community would have to utilize the facilities of the North York General Hospital, the York-Finch Hospital or York Central Hospital. For elderly patients using public transit, this could mean more than one bus transfer and a long commute.

Concern is expressed about the rights of the medical staff at Branson. "A significant percentage of those physicians are members of the Jewish community. We are concerned that failure to make it mandatory that the surviving public hospitals provide each of them with the active staff and admitting privileges could well result in the loss of their ability to practise their profession."

The commission planned to hear appeals about Branson's future until April 18, but has set no date on when it will respond. There is no appeal from its final decision.

Clarification

The article "C-IC seeks meet with Axworthy over Hezbollah," [*CJN*, April 17] stated that the Canada-Israel Committee is seeking a meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy to discuss reports that Hezbollah has a network in Canada. However, according to the C-IC, the main purpose of the meeting is to discuss Canadian foreign policy and how it will be applied to the Middle East peace process.

CORRECTION

In the recipe for Chocolate marshmallow surprise (*CJN*, April 10), an e-mail gremlin left out part of the instructions.

The second sentence of the directions should read: In a saucepan, melt butter and chocolate over low heat.

In the same article, the ingredients for Lyonnaise hot potato salad are correct. Use your own judgment in how many potatoes to use. A good estimate is about one medium-size potato per serving.

From the editor's desk
Will Return

Bert Raphael, Q.C., supports Reena's capital campaign and advocates on behalf of Reena's clients.

In addition to his numerous communal commitments, Bert Raphael has always had a special place in his heart for Reena. A past Board Member, he now serves as Reena's Honourary Legal Council and continues to advocate on behalf of developmentally handicapped people. He says "The Battle Centre is the culmination of years of dreams, hopes and work by many volunteers and care givers to create a state-of-the-art facility which will help Reena clients maximize their potential."

When Martin Goodman was struck down by a car several years ago, it was Bert Raphael who advocated on his behalf.

Martin is quite independent. A Reena client for 14 years, Martin has learned many of the life skills required to live in one of Reena's Supported Independent Living apartments. He works on a variety of contract jobs and does his own chores and banking. Staff at the Battle Centre will teach him cooking skills and budgeting. Martin continues to grow and flourish as a result of the support he receives at Reena.

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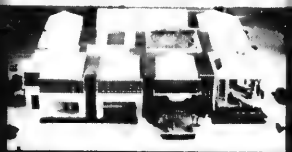

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Greater Toronto Area

Congregation divided over rabbi's contract

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A special membership meeting attended by an estimated 500 people was held last week at Beth Sholom Synagogue in a bid by some members for the reversal of a decision made by its board of governors not to renew Rabbi Irvin Brandwein's contract.

His contract has not been renewed, confirmed Ruth Podeswa, executive director of the Eglinton Avenue Conservative congregation, following the meeting, but she had no comment on whether the rabbi would complete the remainder of his term, which expires at the end of July.

About 140 supporters of Rabbi Brandwein had signed a petition requesting the meeting, which was then convened as required under the synagogue's constitution. Beth Sholom has 3,000 members, according to the rabbi.

The 44-year-old rabbi was hired in the summer of 1992, following a six-year stint at Temple Beth Emeth in Anaheim, Calif. An alumnus of the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he received smichah in 1981, Rabbi Brandwein has also held pulpits in two other American cities.

He is a member in good standing of the Rabbinical Assembly, according to Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg, associate executive director of the Conservative rabbis' umbrella association.

Synagogue president Alan Zelunka and immediate past president Norman Talsky refused to comment when contacted by *The CJN*. However, a March 31 letter to which they were signatories was critical of the rabbi's job performance. The letter was sent to congregants urging them to attend the April 15 meeting.

In an unusual move, seven congregational past presidents signed a letter supporting the board of governors. That letter was also dated March 31 and sent to members.

The following day, a second letter was sent to members urging them to attend the meeting. This one, signed by Garth Drabinsky, chief executive officer of Livent and Albert Latner, chairman and CEO, Dynacare Health Group Inc., spoke of the rabbi's "care, inspiration and guidance.

"We have come to recognize that he is the right person... Let us do what is just and maintain the Rabbi's continuing association with Beth Sholom," they wrote.

Although job performance was the ostensible issue, Rabbi Brandwein said in a speech at the meeting that in the past year he has "been forced to cope with many ugly rumors which have circulated about my professional and personal life."

"They kicked him when he was down, as far as I can see," said Lynda Friendly, executive vice-president of Livent Inc., one of the congregants who signed the petition calling for the meeting in response to the board of governors' decision not to renew the rabbi's contract.

In the past two and a half years, Rabbi Brandwein's mother died, his marriage fell apart and he was involved in a custody battle over his young son.

"There was very little compassion shown to him," said Friendly. When her father died in January, she added, the rabbi "showed his leadership, his strength. He was there for us. His wisdom, his availability and his nurturing way were so important to my family."

Friendly was distressed over the apparent "atmosphere of intimidation" at the recent meeting. "People were clapping if there was a negative thing said about the rabbi. Whenever a positive comment was made, there was at the very least snickering and [sometimes] profanity. For the most part, the positive supporters were shouted down. People who were his supporters were afraid to speak."

Zelunka, "to his credit, tried to do the best job he could under the circumstances," Friendly said. The results of the vote were "pretty decisive, [although] the actual numbers were confidential," she added.

She thought the voting process itself was poorly conducted, but had no criticism for the tabulation, which was conducted in the presence of some of the rabbi's supporters, she said.

"It's clear the membership wants a new rabbi. I accept that... It doesn't mean I'm going to leave the synagogue. It's a wait-and-see situation."

"I feel a deep sense of relief that this is all over," said Rabbi Brandwein.

History book marks JIAS' 75th anniversary

TORONTO — This year marks the 75th anniversary of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS). As a special project, JIAS Toronto is commemorating the history of the Greater Toronto Jewish community by producing a JIAS 75th anniversary *Community Heritage Book*.

This archival, pictorial edition will document the family, organized and corporate histories of a broad cross-section of Toronto's Jewish community.

"The *Community Heritage Book* will be a treasured compendium of family histories, a tribute to our communal accomplishments and an expression of gratitude to Canada for the freedoms we enjoy here," said Genya Intrator, honorary chair of the 75th anniversary committee.

Since its inception, JIAS has brought over 200,000 Jews to Canada from all parts of the world, assisting them with food, clothing, shelter and retraining. Most came with no English, few skills, and often just the clothes on their backs.

"Virtually every Jewish family has, at some point in their history, been touched by immigration," said Sandy Atlin, current president of JIAS Toronto.

"Every story is equally fascinating and every story deserves to be told," Atlin said. "We hope that many of these family stories, passed orally from generation to generation, will be preserved in the *Heritage Book*.

JIAS is asking for sponsorship of book space and encouraging individuals, corporations and communal organizations who submit their own heritage to consider donating space for use by the general community.

To simplify the process of submission of material, volunteers, headed by Barbara Stupp, *Heritage Book* chair, will arrange an appointment to collect photos from participants and ask for a few historical details. *Heritage Book* editors will then write up the family history from the information provided.

The book will be launched Oct. 27 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts at a gala concert starring Toronto singer/actress/playwright and immigrant, Theresa Tova. TV star Ralph Benmergui will MC a star-studded line-up of immigrant talent. The concert is being chaired by Sheila Freeman.

Proceeds raised by the book and gala will be used to provide day camp bursaries and retraining scholarships. Both the book and the gala concert are being organized with the cooperation of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

For more information, call Barbara Stupp or Atlin at office 416-630-6481.

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Greater Toronto Area

Religious coalition set to meet with Rock

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A coalition of religious groups will meet Justice Minister Allan Rock in Ottawa May 5 to discuss the presence of Nazi war criminals in Canada.

To be led by Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa's Machzikei Hadas Congregation, the religious leaders will "speak to the moral side" of the long-simmering issue, Rabbi Bulka told *The CJN*.

He'll be joined by leaders of the Roman Catholic, Anglican, United and Lutheran churches; the World Sikh Organization; and the Canadian Council of Churches.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), which arranged the meeting, describes it as a first.

"Religious communities across Canada have joined hands with the Jewish community as a moral voice to ensure that this is not seen as just a Jewish issue, but one that affects all Canadians," said CJC's Bernie Farber.

Allan Rock

Rabbi Reuven Bulka

According to Rabbi Bulka, who chairs CJC's inter-religious affairs committee, getting Ottawa to think about the moral implications of Nazi war criminals living peacefully in this country "is something Canada owes to the young people it sent out to fight the Nazis. The way it behaved after the war made a mockery of all that.

"Somehow, [Canada] must make amends."

Rabbi Bulka said the religious leaders may consider asking Rock for a public apology for Canada's dismal record on pursuing war criminals.

"And to show an apology has teeth, the government would have to go after Nazis with both barrels," Rabbi Bulka said. "This has gone beyond politics."

Irving Abella, chair of CJC's war crimes committee, is also slated to meet with Rock May 5 to discuss Ottawa's ongoing cases against alleged war criminals, as well as recent allegations that anti-Semitic attitudes in the Justice Department's war crimes unit may have hindered prosecutions.

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Special reunion planned for Yom Hashoah service

TORONTO — Dr. Constantine Eckhardt will soon be face to face with the woman his mother saved from the Nazis in Poland during World War II. The two will meet for the first time in 50 years at Toronto's Holocaust commemorative service on May 4.

Eckhardt's mother Maria, who died in 1970, is one of three Righteous Among Nations being honored at the community gathering. Israeli Consul General Jehudi Kinar will present the proclamations on behalf of Yad Vashem. Irena and Ignacy Leskowicz and Anna Lesak are the others to be posthumously honored.

Eckhardt, a retired Ryerson Polytechnic University professor, vividly remembers Kalina Kleinberg, the Jewish teenager his mother saved by welcoming her to their two-bedroom apartment in Tarnopol, Poland. "She hid behind a dressing mirror during the day and slept in the kitchen," he recalled.

As a close friend of Eckhardt's brother, Kleinberg was well loved by the family. But Maria Eckhardt's decision to rescue Kleinberg was motivated by more than friendship.

Kleinberg, who now lives in New York, is bringing her husband and four children to Toronto for the ceremony.

Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah will begin at 1 p.m. with a community march from the Holocaust Education Centre, 4600 Bathurst St., to the Yad Vashem monument in Earl Bales Park. The commemorative program starts at 2 p.m. when historian Irving Abella will deliver an address followed by a candle-lighting ceremony.

This year's community-wide service is being sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, the Consul General of Israel, the Toronto Board of Rabbis and Toronto's Vaad Harabanim.

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Greater Toronto Area

Lubavitch transfers Torahs to shul's new home

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — With barely a backward glance, members of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham transported their Torahs to the synagogue's new home on Green Lane.

Well, that's not totally true. Rabbi Avraham Plotkin, spiritual leader and executive director of the congregation, says that removing the Torah scrolls from what had been their home for nearly 10 years was "the most emotional moment. I was holding back tears. It was a symbol of transition — bringing Yiddishkeit from one place to another."

Rabbi Plotkin is used to doing that. He was sent to Markham some 11 years ago by Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the late Lubavitcher rebbe, as part of his campaign to spread Jewish religious life to developing areas.

The congregation began in Rabbi Plotkin's basement, and graduated to an industrial building just behind Thornhill Square in the Bayview and John area. They broke ground for their permanent home last fall.

The new facility, which several speakers at the opening ceremonies noted was completed on time and on budget, is 12,000 square feet, and includes a simple yet elegant sanctuary, with a warm mahogany ark and bimah. The same wood is found on the mechitzah, which is topped with etched smoked glass.

The building also has classrooms, offices, a mikvah, library, a "simcha room" and youth facilities.

On a recent rainy Sunday afternoon, the Torahs were carried in procession down Guardsman Rd., under a chuppah, surrounded by exhuberent men, women and children. They were accompanied by musician Gershon Wachtel.

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham president David Wiener shows his excitement as the congregation prepares to move their Torahs to the new facility on Green Lane. Rabbi Avraham Plotkin (centre) and Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman of the Jewish Russian Community Centre (front left) applaud him. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Rabbi Plotkin told the standing room only crowd in the new synagogue, that the building is a testimony to the secret of Jewish survival. "When things seem blackest, we say that we will build, we will rebuild; we will build and build and build until the coming of the Messiah."

David Wiener, president of the congregation, praised Rabbi Plotkin and his wife Goldie for being warm and non-judgmental, "qualities which became trademarks of our community."

Rabbi Moshe Stern, bringing greetings on behalf of the Vaad Harabonim of Greater Toronto, said that this non-judgemental approach is "the voice of authentic Orthodox Judaism."

Markham mayor Don Cousens said that the opening of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham is "a sign that God is working in our community." After all, he added, "what is a community that doesn't have its roots in faith?"

He announced that a rose garden is being planted near Markham City Hall to commemorate Jerusalem 3000.

Greetings were also brought by Ian Abramowitz, chair of the construction committee; Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum, from Chabad Lubavitch of Southern Ontario; Markham M.P.P. David Tsubouchi; and Rabbi Yehudah Krinsky, from the World Lubavitch Movement in New York. Shul vice-president and building committee chair Eric Inspektor was master of ceremonies.

Also present at the opening ceremonies were rabbis from the Lubavitch and from the general Orthodox communities, Markham councillor and federal candidate for Thornhill riding Bill Fisch, and Sid Soban, also a Thornhill candidate.

The Thornhill Jewish Male Choir presented a selection of songs.

Child-focused group may open new office

TORONTO — Itzhak Mishnayot, director of Bayit Lechol Yeled (A Home for Every Child in Israel), is coming for a two-week, fact-finding mission to explore the possibility of opening a Canadian office.

The purpose of the trip is to introduce the organization, known as a haven for abused and neglected children in Israel, to the Toronto community.

"While we realize that there are a large number of Israel-based organizations in Canada, our research indicates that A Home For Every Child is unique," said Mishnayot in a telephone conversation. "We are an inclusive organization that provides shelter for severely abused and neglected children from all segments of Israeli society. Without our existence, most of these children would have nowhere else to turn. The majority are in immediate danger and urgently need to be removed from their homes."

The organization provides a nurturing, safe, home environment where children receive therapy and comfort for their trauma.

Its main goal is to make it possible, through intensive family therapy, for children to return home and live safely with their biological parents.

The length of a child's stay depends on their situation. In some circumstances, they are allowed to return home under strict supervision. In other cases, they go to foster or adoptive parents.

Services for newborns and children about to be adopted as well as for adoptive parents are also provided.

To meet Mishnayot, who will be here until May 10, call public relations coordinator, Hindy Nosek-Abelson at 416-955-9133.

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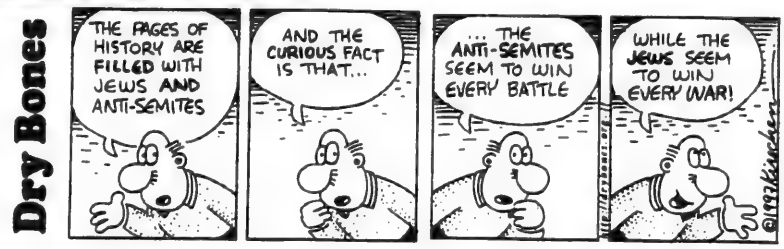

Dry Bones
THE PAGES OF HISTORY ARE FILLED WITH JEWS AND ANTI-SEMITES
AND THE CURIOUS FACT IS THAT...
... THE ANTI-SEMITES SEEM TO WIN EVERY BATTLE
WHILE THE JEWS SEEM TO WIN EVERY WAR!

Chaim Herzog

(1918-1997)

Chaim Herzog was one of the giants of modern Israel, an Irish-born warrior and statesman who left an indelible mark on his country.

He served Israel faithfully as a soldier, parliamentarian, diplomat and, finally, as a two-term president. He was a voice of reason and moderation in an era of ideological and religious excess, and he was a pragmatist who believed that Israel's future is much more important than its past.

A voice of reason and moderation

Although he was a man of many parts, Herzog will best be remembered for an electrifying incident at the United Nations. In 1975, the General Assembly passed an odious resolution equating Zionism with racism. Herzog mounted the rostrum, denounced the resolution as an unjust, arrogant and hate-filled falsehood, and then, in a memorable flourish, tore it in half.

In his recently published memoirs, *Living History,* Herzog recalled that moment. "Grasping the torn pieces in my hand, I walked back to my seat as the hall erupted into tumultuous and sustained applause. Soaked in sweat, I sat down, exhausted. The speech...would live on." And so it has.

As president, Herzog distinguished himself. He ascended to the office in 1983, when Israel was nursing the wounds it had sustained with its ill-advised invasion of Lebanon. Herzog threw himself into the task of trying to unite the nation after the trauma of the Lebanese misadventure, which he later judged to be "a disaster for Israel." And in the interests of easing Israel's international isolation and burnishing its image, he made 45 visits abroad. To that end, he was remarkably successful. As Israel's representative, he was supremely self-confidant, superbly polished and deeply steeped in Jewish history, culture and religion. As a result, he rarely failed to impress interlocutors with reasoned arguments on Israel's behalf.

Considered himself a soldier first

Since he was a mentsh, and his interests ranged far and wide, Herzog was not loathe to address a plethora of issues. He worked for the integration of Israel's Arab community into the mainstream of Israeli society. He sought to expose and isolate the rabble-rousers in Rabbi Meir Kahane's racist Kach party. He denounced Jewish vigilantism as a breach of the rule of law. He lobbied for a political system which would not be beholden to small parties. He lamented the toll on Israel's highways. He urged Israelis to protect the environment. But, being fallible, he committed his share of mistakes, the most egregious being the pardon of members of the Jewish underground and of Shin Bet agents who had been involved in the notorious Bus 300 affair.

Despite his numerous accomplishments, Herzog, first and foremost, considered himself a soldier. Yet, he was no ordinary soldier, as his resumé attests. He joined the Haganah as a teenager and returned to its ranks after distinguishing himself as a British army intelligence officer in World War II. During and after the War of Independence, Herzog was director of Israeli military intelligence, and when he retired from the army, his home away from home, he dabbled in business and practised law.

As well, he was a radio commentator and an author, a broadcaster who calmed the nation in times of armed conflict with the Arabs and a stylist whose erudite and thoroughly-researched books on Israel's wars were critically acclaimed.

Chaim Herzog was a man for all seasons, a person whose life will doubtless be a source of inspiration to his fellow Israelis. **S.K.**

Why Israel is security conscious

Your report (April 10) that Palestinians are shown to favor bombings over the peace process should come as no surprise.

Assuming the worst — that the commencement of the Jewish housing project south of Jerusalem is an inarguable violation of the Oslo accords (when in fact it is not) — nothing, but nothing, can justify the barbarous act by a programmed suicidal bomber to murder and maim innocent civilians.

The absolutely preposterous statement by Hamas following such incidents that it claims responsibility is an affront to all civilized and law abiding persons. If Yasser Arafat had one scintilla of sincerity instead of lamely expressing opposition to terror he would brand Hamas as a criminal organization and hold its leaders responsible for encouraging, abetting and training these hired assassins who are duped into believing that their ultimate reward lies in an after life.

After each atrocity, there are predictable and obviously insincere statements from Muslim leaders to the effect that Islam condemns acts of violence and murder, and yet wild celebrations of approval and praise for such despicable acts take place in Nablus, Gaza and elsewhere. Clearly the masses who rejoice in such evil do not do so spontaneously, but rather through provocative speeches from leaders both religious and political.

It must take a special kind of coward to attach dynamite and explosives to indoctrinated and demented young people and send them off to kill innocent women and children, while of course, lacking the courage and conviction to execute such atrocities in person. If this is the stuff of leadership and thousands endorse and rejoice in such acts, can any reasonable person really question Israel's preoccupation with security and self-preservation.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

The non-establishment Jews deserve study

Re: "Mysteries of Jewish Identity" by Morton Weinfeld (*CJN*, April 1).

There is a sector of Jews who consciously do not belong to any synagogue or Zionist affiliation and are not part of the recognized establishment.

These Jews do not deny their Jewishness. On the contrary, they are quite proud of their heritage, their culture and their history. In the past, some may have been (and some still are) bundists socialists, left-wing Zionists, free thinkers, atheists, agnostics, radicals.

At present some belong to the various Jewish secular humanist groups and try to practise their Jewishness or Judaism there.

Many of the above mentioned Jews are looking for something more meaningful than what the organized religious community and the never-ending fundraising institutions have to offer.

I agree with Morton Weinfeld that these Jews are worthy of more study by researchers of modern Jewish life.

Dovid Kunigis
Montreal

Does Israeli policy favor full-scale war?

Yasser Arafat has neither abrogated nor amended his party's overly anti-Israel covenant, which calls for the outright destruction of Israel through holy jihad (holy war). Even more blinding to the eyes is the sight of an Israeli government eager to deal away its homeland to these same people calling for war.

According to the Israeli government, it is wrong for a Palestinian to strap himself with explosives in order to kill innocent Israeli citizens. Testimony to this belief is the government's policy of placing curfews and sealing off sections of the West Bank and Gaza. How often though, have you seen the Israeli government place the same sanctions on the PLO for calling on Israel's destruction? Never. Instead, the government tends to routinely reward and appeal to Palestinian demands by recently offering nine percent of the West Bank and releasing convicted Hamas terrorists.

Judging from the government's policies, it would appear outrageous to accept individual Palestinian terror, but all the more logical to accept a full scale Palestinian war. One can only guess at the prospect of a lasting peace, while the Palestinian charter remains fully intact in its original form without the slightest assurance of its amendment.

Jonathan Spiegelman
Toronto

CJN Clarification

In the letter "Secular Jews do their part" (*CJN*, April 10), Elsa Rosenberg commented on a statement by "a young Orthodox Jew" that the existence of Orthodoxy (or Orthodox Jews) enables secular Jews to exist.

In fact the student in question is not Orthodox but Conservative. His original comment read in part, "*Maybe I wouldn't pick that lifestyle*, but I think the Orthodox play a really important role in the community." (Our emphasis.)

Frances Kraft
Staff Reporter

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Chaim Herzog: 1918 - 1997

Israel loses soldier, statesman, author

By URIEL HEILMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Chaim Herzog, statesman, author and sixth president of Israel, died April 16 of heart failure, at Sheba hospital in Tel Hashomer, after contracting pneumonia on a recent visit to the United States. He was 79.

"I lost a very close friend," said Nissan Limor, director-general of the president's residence during the Herzog years.

Limor visited Herzog in the hospital three days earlier, where he said Herzog was putting the finishing touches on the Hebrew edition of his upcoming autobiography.

President Ezer Weizman, who served in battle with Herzog during the War of Independence, called Herzog a talented man and a good friend.

Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on Sept. 17, 1918, Chaim Herzog, called Vivian as a child, was the eldest son of Ireland's Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Herzog, who later became Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel.

Educated at Cambridge University and the University of London, where he earned his doctoral degree in law, Herzog made aliyah in 1935 and studied at the Hebron Yeshivah and Talmudic Seminary for two years before joining the Haganah.

He enlisted in the British army on the eve of World War II, fought against the Nazis, participated in the landing at Normandy and served in various military campaigns in France and Germany.

As a high-ranking officer in British intelligence at the end of the war, Herzog served as one of the interrogators of Heinrich Himmler and participated in the first Jewish displaced persons' conference at Bergen-Belsen.

...the soldier

Three years later, he saw battle again during the Israeli War of Independence, where he fought as an operations officer for the Seventh Brigade. After the formation of the IDF, he served in a variety of capacities until his military retirement as head of the general staff of the Intelligence Branch in 1962.

Herzog could not stay away from the military for long, however, and in the months leading up to the Six Day War, he became the leading military commentator for Israel Broadcasting. After Israel's stunning military victory, he assumed the role of first military commander of the West Bank for several months before returning to civilian life as a lawyer and businessman.

The people of Israel will never forget the role Herzog played and his calming words during the Six Day War, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said last week.

During the 1969 elections, Herzog became a leading candidate for the Labor party, serving in the Knesset for several years before being appointed Israel's ambassador to the United Nations (UN) in 1975. At the UN, he won broad national support for his frequent public demonstrations against anti-Israel forces in the General Assembly.

...with his family

When the UN passed the infamous Zionism equals racism resolution, Herzog tore up the anti-Zionist resolution in front of a Manhattan audience of over 100,000 people, who gave him a deafening welcome when he declared: "I tore it up on your behalf and thus, for us Jews, it no longer exists."

After he returned to Israel in 1978, Herzog frequently spoke on the radio and was quoted in the press for his criticism of the Menachem Begin government and his views on the Lebanon War. In the late 1970s and early '80s, Herzog founded and chaired the Committee for Concerned Citizens, met with Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat during peace talks, and was elected to the tenth Knesset in 1981.

The well-known soldier, parliamentarian, statesman, lawyer and author succeeded Yitzhak Navon as president of the State of Israel in 1983.

During his 10 years as president, Herzog hosted 11,000 official receptions, received more than one million letters and petitions from citizens, and travelled all over the country and the world, making 45 official presidential visits and addressing 13 foreign parliaments, a Jewish record.

...with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Herzog incurred occasional criticism for his frequent absences from Israel, as well as for his granting of presidential clemency to members of the Jewish underground and Shin Bet agents who had murdered an Arab terrorist taken prisoner in a bus hijacking incident in 1984.

"I saved the Shin Bet," maintained Herzog several years ago in an interview with the *Jerusalem Post*. "I got 95 percent negative feedback from the press, but 87 percent of the public supported me," he said.

With a commitment to tradition that was strengthened by his religious upbringing, the only kosher president in the world occasionally had to work his way through uncomfortable situations, such as when, on a visit to China, the food the presidential delegation brought from Israel ran out.

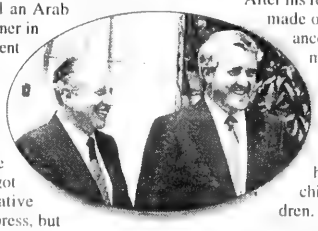
According to Herzog, the group survived on fruit, vegetables and rice for the remainder of their visit.

...with Irving Abella , North York Mayor Mel Lastman and federal cabinet minister Barbara Mc Dougall at York University in Toronto.

"Herzog was a military man, president, son of rabbis and man of the modern age," said Shimon Peres.

After his retirement in 1993, Herzog made occasional public appearances and was able to devote more time to his favorite pastimes near his home in Herzliya Pituah: golf and being with his grandchildren.

Herzog is survived by his wife Aura, their four children and their grandchildren.



...with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in Montreal

...with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir.

...as Israel's ambassador to the United Nations.

Opinions

Bill splits the Jewish people

Every year at the Yizkor service on the last day of Passover, I remember Rabbi Samuel Schafler who oversaw my conversion to Judaism years ago, when he was rabbi of Temple Gates of Prayer in Flushing, N.Y. At the time of his death at Pesach in 1991, he was president of Hebrew College in Boston.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

I wrote about him in the wake of the death of Yitzhak Rabin, and again I look back at what he believed, in order to make some sense of the current situation in Israel.

I refer to the recent bill passed by the Knesset that would, in a sense, invalidate the smichah of Conservative and Reform rabbis. Since their conversions in Israel will not be recognized, they are not considered rabbis — unless they get on a plane and leave Israel.

This is a bill designed to split the people of Israel, both in the land and in the Diaspora, into hostile, confrontational and ultimately self-destructive camps. How Netanyahu could allow it to come to pass is easy to see; after all, he relies on the Shasniks and others in his government, not on me or my congregation, for his support. How he can not see the damage he is doing is beyond me.

What has this to do with my memory of the rabbi?

Rabbi Schafler was a man of incredible energy, wit, charm and intellect.

You would never get the standard sermon from him on Shabbat (in the first one I heard he was castigating his congregation for honoring university students when they came home from college — where were they and their parents the rest of the year? he asked). He wrote a PhD dissertation on the history of the Maccabean period, a period he believed had much in common with our own. His contributions to Jewish education in North America were legion, his commitment to the State of Israel unwavering — as was his opposition to egalitarian services, although I like to think he was reconsidering this the last time we talked.

Rabbi was devoted to ahavat Israel

His wife Sarah said at his memorial service: "The last two decades of my husband's life were devoted to creating unity and ahavat Israel among Jews of all denominations and within in the non-Jewish world."

That is why I think of him today.

He tried to impart the meaning of ahavat Israel to me, to his congregations, to his students and teachers. It is obvious that the lesson upon which he labored is being lost.

What does it mean, to make it a law of the state that rabbis of certain ordinations are not rabbis? Or are they only rabbis outside the land of Israel?

To me it means that there will shortly be two kinds of Jews, the kind recognized by the Orthodox (everywhere, not just in Israel) and everybody else; and that the legislature of Israel is now the arbiter, not only of who is a Jew, but of whatever halachic decision the Orthodox rabbinic establishment in Israel wants, decided on their terms.

How soon will it be before all conversions, in or out of Israel, must be validated by the rabbinate in Israel? How soon will it be before the Israeli parliament makes another halachic decision?

When I say a Yizkor prayer for my rabbi this year, I will know that I have not been able to learn his lesson, that I am consumed by anger at what the Jewish state is doing to me, my children, my friends and their families.

We have made public cause with Israel, in good times and bad; we have visited Israel, sent our children there, rejoiced in the Jewish state.

What happens when children of converts make their trip to the land and find out there are those who refuse them the name of Jew? What if the Conservative movement ceased sending its children on pilgrimage? What if we turned our federation gifts to local Jewish institutions rather than giving to Israel, and chose our Israel charities on a personal rather than communal basis?

Netanyahu doesn't need our vote. He has said he doesn't need our money; and now, I am afraid, he is about to say he doesn't need many of our Jews.

I wish I could ask these questions of my rabbi, ask him to teach me, once again, the connection between Jew and Jew, before it is too late.

You can't break a shook

This story might more appropriately be recalled around Yom Kippur, but since it took place one Passover, like the story of the exodus from Egypt, it will be told now.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

There is a family in this city who for over three decades has opened their home to students on Shabbat and other Jewish holidays. Their hospitality is legendary. Hundreds of students over the years have savored the bountiful meals and goodwill of festive occasions at this home away from home, in ways some of the students never before experienced.

The Passover seders of this large family, as can be imagined, are plentiful and joyous. One year, in addition to the family and several students, a businessman in the community with no seder of his own to attend was also a guest and participant at the proceedings.

This businessman, Mr. Rubin (not his real name), announced at the beginning of the seder that he would give $5 to whoever found the afikoman.

Passover, like all Jewish holy and holidays, provides a time for family and communal coming together. This time for delight is also tempered with reflection.

Every date on the Jewish calendar has significant lessons to teach about history, traditions and ethics. These holidays are in many ways the best of all possible educational tools. For many, the Passover seder is the most popular with its drama, dialogue and delicacies.

Perhaps it has become too commercial as we have taken cues from the general culture and merely given a nod to what is important while only emphasizing the easiest aspects of our heritage. Spare me the chocolate-covered matzah, which I somehow doubt our ancestors carried on their backs while dashing out of Egypt.

Anyway, as this particular seder was winding down, one of the young children of the hosts took a graduate student outside the dining room to share his good fortune.

He told the student he had found the afikoman that his father had hidden several hours earlier. "I'm going to get the five dollars," he excitedly told his older confidante. "I found the afikoman!"

"That's great," said the student. "But you know, Mr. Rubin is a very wealthy man. He can afford to give you more. Go in and negotiate for more money."

"I can't," replied the young boy.

"Of course you can," urged the student. "Ask him for more money. He'll give it to you."

The youngster was adamant. "No I can't."

"What not?"

"Because," argued the boy, about seven at the time. "You can't break a shook."

Confused, the student didn't understand what the boy was chattering about. "What do you mean?" he asked.

The young lad explained, "I already showed Mr. Rubin the afikoman and we shook hands on the five dollars. It's a deal. We shook. You can't break a shook. Don't you understand? A shook is a shook. You can't break it."

The boy had already been taught an important lesson by his family. And come to think of it, this is indeed an important Passover lesson. Pharaoh kept breaking his promises. In contrast, this boy had learned from his parents the importance of keeping one's word.

Whatever happened to all of these people? Mr. Rubin recently died. The family continues with its extraordinary hospitality. The graduate student who wanted the young boy to renegotiate the terms of his Passover contract now gets to negotiate regularly as the chief executive of a large organization.

The boy, now a young man, currently lives in Australia with his wife and growing family. By all accounts, he is a chip off the old block and has carried on with the generosity of his parents.

The youngster who learned early in life that "you can't break a shook" — he became a rabbi.

The poor among us

Now that the days are becoming warmer and the Out of the Cold programs have shut down, the homeless will once again become visible. They may accost you at a subway or play some music for passersby, who would rather be left alone and not be reminded that poverty has a human face.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Montreal statistics are not at hand for me, but Toronto's worsening record is. In an article in *Family Matters*, the executive director of the Jewish Federation of Family and Child service, Gordon Wolfe, has laid out some of the bare facts.

In Metropolitan Toronto, a staggering one in three children relies on welfare. Young people under 19 years of age make up close to 50 percent of our food bank users. As for Jews, 13 percent of our people live below or near the poverty line. One in 10 Jewish children under the age of 14 lives in poverty. Persons in single parent families are two to three times more likely to be poor than those who live in husband/wife families.

Those who immigrated to Canada in the last 10 years account for about 10 percent of the Jewish community, but they make up about 18 percent of the Jewish poor. In other words, poverty affects almost one in six Jews in Toronto, yet it continues to be under-recognized by many people in our community.

Says Wolfe: "The impact of poverty on children is dramatic. Poor children are at greater risk educationally, dropping out of school at almost three times the rate of children from non-poor families. Poverty undermines families and the well-being of children in other ways too. These children are often hungry or inadequately nourished and many live in overcrowded housing. Poverty also seems intertwined with inadequate parenting skills and inconsistent parental behavior. Poor parents, working, raising children alone and having few supports, become overwhelmed, further lessening their children's odds of developing normally."

We are told that there is no communal money available, but in my book poverty is something that we cannot afford, regardless of our communal budget.

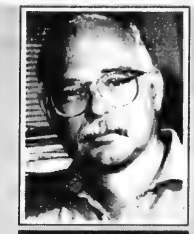
Dr. Paul Steinhauer, a well-known psychiatrist, recently wrote: "We believe that it costs significantly less, and achieves more, to invest in supporting child development early than it does to pay later for increased health services, remedial education services, police and court services, for custody of young offenders, for foster care for the cost of supporting — sometimes for their whole lives — adults who fail to become self-reliant and productive members of society."

To be sure, our Torah (Deuteronomy 15:11) tells us that poverty will always be with us — but it does not tell us that, because of this, we are to stop caring. In the Jewish frame of living, tzedekah is not charity but obligation.Only our communal will and our individual sense of obligation will help to remedy a situation that an affluent community such as ours should never tolerate.

Think about this when, at your seder, the matzah is lifted to the words, *Ha lachma anya*, "this is the bread of poverty." It was ours once, and all too many still have none other.

The Kirshner File

Zukerman's magnetic happening flourishes



By Sheldon Kirshner

The Toronto Jewish Film Festival has conquered the city by storm, and if anyone can take credit for its conception and success, it is an elfin philanthropist named Helen Zukerman.

Marking its fifth anniversary next month, the festival has become exactly what Zukerman, a former Montrealer, had hoped it would be: a magnetic happening which brings Jews from all walks of life and opinion together for at least one week of fun.

The inaugural festival in 1993 presented 18 films and attracted 7,000 viewers. This year's event, which is scheduled to be held from May 1-8 at the Bloor Theatre in downtown Toronto, has a lineup of 30 movies from 10 countries, including shorts, and is expected to match or surpass 1995's attendance figure of 15,000.

The festival, the second largest of its kind in North America after that of San Francisco's, enjoys widespread appeal because, in Zukerman's words, "it is non-threatening." It cuts across national, religious, political and organizational lines, encompasses an enormous age range and, to her satisfaction, attracts non-Jews. "I don't want it to be a festival for Jews, but a Jewish film festival."

Zukerman, who describes herself as a "cultural Jew" rather than a "synagogue Jew," conceived it in 1992, knowing full well that it had been tried twice before in Toronto with disappointing results.

The administrator and trustee of a charitable foundation created in her husband's memory, Zukerman had given Francine Zuckerman, no relation, financial help with the submission of her Holocaust documentary, *Half the Kingdom*, to the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival.

Why not, she wondered, take it one step further and work for the establishment of a similar festival in Toronto? Burning with enthusiasm, she called John Katz, a professor of cinema at York University, and he heartily endorsed her proposal.

"We were off," she said. "It took us three months to get it off the ground."

With a generous infusion from her foundation, the festival was officially launched. "People loved it and wanted to be part of it," she recalled. "In our second year, we got corporate sponsors and patrons." This year, with a donation, the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto has also jumped on the bandwagon.

She is pleased that Toronto is not the only city in Canada with a Jewish film festival. Toronto's festival will be followed by Montreal's (May 8-14), Edmonton's (May 24-26) and Vancouver's (May 26-29 and June 2-5).

Zukerman, 53 and the mother of two grown daughters, has been a film fan all her life. The scion of Polish immigrants who arrived in Montreal from Lublin and Warsaw more than 60 years ago, and subsequently lived in the St. Urbain/Hutchison/Mount Royal ghetto, she remembers watching matinees at the old Van Horne Theatre.

Zukerman's father, Louis Freedman, a left-wing leather cutter who was one of the organizers of Montreal's first handbag union, encouraged his daughter's interest. On weekly summer visits to the family's rented cottage in the Laurentians ("the mountains"), he rarely showed up without a reel of silent movies in hand.

Since her mother, Jessie, was a garment worker as well, Zukerman was effectively raised by her grandmother, Yetta, who taught her Yiddish, her mother tongue. Like a roster of Montreal Jews, Zukerman was educated at Bancroft and Van Horne elementary schools and graduated from Northmount High School.

A good student, Zukerman set her sights on university, but never attended one because Bell Telephone promoted her four times in her first year as a filing clerk. Years later, she studied at Seneca College in Toronto and received a social service diploma.

Having been raised in a home where strong social justice views prevailed, it is hardly surprising that Zukerman is fond of giving away money to favorite causes. Among them are the New Israel Fund, of which she is past president; the Kolel, the liberal Jewish learning centre; and McGill University (where Barry, her late husband who died in 1987, studied).

With an infectious child-like enthusiasm, Zukerman looks forward to next week's Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

"We have a nice Canadian program, six films from Israel and a world premiere (The *Return of Sarah's Daughters*, an American filmmaker's quest for her Jewish roots)."

In addition, *Exodus 1947* purports to tell the "real story" of that Palestine-bound ship, not "the Paul Newman version," while *Sabbath in Amsterdam*, a Dutch silent film from 1932, is probably the most exotic film of the festival. "It grabs you by the throat," said Zukerman, whose team includes director of programming Shlomo Schwartzberg and director of development Debra Kwinter.

Looking ahead, Zukerman hopes to lengthen the festival's run to two weeks and to place it in a multi-screen theatre. "But above all, I want it to be what it is now — Jews celebrating Jews."

Books of note...

I'd like to bring several interesting books to your attention.

Jonathan Kaufman, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist on the staff of the *Wall Street Journal*, has written a poignant account of Jewish survival in Europe. *A Hole in the Heart of the World* (Viking, $33.95) probes the lives of four Jewish families and one Catholic family in Berlin, Warsaw and Prague and, through their diverse experiences, discovers timeless verities.

Meyer Levin, the novelist, helped bring Anne Frank's diary to the United States. The diary, he thought, would further his mission of conveying the enormity of the Holocaust to an American audience. Little did he realize that his warm and pivotal relationship with Otto Frank — Anne's father — would turn sour and embroil him in a bitter trans-national dispute that would alter his life and shed new light on the Holocaust heroine. In *An Obsession with Anne Frank* (University of California Press, no price listed), Lawrence Graver skillfully puts the controversy into perspective.

From Tehran to the West Bank, Islamic fundamentalism is a force to be reckoned with in the Middle East. Judith Miller, a seasoned *New York Times* correspondent, examines it in *God Has Ninety-Nine Names* (Simon & Schuster, $40). Leavened by personal vignettes, her portrait of this phenomenon in Iran, the Arab world and Israel is enlightening and disturbing.

Dean Beeby, a Canadian Press reporter, tells a fascinating World War II tale in *Cargo of Lies* (University of Toronto Press, $29.95). Using formerly classified documents, he relates the story of a German spy whom the RCMP turned into a double agent.

Tom Bower's *Nazi Gold* HarperCollins, $35.50) is a devastating critique of the conduct of the Swiss government and its banking system during and after World War II. Drawing upon heretofore unpublished sources, Bower claims that Swiss banks and companies, aided and abetted by the government, laundered Nazi gold, sold munitions and raw materials to Germany and deliberately restricted and prevented Jews from searching for dormant accounts. An extremely sobering book.

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NOTICE OF URGENT MEETING

To all next of kin and holders of reservations on Cemetery Section known as **Ahavath Achim, Section 50** of Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park in North York,Ontario.

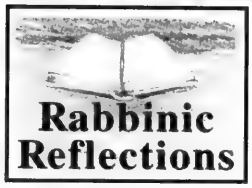
An urgent meeting to discuss current difficulties, policies and practices regarding the care, maintenance, regulatory operations, the opening of graves and interments pertaining to this section.

This meeting will be held in the Tessler Hall

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
100 Elder Street, North York

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1997 AT 7:00 P.M.

For further information please contact: Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park at 416-223-1373, Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.



There is a mitzvah to beautify mitzvot

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

In the Torah reading of the seventh day of Pesach, the Jews cross the sea and sing the Shira, the Song at the Sea. One verse of this song is *zeh keli v'anvahu*, "this is my G-d *v'anvahu*." This word, *v'anvahu*, is given a number of explanations, one of which is derived from the word *n'ah* to beautify: "This is my G-d and I will beautify Him." How do we beautify G-d? By beautifying His mitzvot.

The Talmud says that it is a mitzvah to have a beautiful tallit, a beautiful Torah, a beautiful lulav, a beautiful sukkah. Besides performing the mitzvah, we are commanded to make it beautiful. The sofer, when he writes a Torah, a mezuzah or t'fillin, etches lines into the parchment so that each handwritten line is straight and starts and finishes in a straight line (like the fully-justified mode on the word processor, except done by hand). When we open the Torah, it is strikingly beautifully written, each column lining up.

We decorate our sukkah, not just to involve the children in the mitzvah, but because it is a mitzvah to have a beautiful sukkah. We tie the lulav so that the leaves stay tightly together, a more striking image than if they were apart.

By making the mitzvot beautiful, we ourselves are drawn to them. Mitzvot become enjoyable and attractive. We get excited about them and want to do them.

On Pesach, there is a tendency to moan and groan about the matzah and the cleaning, framing the yom tov in our minds as a burden and not as a pleasure. The preparations for Pesach are time consuming and tiring, true enough. The consumption of matzah is not as physically pleasant as eating soft challah, true enough. However, all the mitzvot are to draw us nearer by their beauty. Our job is to make the mitzvot a pleasure, something that we love and look forward to. The truth is that we do look forward to yom tov. Which do we emphasize in our mind and in our speech — our excitement or our aching back? We have to be careful in the expressions we use and the impressions we create for our children — not of the burden of Pesach but our love and excitement for it.

Besides creating the esthetic beauty of mitzvot, may we all continue to create the internal beauty of love and excitement for the mitzvot.

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaare Torah in Toronto.

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Some simchah stops you can visit on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

You are cordially invited to attend the weddings of Mike and Na'ama Cohen. And Russell and Deborah Rothstein. And Yishai and Yaara Garbash.

Never met them? No problem. Now you can thanks to the Jewish Highway.

With Passover underway, we are in the 49-day period of Sefirat Ha'Omer-The Counting of the Omer **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/pesach/omer1.htm]** and **[http://www.ort.org/anjy/therev/omer.htm]**.

This is traditionally a time of semi-mourning in which public celebrations such as weddings are not held. So what better time to discuss weddings?

Why now? Because as Shavuot approaches, the marriage floodgates open and the hottest wedding season of the year is suddenly upon us. So if you are planning yours right now and are looking for some ideas, here are some simchah stops you can visit on the World Wide Web.

There are several excellent overviews of the customs and traditions leading from engagement through the wedding day. Visit Ohr Somayach's Jewish Wedding Ceremony **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/judaism/articles/wedding.htm]**, the Shaarey Zedek Wedding Guide **[http://uscj.org/michigan/s-fielcs/wedgde.html]** from the Conservative congregation in Southfield, Mich., and the Chabad Wedding Guide **[gopher://gopher.chabad.org:70/11/guide/wedding]**. I also recommend Eliezer Segal's series of thought-provoking articles at **[http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Weddings_Index.html]**

The Kallah Guide **[http://www.kallah.com/]** is a site geared to the Orthodox community but also has helpful checklists and suggestions for a general audience. One interesting area is "My Most Embarrassing Bridal Experience" **[http://kallah.com/TIPS/TIPS.htm]**. Chumi T. of Brooklyn recounts her ordeal: "One night I went out with this really nice guy. He took me to a lounge. After we sat and talked for a while as we drank our Cokes he excused himself to the bathroom. After almost an hour of sitting there alone I gave up on the guy. I was really disappointed but he called me later on apologizing profusely. In the bathroom he had gotten mugged and the idiot who mugged him had stolen his pants!"

A more direct way of sharing expertise and questions about weddings is through the Liberal Judaism Category Index. This large site is basically a meeting place where Reform Jews can address issues that concern their community. In the Marriage section **[http://www.compclass.com/mlj/category/c36.html]** there are discussions about everything from "Conversion and marriage" to "Must it be the groom who breaks the wedding glass?"

One way that Jewish couples express their hopes and wishes for their life together is through an illustrated ketubah or marriage contract.

As well as being able to sample some gorgeous ketubot on the Internet, several couples have decided to share their special moments with anyone who cares to click in. Yishai Garbash and Yaara DiSegni created their "WEBding" site because "We have lots of friends on the Net, we felt we couldn't have a wedding without them." **[http://www.macom.co.il/WEBding/index.html]**

You can also visit the weddings of Sandra and Andrew J. Cohen **[http://gnv.fdt.net/~sandrew/]** and Russell Rothstein and Deborah Fass **[http://rpcp.mit.edu:80/~rir/wedding.html]**.

But nothing beats the marriage of Mike and Na'ama Cohen **[http://www.613.org/video/wedd.ram]**. This 17-minute on-line video of the Cohen wedding can be viewed complete with a very lively audio soundtrack. From the pre-wedding reception to the chupah to the singing and dancing, you are there. The quality of the video depends on your setup.

I got about 15 images per minute and very clear audio with a 28.8K modem. In order to view the Cohen Wedding, you will need RealPlayer 4.0 beta free software **[http://get.real.com/products/player/download.html]**. And you will also need a fairly powerful computer. (But isn't that a small price to pay for the honor of attending this simchah?)

So to newlyweds Na'ama and Mike, Yaara and Yishai, Deborah and Russell, thanks for the invitations. And to everyone else planning their wedding both on the Jewish Highway or the more conventional route, Mazel Tov!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Coming to terms with the Holocaust

***Yossel Rakover Speaks to God*, by Zvi Kolitz (KTAV Publishing, no price indicated).**

***Theresienstadt: The Town the Nazis Gave to the Jews*, by Vera Schiff (Lugus, $18).**

***God, Faith & The Holocaust*, by Irena Bakowska (Karijan Publishing, $12).**

***The Neppi Modona Diaries*, edited by Kate Cohen (University Press of New England, $24.95 US).**

***Fragments*, by Binjamin Wilkomirsky (Schocken Books, $27.95).**

***From Poland to Russia & Back 1939-1946*, by Samuel Hong (Black Moss Press, $15.95).**

How does one come to terms with the Holocaust? Even after 50 years, the stark horror of six million murdered Jews is simply too numbing to comprehend. Genocide is beyond our intellectual or emotional grasp. In North America, happily, it is too far removed from our personal experience.

Those who experienced the Holocaust at first hand are gradually passing from the scene. In spite of the agony of recall, they feel obligated to tell their story, to indicate how this unrestrained orgy of human bestiality was unleashed, to ponder what it is in the human psyche — in our cultural, social and political institutions — that made it possible. They owe this not only to the victims, but to future generations. There is, of course, also the need for emotional release, a catharsis through the act of writing and recollection.

The seven books under review are valiant and worthy attempts to describe the indescribable. They deserve a wide and empathic readership.

Yossel Rakover Speaks to God, is the wrenching meditation of a Polish chassidic Jew, addressed to God, just before he perishes in the ruins of the Warsaw ghetto. For many years this searing document was considered authentic, until its author was discovered to be Zvi Kolitz, an Israeli journalist and teacher now living in New York.

Rakover declares, like a modern Job, that he will continue to believe in God no matter how much he is pushed into disbelief. He cries out defiantly, "I love Him, but I love His Torah more, and even if I had deceived myself in this regard, I would, nevertheless, cling to His Torah." God may hide His face but Rakover speaks as a tormented soul who is unwilling to desert either his faith or his rationality.

This heart-wrenching, shocking stance, raises profound spiritual questions. The book includes a related Holocaust story by Kolitz, together with a series of related essays by a number of Jewish and Christian theologians.

* * *

In 1948, a Prague teenager, Vera Schiff, was sent with her parents to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. When she emerged in 1945, she learned that her entire family of 50 — counting relatives on both sides — had perished. They had been "turned into ashes."

Her account of life in the camp is replete with arresting and gripping detail. She describes the visit of the three-person inspection team (two Red Cross representatives and a member of the Danish Foreign Ministry) who came to report on the treatment of Jews. The Nazis engaged in a gigantic pantomime — all camp evils were temporarily eliminated or disguised. The inmates were rendered mute or acquiescent. The obtuse trio "never saw the real housing, the crowded hospital, the starved and dirty inmates — they never wanted to see the reality." As the camp orchestra played pleasant music, groups of well dressed inmates discussed intellectual questions under the "benevolent auspices of the Germans."

The author has ineradicable memories of the impotent Jewish Council of Elders and of the terrifying selection process in which inmates were casually either sent to their death or given a further lease on life.

The death marches of Jews in the final months of the war were especially cruel and inhuman.

The author was liberated by the Russian army, returned to Communist Prague and in 1949, made her way to Israel. After some years, she and her loved ones emigrated to Canada.

This is a riveting, well-written account of courage and fortitude.

* * *

Irena Bakowska, a professor of law at Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., experienced the horrors of the Warsaw ghetto and the loss of dear ones. Her slender book of personal reflections includes an unusual mystical fantasy in which Hitler's soul seeking admission into Heaven tries to justify his actions and beliefs. For the author, this is a creative and novel way to probe complex and difficult questions.

Another segment of the volume presents a three-way conversation involving a man of religious faith, his agnostic opponent and a woman who believes in a God who has no concern for human beings. Here again, in a daring fashion, the author is able to deal with unresolved and nagging questions: the nature of faith, the role of prayer, the mystery of Jewish survival, the horror of the Holocaust, the hiding of God's face.

* * *

During the Holocaust, Italian Jews were a numerically tiny group — fewer than 50,000. About 7,000 of them perished between the years of 1943 and 1945. Some were fervent adherents of the fascist cause. Several hundred were in the ranks of Mussolini's Black Shirts, who in 1921, successfully marched on Rome and installed their leader. Actually, some Italian Jews in their misplaced patriotism displayed fierce anti-Zionist feelings. They believed, even when they became objects of persecution, that Mussolini's anti-Semitism was different from Hitler's. When his "racial laws" were introduced in 1938, Jews and Gentiles alike were stunned.

Roughly 85 percent of Italian Jewry survived. According to a historian of the period, the Italian Holocaust was, "a twisted legacy — a blend of courage and cowardice, nobility and degradation, self-sacrifice and opportunism." In contrast to other countries, perhaps, the worthy behavior outweighed the unworthy, but the horror was nonetheless real.

The *Neppi Modona Diaries* involves four interwoven accounts that reveal the paradoxical nature of the Jewish-fascist fusion.

After the war, Kate Cohen, a distant cousin, sought out her relatives, members of the well known and respected Neppi Modona family.

In this polyphonic description of breakdown the family members deal with aspects of suffering and persecution as they are divorced from the cultural and social life of the nation, deprived of their homes, jobs and possessions and forced into hiding as outcasts.

Cohen, a skilful editor, provides an introductory chapter on salient events in Italian Jewish relations, both before and after the war. In a concluding segment of the book entitled, *Readings* she comments on problems of Jewish identity, racism, loyalty and assimilation and the altered nature of post-Holocaust society.

* * *

Fragments is the extraordinary memoir of a small boy who spent his childhood in Nazi death camps. It is the result of his efforts as an adult to resurrect repressed memories with the help of a psychiatrist.

* * *

From Poland to Russia and Back is the absorbing memoir of one of the 250,000 Polish Jews who fled to the Soviet Union and survived.

Much of his event-filled story takes place in labor camps from Siberia to the Urals.

These six books — and others like them — are of supreme importance. Those who emerged from a manmade Gehenna should remind us of how it was. From such knowledge flows strength and resolution to those who read.

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Media Coverage of the Middle East: Fact or Fiction?

Wednesday, April 30 at 7pm

Is the media coverage biased against Israel or are we too sensitive as Jews? Why is there so much reporting of the Middle East compared to other 'hot spots' in the world? Are there news articles that seem inflammatory, headlines that are misleading or pictures that do not represent the article? Is television coverage better or worse? What is the truth and can it be presented to the world in 90 second sound bites? Three outstanding journalists tackle this contentious issue.

Dana Lewis
Middle East Bureau Chief,
CTV News

Linda Scherzer
Former Middle East
Correspondent, CNN

Patrick Martin
Foreign Editor,
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Moderator: Shira Herzog

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Zimriya marks Zionism centennial

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Jennifer Berk of United Congregational Schools (UCS) sings a solo with the UCS choir. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

TORONTO — The 1997 Zimriya, the Jewish school choir festival, this year marked the 100th anniversary of the first Zionism Congress in Basel, Switzerland in August 1897.

More than 600 students from 11 supplementary and day schools performed in the annual event sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and hosted for the second year in a row by Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Some 2,000 people enjoyed the upbeat atmosphere of the event.

In his opening remarks, Joseph Steiner, chair of the BJE, told the audience that one of the most rewarding aspects of Zimriya is that it draws people from many diverse parts of the community. "As a community we don't get together enough," he said.

Participating schools included Associated Hebrew Schools which fielded two choirs, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Shearim Hebrew Day School, Kadima School, Beth Tikvah Congregational School, United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS), United Congregational Schools (UCS), Shaar Shalom Religious School, Netivot HaTorah Day School, Temple Kol Ami Religious School and Leo Baeck Day School.

To accommodate the large number of participants and their families, the program was divided into morning or afternoon sessions. The choirs performed many songs from the pioneering days in Israel, such as *Kum Bachur Atsel*, *Rad Ha'laylah*, *Nivne Artzenu* and *Arum dem Fyer*.

"I found it very gratifying to see the parents and grandparents singing along with the children. They were sharing their history," BJE program coordinator Joyce Levine, the organizer of Zimriya, told *The CJN*.

The highlight of the event was a special presentation in Yiddish — *Voo Bistou Geven* — sung by four young female soloists in the morning and five in the afternoon. Bialik Hebrew teacher Rifka Atzmony, Zimriya stage manager, conducted this presentation which involved the talents of participants from some half dozen schools.

Some of the contributors to this year's event included Cantor Efraim Sapir, the musical director of Zimriya; Nella Koren, mass choir leader; Atzmony; Doron Ophir, music arranger for the mass choir; musicians Darren Kagal and Don Englert; sound technician Richard Horbatiuk; and scenery artist Tova Raz.

A Passover letter from 1775

MONTREAL — On April 17, 1775, eight months before Montreal was captured by an invading American army, Richard Dobie, a wealthy local wheat exporter, wrote a letter to one of his customers explaining that he could not fill his order because his supplier was a Jew.

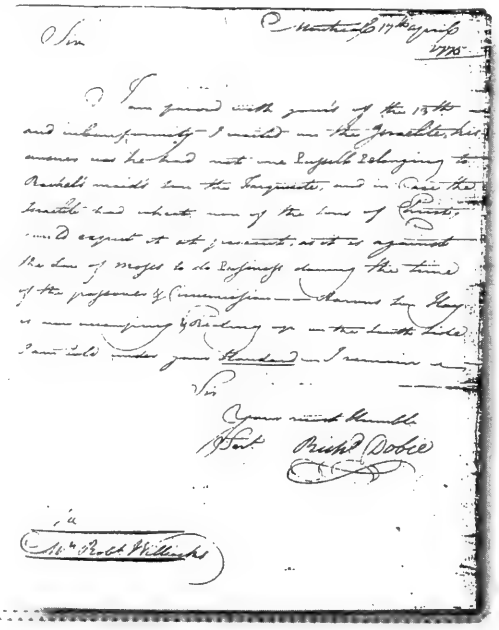
The text of the letter read as follows:

Montreal 17th April 1775
Sir,
I am favord with your's of the 13th and inconformity I waited on the Israelite, his answer was he had not one bushell belonging to Rachel's maid's Son the Farquesite, and in case the Israelite had wheat, non [sic] of the Sons of Christ, could expect it at present, as it is against the Laws of Moses to do business during the time of the Passover... I remain
Sir
Your most humble
Servt. Richd, Dobie
To:
Mr. Robt. Willcocks.

There was no rabbi, no cantor and no synagogue building. There was barely a minyan, with only 12 Jewish families in the city. Yet here was an unnamed Israelite wholesaler who knew that he was not allowed to deal in or even own chametz, which includes wheat grains, during Passover. He practised his religion without fear of retribution, in the knowledge that his non-Jewish customers respected his faith.

In fact, Jews in Montreal lived in greater freedom than in most other parts of the world. Dobie's unflattering remark pertaining to the wholesaler's illegitimacy reveals his displeasure at the loss of business.

The original of the letter below, bearing Dobbie's fancy monogramed seal, was discovered by historical researcher Eiran Harris at the Jewish Public Library Archives, while he was compiling his bibliography of early Canadian Hebraica.



Greater Toronto Area

Raab creating new window art for Beth David

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto artist Ernie Raab, creator of the Holocaust obelisk and the Raoul Wallenberg bust in Earl Bales Park, has shelved his chisels and granite, and taken out paintbrushes and glass.

Raab is busy putting finishing touches to his latest project, an impressive stained glass window in the main sanctuary of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, to be unveiled May 5 at 8:15 p.m.

Special guest at the dedication ceremony will be Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel.

Entitled "From Holocaust to Redemption," the work depicts the two seminal events in modern Jewish history: the Holocaust and the creation of the State of Israel. On 32 color-splashed panels, Raab, himself a Holocaust survivor, has incorporated famous photographs of Jewish suffering at the hands of the Nazis, and of Jewish redemption in Israel, into the windows.

Raab's coup-de-grace will be a stained-glass encased aron kodesh, which he says will appear to float in mid-air because of barely-visible supports. Holding the 8x5-foot aron kodesh together will be wood gilded in gold leaf.

The project, estimated to cost about $150,000, comes as the synagogue is in the midst of a $1 million renovation. In addition to the new windows, the main sanctuary is getting a paint job.

Artist Ernie Raab stands before a model of the stained glass windows and the aron kodesh.

Some congregants may notice that the mural that adorned both sides of the bimah is gone, having been painted over. Synagogue officials say the mural, by internationally renowned artist Aba Bayefsky, had faded and suffered damage from moisture over the 20 years it had been displayed. As well, Raab says, the colors in it would have clashed with those in the windows. They assure the mural was photographed and will be recreated, on a smaller scale, elsewhere in the shul.

As for the windows, "we felt it was important to have a permanent reminder of the two most important Jewish events this century," says Beth David's spiritual leader, Rabbi Philip Scheim. "In the not too distant future, there will be no living witnesses remaining."

Rich in Midrashic and other traditional symbols, the windows flow from the fires of the Holocaust upwards to the chalutzim who built Israel, the immigrants who settled it and the soldiers who defended its borders. One panel recreates a photograph of the young Wiesel and his barracksmates in Buchenwald.

Raab is taciturn when it comes to his latest accomplishment. "It was a challenge," he allows.

Reena Foundation to honor Miles Nadal

TORONTO — Miles Nadal, president and CEO of MDC Corp., will be honored by the Reena Foundation at the organization's annual gala dinner, to be held May 27 at the Sheraton Centre.

Nadal turned his hobby of photography, which he learned at Camp Ramah, into a multi-million dollar business. MDC, a publicly-traded, multi-disciplinary communications company, has three divisions: security and specialty printing; direct marketing and home shopping; and communications and marketing services.

Nadal tallies a long list of community involvement, including Mount Sinai Hospital, Baycrest and the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Proceeds from the dinner will go toward the completion later this year of the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Thornhill. The 45,000-square-foot facility, to be located on Clark Avenue, will serve as a drop-in and day centre for the developmentally handicapped. It will feature programs, a wellness centre, arts workshops, a gym, library, green house and other amenities.

In Nadal's honor, the centre's town hall will be named the Miles and Joanne Nadal Town Hall.

Dinner chair is Lloyd Fogler. Gerald Hartman will serve as event chair, while Bert Raphael will head the tribute committee.

In other Reena news, a grant from UJA Federation of Greater Toronto has enabled Reena and Yachad to join forces for an innovative project.

Yachad, which is affiliated with the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), provides programs for developmentally handicapped Jewish youth.

The new joint program hopes to recruit young Jewish volunteers to work with the developmentally handicapped in order to strengthen Jewish values. These programs will include a Shavuot learn-a-thon, a Tu b'Shvat party and other Judaic programming relating to holidays and arts and crafts.

For details on the program or the dinner, call 416-787-0131.

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These are some of the Passover supplies in a Toronto area warehouse loaded into a ship's container for shipment to Cuba's 1,500-member Jewish community. For more than 30 years, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, has been raising the necessary funds to purchase and obtain the goods, and transport them to Cuba. Among those who helps organize the shipment through monies collected by the region's Moess Chittin Fund are (from left) Harold Brief, fund chair and Ontario region vice-chair; Jennifer Turack, CJC director of community services and youth activities; Pauline Pont, fund facilitator; and Daniel Fine, CJC director of political liaison and international affairs. Among participants were Koffman-Barenholtz, the supplier who provided the foodstuffs at cost, Mazel Wines for suplying 50 cases of wine at no cost and LEP International, the freight company for providing its services at a reduced cost.

Conference offers participants exercise in mental aerobics

TORONTO — Nearly 300 Jewish Canadian leaders developed dozens of ideas during a recent conference devoted to creative thinking, sponsored by the United Israel Appeal of Canada and the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada.

Among new concepts proposed were intergenerational programs to attract long-time donors and their children, and techniques to ensure that leadership positions are filled by men and women already trained for the job.

"Everybody learned something," said Julia Koschitzky, outgoing chair of the Keren Hayesod Board of Trustees. "It was a great exercise in mental aerobics which many of us have already begun to apply."

Specially trained facilitators filled more than 1,000 flip chart pages with ideas generated by discussions in 25 groups. In the next few weeks the ideas will be reviewed and compiled into one main document.

"The results of the gathering will be far reaching," said Toronto's Carol Kassel, who co-chaired the conference with Barbara and Stanley Plotnick from Montreal. "The techniques used really tapped into all kinds of creativity people didn't even know they had," she said.

"People left on a real high," said Stanley Plotnick, the incoming president of FEDERATION CJA in Montreal. "It was definitely a worthwhile endeavor that will only strengthen the commitment of an already incredibly dedicated group of leaders."

"We were given the ability to look at problems we've been dealing with for years in a whole new light," said Barbara Plotnick. "It was one long brain-storming session."

Avraham Infeld, who heads the Melitz Institute for Jewish Zionist Education, delivered the keynote address which opened the conference. "Jews all around the world are like one big family," said Infeld. "Everyone's contributions are valued and needed."

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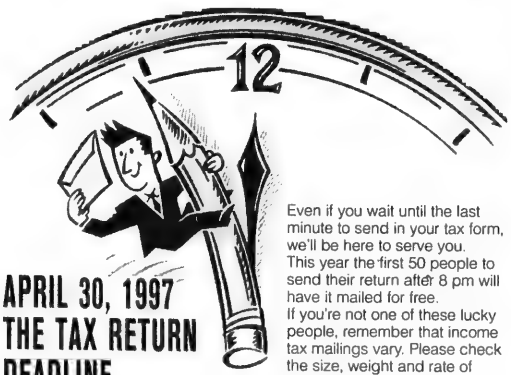

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Greater Toronto Area

Lewis, Aurelia Friedlich celebrate 70th anniversary

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Lewis and Aurelia Friedlich met on a boat en route from Vienna to Budapest in July 1926. By the time the five-hour trip was over, Lewis, now 96, had proposed.

It was love at first sight, he told *The CJN* at the couple's recent 70th anniversary celebration. "She had such a beautiful face."

And those feelings were mutual, said Aurelia, 89. "He was very handsome."

Chaperoned by her brothers, Lewis courted Aurelia in Budapest, where they both lived. They were married on Feb 6, 1927, six months after they met.

The 70th anniversary party took place after the couple returned home from Miami where they winter every year.

Four generations of Friedlichs were on hand for the family celebration which included the presentation of congratulatory plaques from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and MP Barry Campbell — the Queen will also be sending her greetings — and a slide show of special events in the lives of Lewis and Aurelia's children and their offspring.

The Friedlichs, who have two sons, Tom and Steve, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, find their relationships with their children and grandchildren very gratifying, Lewis said."We enjoy every minute we have them around."

Now that he's home from Florida, Lewis is back at work. He puts in three to four hours a day at his son Steve's office, helping him run an electrical engineering consulting firm. Lewis takes care of bookkeeping and payroll, spending most of his time at the computer.

"Using the computer is my most satisfying occupation," he said. "When we were away for the winter, I was missing it very much."

Lewis and Aurelia Friedlich [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Aurelia continues in her traditional role as a homemaker, taking care of housekeeping, which includes preparing dinner from scratch every night.

The couple immigrated to Canada in 1949 to escape the Communist regime in Hungary. They suffered considerable hardship from 1939 to 1949, a period of their lives they avoid discussing, Lewis said.

"Talking about it increases my blood pressure."

Lewis was the manager of a lumber conglomerate with headquarters in Budapest. His position entailed foreign travel and when he visited Germany in 1936, he recalled some very disturbing signs of anti-Semitism.

"I was going to our Berlin office on the Kurfurstendamm and the street benches were painted, *nicht fur Juden* (not for Jews)."

When anti-Semitism spread to Hungary, he lost his position in the company, he said. The family survived the war under the protection of Swedish hero Raoul Wallenberg.

After leaving Hungary, the Friedlichs lived in Saltzberg for nine months waiting to come to Canada. They settled in Toronto, where their son Steve was an engineering student. Tom, their younger son, later studied medicine and became a surgeon.

The Friedlichs' early years in Canada were difficult: money was tight as job opportunities were scarce, Aurelia said. But through a contact in Montreal, Lewis landed a job in a Toronto lumber company.

On the first day, one of Lewis' workers from Hungary recognized him and informed the owner about his former boss's credentials, Lewis said.

"He said, 'Do you know who this man is?'" The owner cancelled Lewis' job and offered him a partnership instead.

Five years later, Lewis became the sole owner. Steve joined the company, running it with his father along with his engineering firm, until 1978 when they sold the lumber business, Lewis said. "Now I work for Steve."

He and Aurelia agreed that their 70-year marriage has been a happy one. And he offered some advice for a successful marriage: "Be considerate, compromise, don't both be stubborn at the same time and don't be extreme."

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But Kuti is a fighter and was determined not to give up. After extensive surgery he began his rehabilitation at the Beit Halochem Centre in Tel Aviv. Together with the support of his wife and family, he received his Ph.D from Hebrew University. He is now head of Eastern and African Studies at Tel Aviv University. Kuti is currently a visiting Professor at Boston University.

'Society forgets and doesn't know how to deal with the disabled' he says. 'It was only at Beit Halochem that I could go with my family, and together, I could learn to be a whole person again.'

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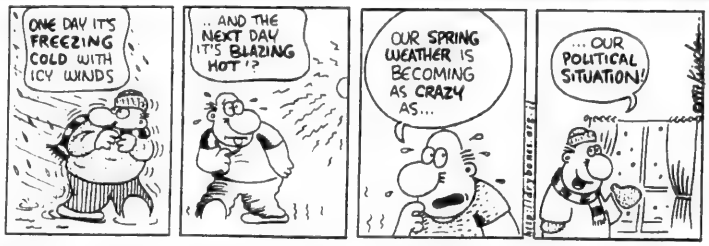

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מחשבות לפסח:

פסח המתקרב מוריד על כולנו מחשבות קצת יותר עמוקות: לאן אנחנו שייכים, מי קרוב מספיק לשבת איתנו בסדר, מי רחוק ולא ישב איתנו אלא בישראל או במקום אחר. ויש כמובן, שאלות ברמה אחת יותר עמוקה: האם ילדינו ידעו לערוך סדר פסח למרות החינוך החילוני והזיקה ההולכת ופוחתת לכל עניין יהודי? האם יום אחד , בבוא זמנם, יכירו לנו את דברה צ'אנג הסינית שהכירו באוניברסיטה, או את אלברט ג'ונסון הכושי שהכירו בקולג' או את פיליפ סניורה האיטלקי שהכירו במקום העבודה? והאם זה אכפת לנו כל -כך? ואם כן - מה עשינו כדי שזה לא יקרה? איך ספק שישראלים חילונים שמגיעים לקנדה ללא תוכנית עבודה יהודית-ציונית ברורה (בית כנסת, בית ספר יהודי, תנועת נוער ציונית) מנדילים משמעותית את הסיכוי להיות המחותנים של דברה צ'אנג, פיליפ סניורה ואלברט ג'ונסון.

"הונאה" - פיליפ רות:

בעניין זה אני רוצה להביא קטע מספרו של הסופר היהודי אמריקני פיליפ רות "הונאה". המספר מתאר שיחה עם אביו הזקן שכועס על כך שאחד מנכדיו (בן אחיו של המספר) עומד להתחתן עם בחורה פורטוריקנית. "אמרתי לאבא: אבא שלך, בתחילת המאה, היו לו שלוש ברירות. אחת-הוא היה יכול להשאר בגליציה היהודית עם סבתא. מה היה קורה? אפר, כולנו! מספר שתיים הוא היה יכול ללכת לפלשתינה. אתה וסאנדי הייתם נלחמים בערבים ב- 1948 וגם אם לא הייתם נהרגים מישהו היה מאבד אצבע, זרוע, רגל. ב- 1967 אני הייתי נלחם במלחמת ששת הימים ולפחות הייתי חוטף קצת שראפנל, נגיד בראש, ומאבד את הראיה בעין אחת. בלבנון שני הנכדים שלך היו נלחמים. טוב, נהיה שמרנים ונניח שרק אחד מהם היה נהרג. זה פלשתינה. הברירה השלישית שלו היתה לבוא לאמריקה. והוא בא. והדבר הכי גרוע שיכול לקרות באמריקה? הנכד שלך מתחתן עם פורטוריקנית. אתה חי בפולין ומקבל את התוצאות של היותך יהודי-פולני, או שאתה חי בישראל ומקבל את התוצאות של היותך יהודי-ישראלי, או שאתה חי באמריקה ומקבל את התוצאות של היותך יהודי-אמריקאי. תגיד לי מה אתה מעדיף." (זמורה-ביתן 1993) אפשר כמובן להתווכח עם הסטטיסטיקות של פיליפ רות לגבי גודל הסיכון המלחמתי בישראל, אבל אין ספק שהדיעה שמובעת פה היא מה שרוב היהודים מרגישים לגבי גודל הסיכון. אז זהו. אם זה בסדר לכם - זה בסדר. אבל אם לא מתאים לכם דברה צ'אנג ואלברט ג'ונסון - כדאי שתתחילו לחשוב על זה מוקדם מספיק.
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סיפור רפואי קטן ששמעתי מחבר ועניינו מזכיר את החתול של חד-גדיא.זהו סיפור טוב לליל הסדר אחרי ההגדה. משפחה הלכה לקטוף פטריות. אך כשהגיעו הביתה ובישלו אותן הם כבר לא היו בטוחים אם כולן טובות או רעילות. מה עשו אותן נשמות טובות? ערבבו עם קצת בשר ונתנו לחתולה שאכלה בתיאבון. כשעברו שעה שעתיים והחתולה בסדר - ישבו בני המשפחה לאכול את מאכל הפטריות. גמרו לאכול, שתו קפה, ופתאום לחרדתם הם רואים את החתולה מתפתלת מכאבי בטן. חטפו שוק, שהרי מפטריות אפשר למות, ורצו מהר לחדר מיון הקרוב. שם בלי שהיות הכניסו להם צינורות מהאף לקיבה, נתנו להם חומרים נורמי הקאות ובקיצור עינו אותם חצי לילה והוציאו את נשמתם כדי להיות בטוחים שכל הפטריות בחוץ. חזרו עייפים ותשושים בשתיים בלילה הביתה, ולא שהם התעניינו מי יודע מה בחתולה המסכנה - פתאום שמעו יבבות. איזו הפתעה- החתולה המליטה גורים! וכאבי הבטן היו צירי לידה ולא פטריות ולא בטיח! מוסר השכל- מה שהכלב עושה לחתול, בא המקל ועושה לכלב.
חד גדיא.

SHMOOZIN

"This will keep the kids busy for days – I gave them a box of matza farfel and told them that it was a jigsaw puzzle of a piece of matza!"

On Campus

Student anti-Zionism crosses into anti-Semitism

By HERBERT BRILL
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — About three weeks ago, I was interviewed by a reporter from *The Newspaper*, a University of Toronto weekly. The reporter wanted to know my thoughts about anti-Semitism on campus in light of the recent publication of B'nai Brith's annual report on anti-Semitism.

Opinion

At the time, I described anti-Semitism as being at "a low ebb" and said that most Jewish students at U of T "just don't feel it." I also pointed out that the most serious threats arose from intense anti-Zionism used to cover anti-Semitic feelings. Little did I know at the time that I had had been bang-on in my assessment of the situation.

In the last few weeks, the "low ebb" has risen to a high tide, as anti-Zionist preaching on campus has crossed the line into anti-Semitism. The recent barrage of anti-Israel propaganda by Arab groups, thinly disguising an underlying anti-Jewish sentiment, left many students feeling disillusioned and marginalized.

Recently, the Arab Students Association (ASA) held their annual Arab Awareness Week. The intent is much the same as for the Israel Awareness Week organized by the Jewish Students' Union (JSU). Like the JSU, the ASA set up a pavilion in the student lobby of the Sidney Smith building, a main thoroughfare for U of T students. Each pavilion focused on a particular Arab country's culture and history.

The Palestinian pavilion, however, was quite different. A map of Israel was drawn, with the word "Palestine" scrawled over it. The entire top half of a poster approximately six feet square was given over to describing massacres perpetrated by "Zionists" over the last 50 years. Accompanying the gruesome pictures was commentary, stating that Zionists were very much "like their Nazi counterparts," that "all paratroopers are murderers," that it was Israeli government policy to carry out such massacres. It was only on the bottom half of the poster that one could learn about Palestinian culture and history, though in that also there were political overtones.

Many Jewish students, especially those of Israeli descent, were shocked and dismayed at the display, not because of the pictures themselves — students recognize that dark events occurred during the growth of the State of Israel — but because of the accompanying generalizations, half-truths and lies, and because Palestinian students, instead of taking the opportunity to teach the university community about Palestinian heritage and culture, chose instead to make a political statement. (In contrast, the planners of Israel Day tried to take into account Arab sensitivities. An official map of Israel was not displayed. Rather, a satellite map of the region was used, with no borders marked.)

Offensive display

The shock turned to hurt as the display remained up for a total of three days, even though the authors knew that most Jewish students found the display offensive. As the political action coordinator at the JSU, I felt the display was a blow to my attempts at fostering understanding between Jewish and Palestinian students.

The same Palestinians I had been trying to work with had created the display. When I asked one why I had to bend down to see his culture instead of seeing it at eye level, he brushed me aside, saying that I could never know what it was like to be a Palestinian.

When the display finally was taken down as scheduled, I thought the worst was over. Unfortunately, I was very wrong. The Canada Middle East Information Centre (CMIC), whose mandate is to provide "greater understanding of people in the Middle East," sponsored a talk on Palestine after the Oslo Accords: Are Palestinian Human Rights Being Respected? They invited Paul Findlay, a former U.S. congressman, infamous for his anti-Zionist views. The talk was held in the Medical Science Building Main Auditorium, a hall which seats between 400 and 500 people. From the opening address by a CMIC official, I knew it was not going to be a fun evening.

The official did not once refer to "Israel," only to "Palestine." Findlay then spoke, attributing his removal from office in 1982 to actions taken by the Israel lobby in Washington, and comparing the Israeli occupation to the Holocaust.

When Findlay had finished, the CMIC official introduced a surprise speaker who had not been advertised, a Palestinian named Rafeeb Jabar. Jabar spoke at length about Palestinian torture at the hands of Israelis. While contending that Israel was "built on lies," he insisted that he was anti-Zionist, not anti-Jewish. The true racists, said Jabar, were the Israelis, who think that "any gentile life is worthless." Jabar also called for a new intifadah to secure a Palestinian state, amid loud applause from the mostly Arab crowd.

The hostility of the audience to the few Jews present was palpable. As this auditorium was the same room where I take some of my lectures, dealing with the dichotomy of atmospheres was especially bewildering. When Lance Davis, the program director at the JSU, pointed out to Findlay that the Holocaust was a very singular event in history, he was booed. The question period after the speeches was controlled by the CMIC official. Questioners were not given an opportunity to rebut the one-sided argument presented at the lectern and could only ask short questions. Video cameras also contributed to an intimidating atmosphere.

Sadly, U of T refuses to acknowledge the last few weeks' events as being anything more than normal. Despite numerous calls, campus police refused to investigate the offending poster as being an incitement of hatred against an identifiable group. Student Affairs and the Student Administrative Council (SAC) refuse to take action against the ASA, despite supporting them with financial grants, saying that there are no guidelines for regulating the actions of student groups on campus. Since there are no guidelines for groups which reserve speaking halls on the campus, CMIC can once again book an engagement on university grounds to pursue its own agenda.

The recent events have left Jewish students wondering whether there is any point in trying to get along with Palestinian students on campus. A recent attempt to put together a social planning committee composed of Jewish and Palestinian students has been all but forgotten.

However, I still believe that such incidents could eventually become a thing of the past if we just continue talking. At the CMIC talk, I met a Palestinian student who went out of her way to make me feel more comfortable. After the meeting, I joined a group of Jewish and Palestinian students discussing the Arab-Israeli conflict. We spoke for almost an hour in a polite and honest manner.

The events of the last couple of weeks have overshadowed a year that has been mostly free of anti-Semitism or anti-Zionism. The JSU will continue to press for a censuring of groups that promote anti-Jewish sentiment on campus and we can only hope that the governing councils of the university will finally listen. I have come to the conclusion, however, that good relations between Arabs and Jews on campus can only result from maintaining ties and above all, continuing to talk.

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From coast to coast

Rally to press for increased war crimes action

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Officials at Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) are calling on some 1,000 Montreal Jews to gather for a May 5 noon rally at Place du Canada to protest Ottawa's decades-long foot-dragging on the war crimes issue.

They aim to have the government step up its deportation proceedings against alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

The rally, one day after Yom Hashoah, will coincide with an unprecedented meeting between CJC officials, faith leaders and Justice Minister Allan Rock in Ottawa.

But it's also part of a new national campaign to mobilize the Canadian Jewry grassroots on the war crimes issue.

Similar Jewish community rallies — all under the theme of Nazi War Criminals in Canada One is Too Many! — are being planned for the Yom Hashoah period and during the month of May in the Maritimes, Toronto, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Vancouver.

At the Montreal rally, participants will be given individual postcards to mail to the federal justice minister, while D'Arcy McGee Liberal MNA Lawrence Bergman will be tabling a motion in the National Assembly to speed up federal proceeding against alleged war criminals.

CJC's national officers recently resolved to make such rallies the starting point for continued action.

"We're trying to build on the groundswell of public opinion," said CJC national communications director Mike Cohen. "People wanted a rally and now they're getting one, so they should come!"

"We are providing an arena in which the Canadian public, government, bureaucracies and law enforcement can become fully aware of the serious concern being demonstrated by the community on the issue of Nazi war criminals," said Montreal rally co-chair Myra Giberovitch, who also co-chairs CJC's Holocaust remembrance committee.

'Outing' suspects

The rally in Montreal will feature several speakers including Holocaust survivor Sidney Zoltak of the MHMC; the centre's Sara Weinberg, a daughter of survivors; CJC-Quebec chair Reisa Teitelbaum; rally co-chairs Giberovitch and Rabbi Reuben Poupko; and other prominent clergy members.

The event will also honor Steven Rambam, the U.S. private investigator whose revelations about hundreds of Nazi war criminals still living in Canada proved to be the catalyst for the new Jewish community impetus. (Rambam is planning to move to Israel this year.)

That impetus has included a new policy of publicly "outing" suspected war criminals living in Canada, maintaining a snitch line at CJC for informants and plans to lobby candidates on the war crimes issue prior to the coming federal election.

In Montreal, to signify the rally's importance and the sense of urgency attached to the issue, special funding is being provided by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Montreal.

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Police raid nabs hate material

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Police in Windsor and Detroit have raided the offices of Resistance Records, one of the largest distributors of white supremacist recordings, T-shirts and other paraphernalia.

The simultaneous raids took place two weeks ago and resulted in the seizure in Detroit of 200,000 CDs and audio cassettes along with business records in Windsor.

Resistance Records is the creation of Canadian George Burdi, who is currently in jail for kicking a woman in the face during a neo-Nazi rampage in Ottawa. Police believe he established the Detroit distribution centre to skirt Canada's anti-hate laws.

U.S. law enforcement officials said they raided the record company's mail order headquarters as part of their investigation of alleged evasion of a six percent tax on the sale of materials. Michigan Det. Sgt. Robert Swackhammer also said Burdi, Jason Snow and Joseph Talic, all Canadians, were operating the company without proper working papers.

Police in Michigan seized 100 boxes of business records, customer address labels and computer mailing records. In Windsor, police seized business records, computers and discs. The raids were conducted at the same time to ensure the safety of officers and to avoid the possible destruction of computer records, said Michigan State Police Det. Sgt. Rodney Young.

The Canadian raid was part of an ongoing hate propaganda investigation by the Ontario Provincial Police.

The raids were welcomed by Jewish organizations, which see hate recordings as one of the most potent tools available to racist groups to recruit young people.

"Hate rock has been since 1994 at the cutting edge of organized anti-Semitism," said Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Steven Shulman.

The raids could temporarily put the hate rock enterprise out of business while alerting the public to the gravity of the problem. The fact that the mail order house had a stock of 200,000 CDs and cassettes indicates there is a substantial market for it, Shulman added.

"This operation clearly underlines the need to employ creative methods to stop hatemongers by whatever legal means necessary," stated B'nai Brith spokesperson Frank Dimant.

Shulman pointed out that following a 1993 concert by Burdi's group Ra Ho Wa, which stands for Racial Holy War, a spectator at the concert beat a Tamil dishwasher, leaving him paralyzed. The concert featured songs with violent, racist lyrics like "these boots were made for walking all over Jews," he said.

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Jews for Judaism

From coast to coast

Federation announces nominees

Sandra Brown, Acting Nominations Committee chairman for the JFGT, has announced the nominees for the board of directors, board of governors and individual representatives to Council.

Elections will be held during the Federation's 22nd annual meeting scheduled for Monday, June 9, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street.

In accordance with the by-laws, the governance consists of a Council, the president, a Board of Governors, and a Board of Directors. An Executive Committee will be elected by the Board of Directors from amongst the Directors. No nominations can be made from the floor during the annual meeting. However, any member of the Jewish community may be placed in nomination by complying with the following by-laws.

"Only Members of the Federation who have made a financial commitment to the United Jewish Appeal in respect of the previous year, and are in good standing with the United Jewish Appeal, shall be eligible to serve as an individual or Group Representative on the Council.

"Any 20 Representatives may nominate any Individual Member of the Federation for election to the Board of Directors and the position of President, provided that: (a) any one Individual Representative may nominate not more than three nominees for election to the Board of Directors; (b) such nominations shall be in writing and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee; and (c) such nominations shall be delivered to the Federation at least 21 days before the annual meeting of Council.

"Any seven Individual or Group Representatives may nominate any Individual or Group Representative of the Federation for election to the Board of Governors, provided that (a) any one Representative may nominate not more than three nominees for election to the Board of Governors; (b) such nominations shall be in writing and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee; and (c) such nominations shall be delivered to the Federation at least 21 days before the annual meeting of Council.

"Any seven Members may nominate any Individual Member of the Federation for election to the Council provided that: (a) any one Member may nominate not more than three nominees for election to the Council; (b) such nominations shall be in writing and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee; and (c) such nominations shall be delivered to the Federation at least 21 days before the annual meeting of Members."

Nominee for president is Joseph Steiner, Nominees for the Board of Directors include Rosanne Ain, Tammy Anklewicz, Dov Altman, Barbara Bank, Arthur Benjamin, Donald Bennett, Donald Carr, Messod Boussidan, Karen Chisvin, Michael Daren, Helen Finder-Guttman, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, Eleanor Getzler, Norman Godfrey, Lou Greenbaum, Judy Gwartz, Beverley Holtzman, Carol Kassel, Marshall Kesten, Les Klein, Igor Korenzvit, Henry Koschitzky, Elaine Lightstone, Jack Mintz, Barry Naiberg, Neil Nisker, Elliott Peranson, Dr. Jill Reitman, Naomi Rose, Michael Rosenberg, Gerald Ross, Alan Sandler, Lorraine Sandler, Dr. Ralph Shedletsky, Randy Shiff, Carole Sterling, Cyrel Troster, George Weinberger, Alan Winer and Shirley Worth.

Nominees for Individual Representatives for the Board of Governors include the above named Directors, as well as the following Individual Representatives: Irving Abella, Stephen Altbaum, Brent Belzberg, Mark Berenblut, Stuart Berkowitz, David Berman, Eric Bornstein, Helen Daniels, Roz Davidson, Jeff Dermer, Wendy Eisen, Judy Engel, Sheila Engel, Garry Foster, Stephen Freedhoff, Robert Furman, Henry Goldbach, Jeff Goldfarb, Al Green, David C. Green, David Y. Green, Michael Halbert, Dr. Saul Kendal, David Koschitzky, Ruth Ladovsky, Harold Lederman, Thomas Lobel, Susan Maldoff, Agi Mandel, Miriam Rosenberg, Sheila Rother, Kurt Rothschild, Honey Sherman, Eileen Silver, Frank Simkevitz, Marsha Slavens, Howard Stevens, Francie Storm, Barry Tissenbaum and Lorne Wolfson.

Nominees for Group Representatives for the Board of Governors include: Rabbi Wayne Allen, Paul Bainerman, David Barkin, David Baskin, Robert Berkovitz, Michael Bouganim, Michael Bowman, David W. Brown, David M. Burton, Lynn Cutler, Dr. Violet Esser, Rudolph Favelyukis, Ephraim Fiksel, Norman Grill, Aaron Grubner, Michael Kerbel, Warren Kimel, Louis Kirshenbaum, Dr. Arthur Kruger, Dr. Howard Langer, Anne Lean, Janice Maser, Mervyn McCarthy, Folrence Minz-Gineen, Eldon Moses, Harold Nashman, Dr. Sharon Perlmutter, Gary Posen, Esther Rodzynek, Richard Sadowski, Vivien Sharon, Peter Shenfield, Edith Sobel, David Sonenberg, Esther Spring, Rosanne Teplitsky, Dodi Weill, Dorothy Zeifman, Sol Zigler and Dr. Harvey Zimmerman.

Life Members of the Board of Governors are the following past presidents: Ronald Appleby, Sandra Brown, Jack Chisvin, Charles Diamond, Arnold A. Epstein, Irving 'Yitz' Feldman, Arthur Gelber, Bernard Ghert, *Phil Granovsky, Milton Harris, Wilfred Posluns, Jack Rose, Herb Rosenfeld, Samuel J. Sable and Rose Wolfe.

*deceased.

The following Individual Representatives are to be elected for a two year term 1997-99 to the Federation Council: Irving Abella, Stephen Altbaum, Dov Altman, Brent Belzberg, Mark Berenblut, David Berman, Eric Bornstein, Michael Bowman, Robert Cohen, Samuel H. Cohen, Stephen Cole, Helen Daniels, Jeff Dermer, William Draimin, Elliott Eisen, Wendy Eisen, Joyce Eklove, David Engel, Judy Engel, Sheila Engel, Michael Florence, Stephen Freedhoff, Gerda Frieberg, Henry Goldbach, Marty Goldberg, Carole Grafstein, David C. Green, David Y. Green, Aaron Grubner, Michael Harris, Michael Herman, Dr. Saul Kendal, David Koschitzky, Jules Kronis, Lorri Kushnir, Harold Lederman, Glennie Lindenberg, Beverly Lyons, Susan Maldoff, Agi Mandel, Karen Morton, Alan Mostyn, Paul Nightingale, Allan Offman, Elisa Palter, Joel Reitman, Dr. Miriam Rosenberg, Riva Rosenfeld, Alan Sandler, Lorraine Sandler, Honey Sherman, Eileen Silver, Marsha Slavens, Brian Simon, Ralph Snow, Dr. Howard Stevens, Francie Storm, Barry Tissenbaum, Dr. Elaine Todres, and Gordon Wiseman.

In addition to the Individual Representatives listed, each Group Member of the Federation shall be entitled to two representatives on the Council (Group Representatives). Any Group Member which has membership in good standing in excess of 100 persons residing in the Greater Toronto Area shall be entitled to one additional Group Representative on the Council. "Group" means any charitable, educational, social, cultural, religious or recreational agency, organization or congregation, unincorporated or incorporated (without share capitals) whose activities are carried out primarily in the Greater Toronto Area (including the main Greater Toronto Area branch or division of national organizations), having a Jewish membership of at least 25 persons, or such other agency or organization which may be accepted by the Directors.

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Due to Passover holidays, Thursday, April 24, is deadline for May 8 issue. Then, back to regular schedule — Monday, May 5 is deadline for May 15. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, April 26

ASHKETANTS

Ashkenaz: New Yiddish Culture and Bloor JCC present AshkeTANTS featuring the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, emcee **Deb Filler,** guests **Rick Shadrach Lazar, Beth Anne Cole, Michael Wex**, Yiddish dance instruction **Shula Satzman**. 8 p.m., Bloor JCC. $10 at door or in advance. 924-6211.

Sunday, April 27

SISTERHOOD BREAKFAST

Adath Sholom Sisterhood general meeting with breakfast. Program includes gemologist **Larry Cohen** speaking on jewelry 9:30 a.m., at synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $2.

Tuesday, April 29

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble presents three authors, **Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, Leo Orenstein, Beth Kaplan,** reading from their work, followed by audience discussion. Moderator is author **Carol Libman,** 7:30 p.m., North York City Hall, 5100 Yonge St. $10 non-members. 633-2057.

Wednesday, April 30

THE MEDIA AND ISRAEL

Media Coverage of the Middle East: Fact or Fiction? Is the media coverage biased against Israel or are we too sensitive as Jews? This issue is tackled by journalists **Dana Lewis,** Middle East Bureau chief-CTV; **Patrick Martin,** foreign editor, *Globe and Mail*; **Linda Scherzer,** former Middle East correspondent, CNN. Moderator **Shira Herzog**. 7 p.m., Sandford Fleming Building, University of Toronto, 10 Kings College Rd., Room 1105. For tickets, 789-3351.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada meeting, Czech Jewry: Old Roots, Future Pathways presented by **Prof. Ya'akov Glickman** from Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto, 7:45 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. $3.

ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA

During a lecture tour of North America and Europe, well-known South African community development activist **Helen Lieberman** speaks in Toronto about her personal experiences working in the black townships, 8 p.m., North York Public Library, Central branch, Room 1, 5120 Yonge St. Lecture is sponsored by Canadian Friends of Ikamva Labantu (the Future of Our Nation). Reserve. **Eydie Troper** 531-7444 or **Yda Tollman** 944-0410.

Thursday, May 1

LITERARY EVENING

Na'amat's evening with **Charlotte Vale Allen,** author of *Daddy's Girl*, whose writings deal with issues confronting women, 8 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Proceeds towards the Centre for the Prevention of Family Violence. $5. RSVP 636-5425.

SURVIVING FREEDOM

The annual Rosalynd Smith Memorial Lecture presents Irving Abella, past president, Canadian Jewish Congress, speaking on Surviving Freedom: Can Canadian Jewry and Jewish Values Make It In the 21st Century?, 8:15 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. Sponsored by Adath Israel Congregation, Sisterhood and Rosalynd Smith Memorial Fund.

Irving Abella

CONSERVATIVE SEXISM?

Beth Tikvah Sisterhood multigenerational Town Hall Forum, Conservative Sexism? Does It Exist?, mod-

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

erator **Toni Silberman,** human rights consultant; **Rabbi Adina Lewittes**, Rabbinical School of Jewish Theological Seminary; **Judy Feld Carr**, international community activist; **Deborah K. Spiegel,** Camp Ramah; **Melva Novak**, former principal, Conservative Day School, USA. 8 p.m.

KABBALAH SEMINAR

Free seminar on how to bring harmony and fulfilment into a relationship, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 7 p.m. registration, 7:30 p.m. lecture. Kabbalah Centre 631-9395 for information.

And What Else Is New

SHABBAT EXPERIENCE

Are you a Jew by choice? Partners in Jewish Living invites you and your family to a traditional Shabbat experience June 20-22 at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, Parry Sound. Guest lecturer scholar/educator **Aaron Nussbaum**. Register by May 1. **Rabbi Irving Beigel** 782-1501. Project of Rabbinical Assembly, Ontario region, funded by action committee on Jewish continuity of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

BOOK LAUNCHING

Book launching of *Shattered! 50 Years of Silence: History and Voices of Tragedy in Romania and Transnistria* Thursday, May 15, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Special address by **Manuel Prutschi**, executive director Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. RSVP to **Hanna** 635-2883, ext. 153. Books for sale and autographed.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Canadian Zionist Federation in conjunction with Conservative synagogues in Toronto celebrate Israel's 49th Independence Day, Sunday, May 11, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue, with music, song and dance including a song and dance teenage troupe from Israel, as well as local day school choirs.

DANCE FOR EVERYONE

Register now for Koffler Centre School of Dance summer and fall '97 classes in Ballet, Tap, Modern, Jazz, Ballroom. Information/brochures 636-1880, ext. 359 or 273.

WAKE-A-THON

The Morris Winchevsky Youth Division Wake-A-Thon fundraiser for Eva's Place, a youth shelter, Saturday, May 3, 9 p.m. to Sunday, May 4, 9 a.m. Food, entertainment provided. Pledge sheets, posters available at Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Jewish Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., summer courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, Tuesday mornings, May 27-Aug. 26 (beginners); Wednesday mornings May 28-Aug. 27 (intermediate); Thursday evenings May 29-Aug. 28 (all levels). Beginners' instructor **Joseph Klinger**. Register now. 787-0197.

SHAW FESTIVAL

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, bus tour to Shaw Festival to see *Playboy of the Western World* (matinee) Thursday, June 5. $50 includes bus and theatre. Council House, 633-5100.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Israeli folkdancing, beginners and intermediate with **Marco Ben-Shimon** Mondays, 8-10 p.m., Bloor JCC. $5. 905-771-0363.

YOUNG SINGERS AUDITIONS

If you are an excellent young singer, age 10-12, and love to perform, join the Brundibar cast. Call Magical Basket Productions, 489-4709 for details and audition time. Rehearsals start May 6, 6 p.m. and will continue in the fall.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Rebel Daughter by **Doris Anderson** will be discussed at the Feminist Book Discussion Group of the North York chapter, Older Women's Network, Sunday, May 4, 2-4 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. 782-6414.

LOW FAT COOKBOOK

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, sells *Looneyspoons* , national best-selling low fat cookbook. $15. Council House, 633-5100.

WORKSHOP FOR CAREGIVERS

Baycrest Centre four-week workshop for caregivers of relatives with Alzheimer disease and related disorders, presented by **Dr. Guy Proulx**, director of psychology, and **Beverley Adler**, social worker. Workshop begins May 6. 785-2500, ext. 2308.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Peer socializing group for children who have difficulty making friends or behave in an inappropriate way, begins May 7; Bereavement group, begins May 8; Living With Your Teens, begins May 14; Looking Ahead, discuss loneliness, guilt, new relationships, begins May 13. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Canadian Seaway branch of Women's League for Conservative Judaism Spring Conference, Wednesday, May 7, and Thursday, May 8, at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Keynote speaker is Women's League national consultant Lynne Heller from Bayonne, N.J. Conference theme is And the World Is Entrusted to Us.

Lynne Heller

DISCOVERY SEMINARS

Aish HaTorah Discovery seminars, Thursday, May 1, 8-10 p.m., and Sunday, May 4, 9-5 p.m. Register in advance. 905-771-0903.

PEN CANADA

The 1997 PEN Canada Benefit and Silent Auction, an evening of literary and musical entertainment, Sunday, May 4, at John Bassett Theatre, 255 Front St. W. Silent auction and reception, 7 p.m., followed by a 90 minute performance. $45. TicketKing 872-1212 or 1-800-461-3333.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, May 1, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Greta Ridell-Dixon** discusses On Saving the Health Care System. Reserve **Goldie Leibman** 635-2860.

LZA Seniors Club trips: Stage West to see *Shirley Valentine* June 25, and Stratford for *Camelot* Sept. 3. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., or at luncheon Wednesday, May 7. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: May 12, Mother's Day luncheon, 12:30 p.m.; June 1, *Dames at Sea;* July 15, Kingston cruise; Sept. 17, *Camelot* at Stratford; Aug. 12, Boat Farm. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 1 is a video featuring singer **Gabe Berlin. Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 1, Avon Cosmetics demonstration; May 4, Spring Fair; May 5, Thornhill Square; May 6, free blood pressure clinic, noon to 2 p.m.; May 13-15, Ottawa Tulip Festival; May 21, Casino Rama; May 22, group discussion, Taking Charge, **Leonard Rubenstein**; May 29, Markville Mall; June 4, *Forever Plaid;* June 16, Casino Niagara. 395-7881.

Sunrise Group Niagara trip, casino plus shopping in Niagara Falls, U.S., $20. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Working Together for Change, a group for women over 55 who have been or are in relationships that hurt, begins a new 10-week session soon. Offered by La'Briyut Wellness Centre, the Awareness Project for Abuse of the Elderly and Jewish Family & Child Service. Enquiries in confidence. **Sheila Zane** or **Sharon Zeiler**.

The Brenda Zalkin Healthy Pleasures Lectures, The Joys of Being Active, with 70-plus-year-old marathon runner **Judith Kazdan**, Thursday, May 1, 1:30 p.m.

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic with therapist **Bev Tobe** of the Arthritis Society, Thursday, May 1, 1:30-4 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Sing-along with **Micky Levine** April 30. **Anna**.

Movie *Blue Skies*, Sunday, April 27, 2:15 p.m.

Violinist **Alex Kogut** performs Wednesday, April 30, 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Limited space is available for September Tic Tac Two, a two or three morning group for 2-year-olds, which meets Tuesday and Thursday or Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Come play, create, sing, celebrate Shabbat and learn about Jewish holidays. ext. 248.

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

AshkeTANTS, presented by Ashkenaz and Bloor JCC, Saturday, April 26, 8 p.m. Details under Saturday date.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: The film, *Yidl Mitn Fidl* with **Molly Picon** Thursday, April 24, 2 p.m. Celebration of Spring Tea, annual talent contest with prizes and surprises, Thursday, May 1, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

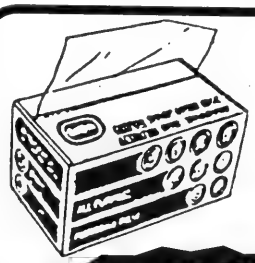
Edna Levitt

ORT'S NEW LEADERSHIP

Edna Levitt is ORT's new director of development. Originally from Scotland, she was project manager and acting director of the Men's Service Group of Baycrest Centre and then executive director of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada).

Robyn Raisin

Robyn Raisin, born and raised in South Africa, is ORT Canada's director of administration. Prior to her position with ORT, she served as administrative director and special projects coordinator of National Conference of Synagogue Youth.



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THE ANNUAL

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- Member, Order of Canada
- Professor of History, York University
- Chair, Task Force on Jewish Identity, Council of Jewish Federations Canada

Surviving Freedom: Can Canadian Jewry and Jewish Values make it in the 21st Century?

Thursday, May 1 at 8:15 p.m.

Adath Israel Synagogue
37 Southbourne Ave., Downsview, Ont.
(1 block north of Wilson Ave., east of Bathurst St.)

For more information, call the Synagogue Office (416) 635-5340 or Goldie Kay (416) 635-6677

This lecture is sponsored by Adath Israel Congregation, Adath Israel Sisterhood and the Rosalynd Smith Memorial Fund.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Singles Events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News.* **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Grand Opening - *"A Touch of Class"* invites you to an elegant dinner dance soirée on Saturday, May 3rd. Mix 'n Mingle (cocktails) 6:30 - 7:45 pm., dinner following. Ages: 35+. Dress code, live band. Promotion price: $14.95 + $5.00 cover charge. Sonia, 636-4845.

****TIMEOUT! Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee League**** New summer outdoor sport starts June '97! Register NOW! (416) 255-2230.

Co-ed Softball's Coming! Metro Toronto Singles Presents...it's 8th Annual Season, Recreational & Competitive Div. **Next Registration:** Sunday, April 27th 6-8pm at Tickled Toad, 330 Steeles Ave. West. For Info: 222-7111.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1335** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** weeks. 483-4151.

MARTINI MADNESS BECKONS YOU. The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation New Ledership Division's Second Annual Dance Party, Thursday, May 8th, 8:30 pm at **Industry**, 901 King St. West. Tickets: $25. in adv., $30. at door. Payable by Visa/MC. Call The CSZHF Office at 416-781-3584

Super Singles Weekend! MTS Presents...Our annual **Sports & Wellness Weekend Getaway,** June 20-22, at Clevelands House Resorts in Muskoka. For info. call: 222-7111 .

THE ADVENTURE NETWORK: Meet new & interesting people Sunday, April 27, at Stoney's Bar, 4846 Yonge St., 1st "Cycle in the City", Sunday, May 4th. **TUCKER TOURS:** 905-707-0147.

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Quebec minister back from Mideast

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Following his return from the Middle East, Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Sylvain Simard said he hopes Quebec can in a modest way contribute to the peace process.

Simard, accompanied by about 20 representatives of various sectors, recently led a whirlwind six-day mission to Israel, the Palestinian areas and Egypt.

In Jerusalem, he and Israeli Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer signed the first bilateral accord between Quebec and Israel agreeing to cooperate in a wide range of scientific, educational and cultural exchanges.

Simard said the entente is aimed at strengthening links between Quebec and Israel, and he hopes to follow up with an economic mission composed of business and government representatives within a few months. The committee charged with implementing the agreement is scheduled to meet in Quebec in September.

Having a Jewish community of 100,000, Simard believes gives Quebec an "enormous advantage" in establishing contacts with Israel."

The agreement outlines cooperation in science and technology, particularly in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, the environment and aeronautics; in higher education, notably making it financially easier for Quebec and Israeli students who want to attend universities or research institutes in either country, by waiving the higher foreign student tuition and creating scholarships, for example; and in culture.

Simard was especially pleased by the positive reception from the Israelis and Palestinians to his idea of some kind of three-way cooperation on the management of the region's scarce water resources.

"By working together on common projects, we will doubtless further rapprochement between our societies. In the present context, it's a modest contribution to the Middle East peace process, but it shows, despite the divergence of view, a real will by each to live in harmony with their neighbors."

Simard has been to Israel before. A few years ago, he was a participant in a Canada-Israel Committee trip, led by Thomas Hecht, for prominent francophone Quebecers. Simard was then president of the Mouvement National des Québécois and a University of Ottawa professor.

In general, Simard found a "cautious optimism" about the peace process among the Israelis, Palestinians and Egyptians whom he met. He perceived "a deep conviction that this process is irreversible and that one day, not long off, I hope, peace will return."

During his two days In Israel, Simard also met with Environment and Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, as well as officials of the ministries of Foreign Affairs and Industry and Commerce.

They placed a wreath at the tomb of Yitzhak Rabin and visited the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial. Simard had breakfast with Canadian Ambassador David Berger and toured the company Jerusalem Software Incubator.

Of personal interest to Simard was a meeting with the Association démocratique des Français d'Israël. Simard noted that 15 to 20 percent of Israelis are French-speaking and he would like to assist an effort to include Israel in La Francophonie, which is one of his ministerial responsibilities.

Simard went on to Ramallah, where he met with Nabil Shaath, the Palestinian minister of Planning and International Cooperation.

In Cairo, Simard signed an agreement for cooperation in such areas as water management, educational reform and public administration, and confirmed plans for an official Egyptian mission to Quebec.

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Police arrest Haredim at Sabbath protest

Demonstrators throw stones, block traffic

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Twenty-four people were arrested and nine police officers were injured last Saturday on Rehov Bar Ilan in Jerusalem, as 5,000 Haredim gathered there in the afternoon and threw stones and empty bottles in another demonstration to press for the closure of the thoroughfare on Shabbat.

Police said 20 of the arrested were suspected of assaulting police officers and trying to close down the road, while the other four were taken in after rolling a garbage can into the middle of the road.

The demonstration followed a weekend of protest, beginning last Friday night, when three nurses who work in an old-age home near Rehov Bar Ilan were assaulted by Haredim and had to be rescued by police.

Police estimated that 1,000 to 1,500 people were involved the usual chanting of "Shabbes, Shabbes" at passing motorists, and an attempt to march in the street to block traffic.

Israeli police restrain demonstrators attempting to close a Bar-Ilan street in Jerusalem after the Israeli High Court ruled that it should remain open on the Sabbath. [Reuter/RNS photo]

Hundreds of police deployed throughout the day, including reinforcements from outside the city, prevented the street's closing. One passing car was stoned, but there was little traffic overall during the day.

The weekend disturbances were in response to the High Court of Justice ruling of the previous week, which said that the plan by Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy to close the street was unworkable as constituted, but the road could be closed if arrangements were made for the secular residents of the area.

While many saw the decision to mean that the street would eventually be closed to traffic, the feeling among Haredim was that the demonstrations should continue until the street is actually closed.

Ornan Yekutieli, Meretz city councilman and leader of the fight for secular rights, called on all secular residents of Jerusalem to ride next Shabbat along Rehov Bar Ilan to strengthen the police and ensure the High Court's decision would be enforced.

Jerusalem police chief Yair Yitzhaki said that more efforts would be made this week to calm tensions over the issue, before the next decision by Levy was issued. Yitzhaki said that if there was a deterioration in the situation, and the demonstrations became more violent, he would not hesitate to use horses and water cannons to keep the situation under control.

Argentina to probe Nazi loot

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUENOS AIRES — Local Jewish leaders are reacting with skepticism to an Argentine government decision to create an independent commission to investigate claims that looted Nazi gold was secretly transferred to the country during and after World War II.

The announcement to form the panel was made last week by Interior Minister Carlos Corach, who said that Argentine President Carlos Menem "will invite relevant figures from Argentina and abroad" to join the commission, which will have a year to deliver its findings.

According to American researchers, Argentine banks figured prominently in a Nazi-sponsored scheme to launder money and smuggle looted gold into Argentina during the war years.

In a recently declassified memo dated April 1945, the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires estimated at the time Nazi assets in the country were worth more than $1 billion (US).

Last year, Argentina's central bank turned over five volumes of financial records to the local office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

But, according to Jewish researchers, that was the last time the government cooperated in their efforts to probe Argentina's wartime past.

Three months ago, Sergio Widder, the Latin American representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, asked that Argentine officials track information about 334 Nazi officials and businessmen who may have transferred Nazi gold to local banks during and after the war.

After placing what he described as "endless calls," Widder was granted an interview with government officials, who gave him a list of the banks operating in Argentina during the 1940s.

In an interview, Widder described this list as "perfectly useless information."

Widder added that he remained skeptical about what the newly formed commission would find.

By contrast, Ruben Beraja, the president of the Argentine Jewish umbrella organization DAIA, voiced his support for the commission.

Beraja said in an interview that he had been invited to join in the commission and that he was "considering the idea."

A source within the Jewish community was as skeptical as Widder, saying that "no miracles should be expected.

"The only way to find the truth is to investigate private banks, and no commission can do that.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Netanyahu, coalition facing new challenges

[Cont'd from page 1]

The allegations, first raised in an Israel Television report, suggested that Deri, a member of Netanyahu's coalition, had pushed for Bar-On's appointment in the hope of getting a plea bargain in his own ongoing corruption trial.

In the aftermath of the decision by the attorney general, questions lingered about the viability of the fragile 9-month-old coalition led by Netanyahu.

The immediate danger facing Netanyahu is possible erosion of support within his cabinet over the Bar-On affair.

Netanyahu admitted in a CNN interview last Sunday that he "could not guarantee" that every one of his ministers would stick with him. However, he declared that the parties comprising the coalition were "solid" and the government would endure.

Two key coalition parties, Yisrael b'Aliyah and the Third Way, were still deciding how to respond to the attorney general's report.

Yisrael b'Aliyah leader Natan Sharansky was burdened by a statement he made when the allegations surrounding the appointment of Bar-On were first aired on Israel television three months ago: "If only 10 percent of them are true — this government must go," he said.

Yehuda Harel, leader of the Third Way, said last Sunday that the attorney general's report was "very far from an exoneration of the prime minister."

If either of these parties decides to bolt from the coalition, the prime minister would be forced to call new elections, both for prime minister and for the Knesset.

Netanyahu could face dissention from yet another coalition partner, the haredi Shas party, which holds 10 Knesset seats. The fact that only Deri is to be indicted in connection with the Bar-On affair was causing enormous resentment in Shas, and party spokespersons called for mass demonstrations.

If, however, these three parties remain in the government, Netanyahu can be confident of weathering the possible defections of one or more of his own Likud party colleagues.

At least two Likud cabinet members, Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Communications Minister Limor Livnat, were assessing their own personal futures early this week. Both have expressed reservations about Netanyahu's style of governance.

In any event, Netanyahu could make a quick cabinet reshuffle, including removing Hanegbi, who was closely associated with Bar-On, and perhaps bring in some new faces. Netanyahu promised to appoint a cabinet committee that would carefully weigh future appointments such as attorney general.

An alternative scenario for the government's future envisions Yisrael b'Aliyah and the Third Way joining forces with the Labor party in a special Knesset vote to remove the prime minister, which requires a majority of 80 out of the 120 parliament members.

In that event, the Knesset would not dissolve and a new election would be held only for prime minister.

What steps might be taken in the Knesset were likely to await High Court of Justice action on petitions by Labor Knesset member Yossi Beilin and Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, who were appealing to the court to overturn the attorney general's decision not to implement the police recommendation to indict the prime minister.

However, most legal experts in Jerusalem agreed with the premier that the chances of the High Court reversing the attorney general's decision are slender at best.

As the domestic political maneuvering continues, Netanyahu can be expected to step up diplomatic moves on the stalled peace process and to seek to enhance the image of business as usual.

"We've got a lot a work ahead of us," he kept telling a CNN interviewer and his tens of millions of viewers, determined to create an image of a back-to-normal administration.

But the prospect of continuing domestic political instability in the weeks ahead does not augur well for efforts to get the Israeli-Palestinian peace process back on track.

With his coalition now shakier than ever, he will be more dependent on its hard-line elements, the National Religious Party and the right wing of Likud.

These elements almost rebelled over the Hebron accord in January and over the scale of Netanyahu's proposal to transfer nine percent of rural West Bank land to the Palestinian Authority in the first of three further redeployments.

OBITUARY

ISIDORE C. (ZEKE) POLLACK, C.M., Q.C.

Isidore C. (Zeke) Pollack, C.M., Q.C., died April 10, 1997 at the age of 83.

Zeke Pollack was born in Quebec City in 1913, son of Maurice and Rifka (Tarantour) and received his B.A. with honours in Economics and Political Science at McGill University and his L.L.L. at Laval University in Quebec City.

Devoted husband to Roselee Hart, formerly of Hartford, Connecticut; beloved father of Adelle-Laudrey (Bryon Rowell) in Florida and Jon Hart (Kimberley Stewart) in Toronto and cherished grandfather of Joshua and Ian. Mr. Pollack will also be dearly missed by his sister Florence Pedvis (Dr. Sydney) in Montreal and brothers Sam in Montreal and Charles (Constance Coane) in Philadelphia.

The career highlights of Mr. Pollack include: partner in law firm "Angers, Caisse and Pollack", Montreal 1938-39; Served in the military, 1939-46; Commander, Royal Canadian Navy, R.C.N.V.R., 1943; Member of the Canadian Naval Mission in London, England, 1945; Joined the Department of External Affairs, Legal Division, 1947; Appointed Secretary General of Canada of the United Nations, 1950. Mr. Pollack resigned from government service in 1951 to become President and Chief Executive Officer of "M. Pollack Ltd." in Quebec; returned to the practice of law as a member of "Létourneau, Stein, Marseille, Larue and Delisle", 1969-77; Chairman of the Ministry of Transport Task Force to develop new "Ports of Policy for Canada", 1976-77; Appointed Counsel of the law firm of "Langlois, Drouin and Associates", 1979.

Mr. Pollack served as Chairman, Canada Employment and Immigration Advisory Council; Director, Trizec Montreal; Director, Hilton International Hotel, Quebec City; Member, le Conseil de l'Université Laval; Member of the Board of Governors, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel. He was one of the founders of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science and was honoured in Montreal by the Weizmann Institute of Science in 1988. Mr. Pollack also served as Vice-President, Quebec Superior Council of Tourism; President, Travel Industry Association of Canada; Chairman, Port Authority; President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Metropolitan Quebec; President, Laval University Foundation.

Mr. Pollack was also active as Director, World Wildlife Fund (Canada), and in the Arts; Trustee, National Gallery of Ottawa; Director, National Youth Orchestra of Canada; Director, National Ballet of Canada; President, Quebec Symphony Orchestra; Counsel to the President of Geoffrion, Leclerc; as well as President, National Design Council (Ottawa).

Among the many award and appointments Mr. Pollack received were: "Médaille des Anciens de l'Université Laval, Gloire d'Escolle", 1974; Appointed a Member of the Order of Canada, 1976; Appointed Queen's Counsel, 1976.

A funeral service was held on Sunday, April 13, 1997 at Temple Israel in West Palm Beach, Florida. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science or the Alzheimer Society of Canada.

Herzog remembered as 'voice of peace'

[Cont'd from page 1]

Limor also recalled a later visit to Auschwitz where Herzog had wept openly.

Herzog's broad interests and multifaceted background were valuable tools in helping him carry out the responsibilities of his office, Limor said. "They enhanced his sensitivity towards other people."

Herzog was the only president, he added, who had had to deal with six governments and four heads of government.

In Toronto, Israel's consulate and national Jewish organizations issued the following statements on news of Herzog's death:

"The Consulate General in Toronto, on behalf of the president and the government of the State of Israel, regrets to announce with deep sorrow, the passing of the sixth president of the State of Israel, Mr. Chaim Herzog.

"A condolence register [was open] in the offices of the Consulate General on Monday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m."

B'nai Brith Canada president Lyle Smordin hailed Herzog as "a scholar, a leader and a voice of peace. Mr. Herzog was part of a very special generation of heroes who devoted their lives to the establishment and sustainment of the State of Israel. May his memory be for a blessing."

In a letter to Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, Canadian Jewish Congress president Goldie Hershon said Herzog was "a great leader, a man of many talents who represented Israel and the Jewish people at home and abroad. He will always be remembered for his eloquence and strong advocacy as Israel's ambassador to the United Nations.

"His life was a panorama of many careers and he left his imprint as a lawyer, politician, military leader, writer and statesman. The Jewish community has lost one of its giants and the void will be felt."

Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, said Herzog "will always be remembered not only as an outstanding statesman but also as a soldier, military strategist, diplomat and author...

"President Herzog's career spanned more than half a century, during which time he helped steer Israel through its periods of crises and participated in its moments of triumph. He will be sorely missed by all those who benefitted from his wisdom and leadership."

At the graveside on Mount Herzl, Herzog was eulogized by Weizman, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Labor leader Shimon Peres, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, his second son, Col. Michael Herzog, and his third son, Isaac Herzog.

All of them listed his many attributes, yet each had something different to say. Weizman spoke of his valuable contribution in building the IDF. As a former intelligence officer in the British army, Herzog had much to give. "The young army needed all his knowledge and experience."

No one personified statesmanship more than Herzog, said Netanyahu, who called him "the beautiful Israeli" and noted that Herzog "always saw himself as the envoy of the nation."

There was no one more suitable than Herzog, Netanyahu emphasized, to stand at the head of the nation's 50th anniversary celebrations, which was why he had appointed him. Even though he will not be there, Netanyahu concluded, "we will continue in his spirit." The first meeting of the 50th anniversary committee had been scheduled for April 17, the day Herzog died.

The Week in Israel

April 14

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may be seeking a compromise on the Har Choma issue. He is suggesting that construction of the first buildings could be delayed until the year 2000, after the scheduled completion of final-status talks with the Palestinians.

• The Israeli restaurateur who employed the suicide bomber who carried out last month's attack at a Tel Aviv cafe was given a five-month suspended jail sentence and fined for employing Palestinians without proper permits.

April 15

• An IDF unit in the southern Lebanon security zone killed three Hezbollah gunmen and wounded several others. No Israeli troops were injured.

April 16

• Israel sealed off the West Bank in response to reports of a possible terrorist attack.

• Israel's chief rabbis and the Ministry of Absorption have agreed that Israelis who are not recognized as Jewish by the Orthodox rabbinate will be buried in separate sections of existing Jewish cemeteries.

April 17

• An inquiry into the Feb.4 helicopter crash that killed 73 Israeli soldiers recommended the dismissal of two officers for alleged negligence that led to the tragedy. The commission did not conclusively determine what caused the two helicopters to collide while they were in a holding pattern over northern Israel.

• Israeli security forces defused a 20-pound bomb found near the home of a Hamas terrorist in the village of Tsurif, near Hebron. The discovery came as Israel continued a total closure on the West Bank.

April 20

• The IDF denied rumors that it launched a commando raid into Iran to rescue missing Israeli airman Ron Arad. Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said he had no idea of the source of the rumors but denied that any rescue attempt had been made. Arad's plane was shot down over Lebanon in 1986.

With files from the JTA.

Israel's religious wars

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Benjamin Netanyahu put it best. "I would say that it's probably easier to make peace with the Palestinians than to resolve this issue satisfactorily," he said, referring to a controversial bill before the Knesset that would invalidate conversions to Judaism performed by non-Orthodox rabbis in Israel.

Even if Netanyahu's statement is dismissed as hyperbole, the fact of the matter is that religious issues are creating deep fissures and a troubling sense of disunity in Israeli society, at a time when peace negotiations with the Palestinians are in a real state of crisis.

These divisions have widened the gap between secular and Orthodox Jews, thereby raising tensions to an uncomfortable level. Recent surveys confirm this. Nearly 50 percent of non-observant Israeli Jews have negative feelings about their religious counterparts, while 35 percent of Israelis predict that a civil war, a *kulturkampf*, will eventually convulse the country.

In a related development which hardly bodes well for the political and psychological health of the nation, there has been an upsurge of mutual animosity between the national religious camp, which opposes the Oslo peace process, and the secular liberal/moderate camp, which wants it to succeed.

The conversion bill, which has passed the first of three readings, is a flashpoint in the continuing battle for Israel's soul and character.

In a week when Reform and Conservative rabbis were warning Netanyahu that passage of the conversion bill would be "a tragedy" for Israel and the Diaspora, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that Bar-Ilan Street — a thoroughfare in Jerusalem which cuts through a haredi neighborhood — should remain open on the Sabbath until the government can resolve the question.

Politics exacerbates the Bar-Ilan dispute. The three religious parties in Netanyahu's shaky coalition, which hold a total of 23 Knesset seats, were promised that Bar-Ilan Street would be closed. If it is not, they can theoretically bring down his government, which was buffeted last week by the burgeoning Bar-On influence peddling scandal.

Due to Israel's electoral system, every prime minister since 1948 has been more or less beholden to the religious bloc. David Ben-Gurion, the first premier, granted the Orthodox rabbinate a wide range of powers in matters such as marriage and conversion. In exchange, the religious parties of the day agreed to support his government.

Popularly known as the status quo, this arrangement has never functioned smoothly. The vast majority of Israeli Jews do not subscribe to Orthodox strictures and, therefore, resent efforts to force their values on them.

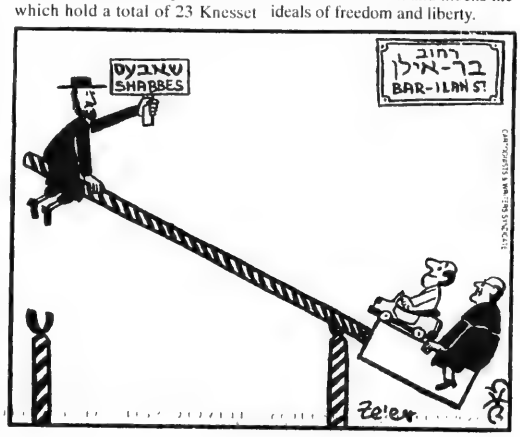
The *datim*, in turn, have worked assiduously to expand the boundaries of the status quo, having imposed a ban on El Al Sabbath flights and on the sale of pork. In addition, they have railed against autopsies and launched campaigns to stop archeological digs and the opening of movie theatres on the Sabbath.

With masses of Soviet immigrants pouring into Israel from the late 1980s onward, the religious parties seized on the "Who is a Jew" issue, further roiling the waters.

But for all the influence they have exerted, the *datim* have not had the field to themselves. Responding to cases filed by secular Jews in recent years, the Supreme Court issued a series of historic decisions which liberalized the status quo. This prompted the Orthodox lobby to push for more restrictive rules governing Sabbath closings and conversions.

The current struggle over the interpretation of the status quo revolves around the pending conversion bill, which, if passed, would most affect olim from the former Soviet Union.

Netanyahu claims that the proposed legislation would merely formalize the status quo, but opponents disagree, calling it an example of religious coercion which distorts the essence of Judaism and mocks the ideals of freedom and liberty.



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Israel & the Jewish World

Helicopter crash inquiry urges disciplinary action

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A commission of inquiry into the Feb. 4 helicopter crash that killed 73 Israeli soldiers has recommended the dismissal of two officers and reprimands against two others for alleged negligence that led to what was Israel's worst air disaster.

The commission did not conclusively determine what caused the two helicopters to collide while they were flying over northern Israel awaiting permission to enter southern Lebanon.

"Unfortunately, the truth was taken by the victims of the crash to their graves," said David Ivry, a former air force commander who headed the commission.

The commission submitted its findings last week to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who said he would adopt all the recommendations.

The commission determined that both pilots were in good health and were not suffering from any condition that could impair their ability to fly their aircraft.

The panel also said that it did not appear that an external technical problem, such as an onboard explosion or the use of a cellular phone, had disrupted the helicopters' flights.

The commission found serious flaws in air force procedures, including a lack of coordination between flights. These formed the basis for the disciplinary measures, but the commission did not link them directly to the cause of the crash.

The commission recommended that the commander of the Tel Nof air base, where the helicopters were stationed, be reprimanded by the Israel Defence Force chief of staff.

The squadron commander was dismissed, and barred from taking any future command positions in the air force, for telling the commission that there was no need for the two helicopters to have flown in formation, and for his disclosure that there were separate procedures between the two helicopters regarding turning off lights before crossing the border.

The commission recommended a reprimand for the deputy commander of the squadron who briefed the two pilots before their mission.

And it recommended that a ground forces officer in charge of the Machanayim air base, from which the helicopters took off, be dismissed and barred from serving in any command positions for three years.

Despite efforts to piece together the events preceding the crash, including a high-tech simulation conducted with the aid of NASA scientists, members of the commission said they could not conclusively determine what caused the helicopters' fiery collision.

It was known that the two helicopters, which were flying troops to positions in southern Lebanon, had entered a holding pattern on the Israeli side of the border before receiving permission to cross into Lebanon.

One of the helicopters had turned off its lights, as is procedure before crossing.

The second helicopter struck the first. Both went down over the northern Israeli agricultural community of Sha'ar Yishuv.

No one on the ground was hurt, but there were no survivors from the two helicopters.

In order to prevent future accidents, the commission recommended that the number of flights per pilot be reduced; that all helicopters be equipped with "black boxes" to record cockpit data and conversations; that clear procedures be established regarding the turning off of lights when crossing borders; that a lead helicopter be established when two fly together; that squadrons operate under the same procedures; and that helicopters fly alone during any night flights into southern Lebanon.

The parents of one of the soldier's killed in the crash, Yoram and Lior Alper, called on Air Force commander Maj. Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu to resign.

The Alpers accused Ben-Eliahu of running a public relations campaign to cover up his personal responsibility for the matter.

"The question is, 'Where was the air force commander during all this?'" said Lior Alper.

"It's too bad we had to lose our son to reach the conclusion that the air force did not function as it should have," she said.

Fatal school trip broke Education Ministry policy

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – A committee investigating last month's shooting deaths of seven Israeli schoolgirls by a Jordanian soldier has recommended that the head of the Education Ministry's security division be dismissed.

A Jordanian soldier opened fire March 13 on a group of Beit Shemesh students on a field trip to a border site, Naharayim, called "The Island of Peace."

The island was transferred to Jordan under the 1994 peace treaty, but the area, a popular tourist destination, is farmed by Israelis.

The committee, headed by Reserve Brig. Gen. Yigal Pressler, concluded that the Education Ministry's top security official had failed in carrying out his duties.

Pressler, a former anti-terror adviser to the prime minister, said that while thousands of students had visited Naharayim since Israel and Jordan signed the peace treaty, Education Ministry policy barred school trips there.

The committee said that the head of the ministry's security division, Shlomo Tzudkavitz, should have implemented that policy.

The committee further recommended an administrative reprimand to Moshe Yablovitz, the principal of the Beit Shemesh school.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer said he would adopt the recommendations of the committee.

Contest to mark Zionism's 100th

RAMAT GAN, ISRAEL — Bar-Ilan University and the Israeli Ministry of Education have launched an international study competition on Jewish identity for students in Israel and the Diaspora to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress.

The competition will cover topics such as Jewish identity and holidays, Jewish brotherhood and historical themes related to "100 years of Zionism." It is open to Jewish youth aged 11-16 from Israel and the Diaspora. Bar-Ilan University and the education Ministry are providing study material on which contenders will be tested in their individual schools.

On Jerusalem Day in May, participating countries will hold national competitions featuring winning representatives from each of its schools. Israeli Minister of education, Zevulun Hammer, and Bar- Ilan University president, Prof. Moshe Kaveh, will host the international finals on June 24, in Basel, Switzerland. Participants in the Basel finals will travel to Israel for an educational seminar at the university during the last week of June. The three top winners will receive a scholarship for a first year study at Bar-Ilan University. Runners-up will receive selected books.

Principals and teachers who wish to receive additional information and/or register their schools may contact: Israel Ministry of Education, Tel: 972-3-693-5063 or 972-3-693-5064, Fax: 972-3-693-5076.

Educator discusses seders

NEW YORK — The seder is a paradigm of modern educational thinking, according to Carol Ingall, assistant professor of Jewish education at the William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

The hot new premises in general education, she says, are that communal learning is the most effective form of learning; that learners learn by doing; that curiosity leads to questions, and questions lead to learning; that the best teaching appeals to diverse learning styles and that educational experiences are heightened when learners wrestle with the question "What does it mean to me?"

All these aspects are present in the seder, says Ingall. Both today's teaching theories and the seder create learning environments that appeal to all the senses. Both rely on the use of questions to build on the learner's natural curiosity. They both lead learners from the concrete to the abstract, from a reflection of the here and now to glimpses of the past and future. They are inherently social, echoing the long-established rabbinic belief that the best learning takes place within a community.

"The seder is a family ceremony that blends provocative ritual, unusual foods, age-old questions and answers tailor-made for different learning styles to involve its participants in a colossal narrative of rescue and redemption.

"Its genius is while the rites, the questions and the story never change, each individual in each generation is swept up in this epic theatre, constructing his or her own meaning. In each generation, every individual should feel as though he or she had actually been redeemed from Egypt – progressive education at its finest," Ingall asserts.

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Stress seen as inevitable part of human condition

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Stress is not necessarily a negative experience but an inevitable part of the human condition, a packed auditorium at Mount Sinai Hospital Women's Auxiliary's recent annual health education lecture was told.

Dr. Allan Peterkin, a psychiatrist at the hospital's Department of Psychiatry and Family and Community Medicine, defined it as "a physiological and emotional response to change. By nature it is neutral," either positive, such as the birth of a child, or negative, such as a job loss or a death.

Its effect, he said, is "mediated by personality, coping skills and the amount of support one has."

Flexibility, a sense of humor, optimism, and the ability to actively seek a balance between work and the home and between the physical and the spiritual all help give a person a feeling of control over a situation, he said.

Holocaust survivors, for instance, Peterkin said, differed in how they handled their experiences. "While they all experienced the horrors, some felt some sense of control, at least for one day at a time, while others gave up. It proves that you matter in a situation."

When a person reaches the point at which coping strategies don't work ("that might be when illness comes on top of other stresses"), burnout occurs.

"Burnout is the unsuccessful response to repeated stress, characterized by emotional exhaustion, and despair," Peterkin said.

Symptoms of burnout include fatigue, frequent illness, lack of concentration, fluctuating weight and carelessness, he said. People might miss work or school, become addicted to such substances as caffeine, alcohol or tranquilizers, have mood swings and show less creativity and initiative and more irritability.

This can be seen in hospitals and organizations in the current climate of uncertainty, he said, where one finds hostility, extreme competitiveness and a lack of trust.

People know when they are not coping well, Peterkin said, and need to seek help from, for instance, a counsellor, or holistic therapies.

He offered these "rules for coping: "Don't sweat the small stuff, it's all small stuff and if you can't fight, flee — it may not be worth fighting for."

Kailee Kline, founder and president of Health Winds, a health and wellness spa, noted that since the advent of e-mail and voice mail, "there is no point at which we are not accessible or available."

This is an especially bad time for women, she said, who operate on the new philosophy of "eat on the run, drink when you are parched, and sleep when you drop."

She said, "We have to recognize that we are a complete package – the body, the mind, creative capacity, emotions and spirituality," and one must learn to listen to all those aspects, understand how they work and develop new skills to deal with assaults on them.

Exercise is very useful, Kline said, it "alters hormones, lowers blood pressure and relaxes the nervous system."

Toronto Sun columnist Linda Barnard, noting that "laughter has undeniable stress reduction properties," treated the audience to a series of hilarious anecdotes about the stresses of journalism.

Educating teens on safe sex

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Educating teenagers about safe sex is a life-saving measure, says one of Canada's foremost journalists and social activists.

Noting that women are more vulnerable to AIDS than men, June Callwood suggested that condom-dispensing machines be placed in the girls' washrooms in high schools to help young women protect themselves.

"You're not encouraging sex," she said. "You're saying, 'Do not die, my child.'"

Callwood, founder of Casey House, an AIDS hospice, was one of five guests speakers at an AIDS awareness evening held recently at the Beth Tikvah Synagogue. The other speakers were: Rabbi Philip Sheim of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation; Louise Binder, an AIDS activist and lawyer; Jim Donovan, a nurse at Casey House Hospice; and Edwin Scherer, a volunteer with AIDS patients.

Callwood said Casey House was established nine years ago to give people with AIDS a comfortable place to be treated because they were isolated in hospitals when the disease first manifested itself in the early '80s.

Hospital staff tended to be abusive and insensitive to AIDS patients out of ignorance, she said.

She told of an incident where a clergy member summoned by a hospital to administer last rites to an AIDS patient came wearing gloves, a gown, a mask and heavy boots because he thought he could be infected.

She described Casey House as a place that offers affection and mutual support. "People get great satisfaction from making our residents comfortable."

Binder also stressed the importance of safe sex, using her own situation as an example: she unknowingly contracted AIDS from her second husband.

"Everybody can get AIDS. It doesn't matter what your sexual orientation is," she warned. "Everybody has had a life before. We don't know everything about people."

In the four years since she was diagnosed with HIV, her illness has always been at the forefront of her thoughts, she said. "I never stop thinking about it for one moment, even when I sleep."

Chair of the Voice of Positive Women and a volunteer at the HIV legal clinic, Binder has become a leading AIDS activist. She expressed disappointment with the Chrétien government for "doing absolutely nothing to the fight against this disease."

Asked about the Toronto Jewish community's response to people with AIDS, Binder said she has found the Reform synagogues very helpful and sympathetic, but there has been far less support from the Conservative and Orthodox congregations.

Rabbi Sheim said in keeping with the teachings in the Talmud, it is incumbent upon all Jews, regardless of their affiliation, to be supportive of people afflicted with AIDS.

"We have to welcome these people who suffer and make them part of the synagogue... We have to be there for those who need us."

Scherer, a youth counsellor who has been volunteering with AIDS patients since 1983, said he has learned to deal with multiple losses in this work, which can be very stressful, but he also derives tremendous gratification from the intimate and intense relationships he forms with people in the terminal phase of the illness.

Baycrest awarded full accreditation

TORONTO — Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has been awarded full accreditation status from the Canadian Council of Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA) for consistent delivery of excellent care to older adults and their families.

The CCHSA is a non-profit national organization that sets standards for health-care facilities across the country and regularly evaluates their compliance.

A team from CCHSA visited Baycrest in December for four days of interviews with staff and clients to evaluate the quality of care and services.

In summarizing Baycrest's achievements, the council stated: "Baycrest truly is a forward thinking organization, with a strong emphasis on such areas as education, research, advanced technology.... This emphasis, as well as establishing new and existing health care programs through creative linkages and partnerships, has allowed the organization to maintain its leadership role as a centre of excellence in geriatric health care."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Film recounts 1947 voyage of the Exodus

Sheldon Kirshner reviews three films to be shown at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, running from May 1-8 at the Bloor Cinema.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Forget Otto Preminger's 1960 melodrama *Exodus* when the documentary *Exodus 1947* (May 5) lights up the screen.

Preminger's unwieldy three-hour epic purportedly told the story of a refugee ship which caused an international sensation and, metaphorically, helped launch a nation. In fact, though, *Exodus* was an uneasy amalgam of fact and fiction.

Exodus 1947, by contrast, comes much closer to the truth, and is no less dramatic. This 60-minute film, directed by Elizabeth Rodgers and Robby Henson, is based on archival and newsreel footage and interviews with protagonists from both sides of the divide.

In 1947, Palestine — a British mandate — was seething with turmoil. Fighting, pitting Jews against Arabs, had broken out, and a fullscale Arab invasion was a year away.

Britain, exhausted by World War II, found itself in the middle of the strife. But, in keeping with its 1939 White Paper, Britain imposed a naval blockade on Palestine in order to limit the number of Jewish refugees, mainly Holocaust survivors, streaming into the country.

The provisional Jewish government would have no truck with Britain's policy and responded with the Aliyah Bet campaign, the purpose of which was to bring 120,000 illegal immigrants to Palestine by sea. The Exodus 1947, originally known as the President Warfield, was one of 64 Haganah-chartered ships which tried to break the blockade. With 5,554 passengers, it was also the largest.

Exodus 1947 fills in the historical background, weaving a fascinating tale about the famous ship's origins, the motivations of its American crew, its perilous voyage and its significance to Israel's birth.

The President Warfield was a U.S. luxury liner, plying the route from Baltimore to Norfolk in Chesapeake Bay. It participated in the 1944 Normandy invasion, was bought by the Haganah for $40,000 and was subsequently refitted with funds raised by the American Jewish community.

Primarily Jews with little seafaring experience, the crew members were drawn to the mission by idealism, adventure, Zionism and a revulsion to the Holocaust. All were sworn in as Haganah recruits.

Registered as a Honduran vessel, and supposedly bound for Hong Kong, the President Warfield set out from Baltimore in February 1947, but a storm forced it back to port. Steaming out again, it made for the Azores and then Marseilles to take on passengers.

On July 17, the ship, having been renamed Exodus 1947, raised the Magen David and charted a course for Palestine, intending to offload its passengers on a beach at Bat Yam.

Twenty five miles off the coast of Gaza, the Exodus 1947 ran into a flotilla of British ships. Refusing to stop, the Exodus 1947 was rammed, then boarded by sailors and marines. "We gave them a hell of a fight," recalls a crew member. In the scuffle, three persons were killed and 146 injured.

Being no match for the British, the Exodus 1947 surrendered. In Haifa, the refugees and crew were forced into three prison ships heading for France. The refugees refused to disembark, whereupon the British, in a disastrous fit of petulance, sent them to Germany, of all places.

As a result of this incident, world opinion turned against Britain. Several months later, the United Nations passed a resolution partitioning Palestine, a decision which paved the way for the establishment of Israel.

The filmmakers exaggerate the Exodus 1947's role in Israel's creation, but there is no doubt that the ship — which caught fire and sank in Haifa in 1952 — stirred sympathy for the Zionist cause.

**

The Italians are Coming (May 1 and May 2) is a bitter-sweet confection from Israel which unfolds in Hebrew, English and Italian.

The 90-minute film basically turns on the friendship between an idealistic Italian water polo coach and his former Israeli Olympic rival. The relationship momentarily sours when a beautiful woman enters the scene.

Luigi (Franco Nero), the Italian, brings his team to a kibbutz for training. His host is Amos (Asher Tsarfati), whose water polo team is on a losing streak and in dire danger of being disbanded by a kibbutz on the cusp of bankruptcy.

Luigi's rosy visions of the kibbutz do not correspond with reality, and his players are none too satisfied with the boarding arrangements or the food.

Worse still, Luigi alienates Amos when he and Daria (Yona Eilan-Keshet), Amos' ex-flame and the manager of the shoe factory, develop more than just a passing acquaintanship.

The Italians are Coming has its moments, and its subtle, sometimes sardonic portrayal of the changing nature of kibbutz life is instructive. But there is almost no chemistry between Nero and Eilan-Keshet, even though both are physically attractive, and director Eyal Halfon has something to learn about pacing.

Be that as it may, *The Italians are Coming* is relatively compelling.

***

As Tears Go By (May 4 and May 8), written and directed by Eitan Green, is one of the weakest Israeli films I have seen in a long while.

The plot revolves around Ya'acov (Arie Moskona), a hard-driving Tel Aviv businessman, and his son Yitzhak (Avi Graynik), a nervous wreck who still hasn't passed his driving test after eight desperate attempts.

Green throws two heart attacks and a couple of romantic liaisons into the mix, but it doesn't jell.

On the positive side, the down-to-earth Israeli characters who parade through the movie are quite appealing, and the musical score is gently uplifting.

Yet *As Tears Go By* rarely rises above the mediocre level to which it is condemned. A pity.

Yiddish Players create a veritable laugh riot

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two miserably ill patients who argue over who has helped most to make their doctor a rich man are upstaged by the doctor's mother who set him up in practice.

Sounds simple enough. But when you put this skit in the hands of the Yiddish Players — Gloria Valentine, Michael Lebovic and Allen Farkas — you have a laugh riot on your hands.

Lebovic, with his guttural expressions of outrage (always heightened in Yiddish), and Farkas, with his wimpish innocence, are great foils for Valentine's singing and dancing.

These premier exponents of Yiddish humor got a rousing reception recently at the Yiddishland Cafe at the Workmen's Circle, which is supported by the Jewish continuity committee of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

Lebovic and Farkas were at their best in the skit where the father of the bride (Lebovic) tells his suspicious mechutin that they will both make money from the simchah — the guests will have to pay for their dinner. These two artists have rescued the art of Yiddish comedy from oblivion. They make you laugh until your sides ache.

They inexplicably did the famous "Einstein and Weinstein" skit by Dzigan and Schumacher in English, and it wasn't nearly as funny as when they do it in Yiddish.

Valentine's strength is in the singing and dancing numbers with the other two as in *Abi gezunt* and *Hopkele*.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TORONTO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL PREVIEWS

Because Eliyah, the ancient Israeli prophet who, the Bible ascended to heaven in a fiery chariot, is regarded as a healer, a seat ("Elijah's Chair") is traditionally set aside for him at circumcision.

In Jewish folktales and mysticism, Elijah's timely appearance as a poor man or beggar can restore the health or save the life of a pious Jew. At Passover seders, we customarily pour a cup of wine for him, even open our door in the hope that he will enter. For Jews, Elijah is perceived as a forerunner of the Messiah and the coming redemption.

In *Tkies Kaf* (*The Vow*), the 1937 Yiddish film, Elijah is a traveller in disguise who witnesses two yeshivah students make a pledge to unite their unborn children in marriage. Twenty years later, when it looks like the sacred oath might be broken, Elijah intervenes to ensure that the two fated lovers are wed, and plays a sort of mystical Jewish cupid to enhance his usual role as protector of the poor.

A remake of a 1924 silent Yiddish classic, *The Vow* was filmed in Poland in 1937, and follows the earlier version quite closely. Elijah is played by **Zygmund Turkow**, part of a renowned family of Yiddish actors; Turkow appeared in the earlier version, even directed it when the hired director failed to show.

Regarded as "an underrated gem," *The Vow* has an added significance, for it prefigured a plot device used in *The Dybbuk*, the classic Yiddish film made immediately afterwards. Both stories give new meaning to the Yiddish term beshert.

The 90-minute film is being screened on May 4 at 5:30 p.m. along with two very short films, *Sabbath In Amsterdam* and *Onions and Garlic*.

The Return Of Sarah's Daughters, showing May 8 at 7 p.m., is a likable and intriguing 56-minute documentary comparing the lives of three women who are trying to find their places within Judaism. The trio consists of **Marcia Jarmel**, the American filmmaker, who had a secular Jewish upbringing and now seeks something deeper; **Ruth**, who took the plunge into Orthodox Judaism and never looked back; and **Myriam**, a lesbian who wants to find a place within the Jewish world but finds it unable to accommodate her as she is.

Ruth's tale of how she "came home" to Judaism seems to be the deeply satisfying centre of this film, while both Myriam and Marcia seem to fly like moths around the enticing flame of Torah, never quite finding a home. We don't see enough of Marcia in the film but we are compensated by her scheduled attendance at this world premiere.

The 47-minute documentary *Nothing To Be Written Here* (May 7, 7:30 p.m.) ostensibly focuses on the experiences of several thousand Jewish emigres in Britain during the war, who, though innocent of any espionage, were shipped to detention camps in New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and other places throughout the Commonwealth. Vancouver director **Wendy Oberlander** made the film last year after gradually discovering that her own father, an Austrian-born Jew, had been sent to Canada as an interned enemy alien.

For better or for worse, Oberlander flirts with the traditional objective orientation of the documentary format to present an artful subjective rendering of her pain around her father's long silence about his past. Still, the film manages to convey some essential details of this little-known chapter of Canada's wartime activities. Oberlander is scheduled to attend this Toronto premiere.

The new American-made film *Grandpa's Funeral* (May 8, 5:30 p.m.) is a 30-minute take on a Jewish funeral, turning a sombre event into biting, ironic comedy. It's being shown with another U.S.-made short, *The Party Favor*.

For a more traditional view of death, see *Off The Wall*, **Harvey Ovshinksky's** 23-minute homage to his friend, Michigan artist and sculptor **Arthur Schneider**. In this loving portrait, Schneider speaks openly about his Judaism, his art, and the cancer that eventually claims him. *Off The Wall* follows the 56-minute Israel-Czech film *Black And White Is Full of Colours*, scheduled for May 7, 5:30 p.m.

These are only a few of many screenings. All films are being shown May 1 to 8 at the Bloor Street Cinema, east of Bathurst. For tickets, call the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, 416-324-8226.

'Sex in Yiddish' to make debut

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Comedian Michael Wex will introduce his new show, Sex in Yiddish, at Ashketanz, a cabaret evening designed to offer a taste of the talent and diversity of Ashkenaz 1997.

Sex in Yiddish is made up of monologues with music. In addition to excerpts from this work, Ashketanz features comedienne Deb Filler, singer/actress Beth Anne Cole and The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band. The show is on April 26, at 8 p.m. at the Bloor JCC. The Ashkenaz festival takes place this year at Harbourfront Centre, from Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

Born in Lethbridge, Alta., to an Orthodox family, Wex, 42, writes scorching satire about Jewish life, which he often performs in Germany. With a PhD in Yiddish and yeshivah training, he writes about sex, drugs and rock'n roll — Jewish style.

Highly entertaining, his works are founded on a strong knowledge of Judaism and a sharp ear for language. Wex's writing is meant to be performed and he considers himself a raconteur in the tradition of Mark Twain or Charles Dickens, who exposed the foibles of their time and place in the common vernacular.

"One of the things I'm trying to do is capture a tone of voice, a particular way of speaking English that is being lost...a certain type of *shrei mit kvetch*," Wex says.

The statement is not entirely a joke, because if you listen carefully to Wex's tales, you realize that the *shrei mit kvetching* is not just about laughs, but about the Jew's eternal dialogue with God. Just as God will not leave us alone, so we do not let God be either. The discussion, à la Wex, is not quiet or polite either (after all Jews are involved), but passionate, bawdy and styled after the intellectual games that Talmud scholars play.

"People ask me, 'Why can't you write nice books like Chaim Potok?'" says Wex. "But look at a standard Potok book. The plot is, boy starts out religious but ends up not religious. The plot of mine is, boy starts out religious, *kvetches* for about 200 pages and stays religious."

Michael Wex

Thus Wex concedes that the tenets of Judaism are central to his writing. But you leave a show laughing.

Linked with the revival of Yiddish art and culture, Wex has been affiliated with Klezmer music for

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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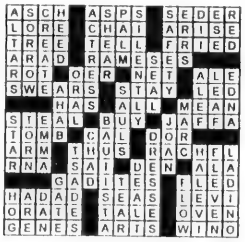

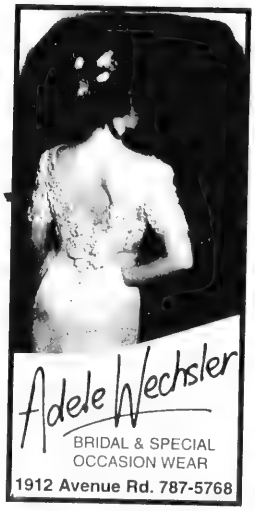
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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

IN JERUSALEM, THREE SMALL MUSEUMS

Rabbi Abraham Mordechai Weingarten, whose family was descended from the first Ashkenazi aliyah in 1812, lived in a house on Or Ha-Chaim Street in the Old City of Jerusalem that had been the centre of social and spiritual life for the city's Jewish community for many generations.

Thus, it seemed appropriate that he be given a special honor that fateful spring day in 1948 when, amidst the incongruous swirl of bagpipes, the last column of British soldiers marched out of the city after an occupation of more than three decades.

As the soldiers departed, a few made a detour up the cobblestone alley to Rabbi Weingarten's house, where the rabbi was absorbed in sacred texts.

Responding to a knock, Rabbi Weingarten opened the door to find a British major standing there, offering him a foot-long iron rod — the antiquated key to the nearby Zion Gate, one of Jerusalem's seven main gates.

"From the year 70 AD until today," said the British major, "a key to the gates of Jerusalem has never been in Jewish hands. This is the first time in 18 centuries that your people have been so privileged."

When the elderly rabbi came to himself, he recited a prayer of thanks. Then he took the object, saying, "I accept this key in the name of my people."

Alas, Rabbi Weingarten and his family were soon forced to abandon their ancestral home when the Old City fell during the War of Independence. With the reunification of Jerusalem in the Six Day War of 1967, the house was returned to family members, who reconstructed and converted it into a museum to preserve the memory of the Old Yishuv or community.

Today the Old Yishuv Court Museum reflects the life of the Ashkenazi and Sephardi branches of the Jewish community from roughly 1850 to the end of the Ottoman era in 1917, showing living arrangements, household artifacts, a typical courtyard of the era and two historic synagogues.

Kabbalist

Built in the 15th century, the house had a rich history long before the Weingartens arrived. According to legend, the great kabbalist Rabbi Itzak ben Shlomo Luria Ashkenazi (known as Ari) was born in one of the ground-floor rooms in 1534.

A short walk from this house brings one to the charred remains of another destroyed and reconstructed Jewish home — the so-called Burnt House, torched by the Romans when they conquered Jerusalem in 70 CE. Carbon-14 dating shows that the house, once part of Herod's Upper City, was burned down precisely two weeks after the Second Temple was destroyed.

Today the new building is a museum showing a video and artifacts of the period.

When Israel recaptured the Old City of Jerusalem from Jordan in 1967, they found many centuries-old historic synagogues and other buildings of the Jewish provenance very badly damaged. The consolation was that, in some places, Israeli archeologists were able to dig down to an even earlier era of Jewish history, dating from Herodian times.

The Wohl Archaeological Museum shows off parts of the former wealthy Jewish neighborhood in Herod's Upper City, most excavated in the early 1970s. One descends, level by level, into this underground museum, examining frescoes, stucco reliefs and restored mosaics that indicate the strong Roman influence on Jewish life here 1,900 years ago.

As I toured the Wohl Museum, I encountered a group of Chicago-area Jews traveling on a UJA mission who cheerfully identified themselves as being from a "post-denominational synagogue," which seemed an appropriate response to the dilemma of Jewish factionalism. However, as many Israelis lament, not enough North American Jews visit their country when the political waters get a bit choppy.

Rafael Kadosh, the owner of Rafael's Gallery, an art and jewelry shop inside the Wohl Museum, likes to offer customers a complimentary coffee or Coke — along with a free opinion or two. 'Why is it that whenever there's a problem in Israel, the first to cancel are the Jews from America?" he recently asked this visiting journalist.

"The Germans keep coming, the French keep coming, the Christians keep coming. Only the Jews from America stop coming. Whenever there's a problem, they say, 'Okay, let's go next summer.' Instead, they should be saying, 'Let's go to Israel now and show our support.'"

Bill Gladstone recently travelled to Jordan and Israel at the invitation of the tourism ministries of both countries. He flew Toronto to Amman via Royal Jordanian and returned from Tel Aviv via Air Canada.

School boys in the Jewish Quarter. [Bill Gladstone photo]

CORRECTION

Cantor Yaakov Motzen, who appeared at the recent Mizrachi annual concert, has for the past several years been cantor of Adath Israel-Paole Zedek Congregation in Montreal.

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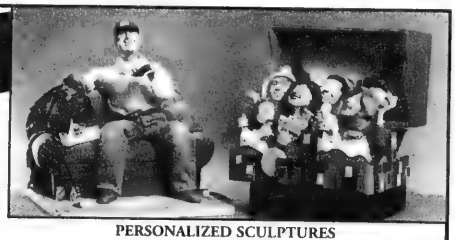
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Travel, Arts & Business

Entrepreneur at the controls of call processing company

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

Peter Shurman gets ready for takeoff.

TORONTO — As Peter Shurman sits on the northwest runway at Buttonville Airport near Toronto, he is relying on about 35 metres, gauges, clocks, dials, measuring instruments and indicators that will tell him whether he's on track for a perfect takeoff. Once airborne, Shurman can see the heart of Toronto and the edge of the United States border.

Back in downtown Toronto, Shurman is at the controls of Universal TeleResponse (UTR) a Call Centre currently getting up to speed with the technology in telephone call answering and processing. As chief executive officer, Shurman is dependent on the technology that surrounds him. He must get it working and then promote the benefits to new and existing clients as the best choice for their customer service and sales applications. Each takeoff from Buttonville is a reminder of the challenge ahead.

The past six months have been some of the most dramatic in UTR's short history. A short but complicated move saw the company change locations. The facility has grown from 3,100 square feet to 6,000.

The other major development was the acquisition of the new equipment. With the new Infinity ESBX, Shurman is betting $200,000 that UTR can meet the increasing demands by North American companies for sophisticated and quality driven call processing.

UTR services what industry-watchers refer to as the middle of the road market of Call Centre providers. UTR is steps above the typical answering service yet at the same time, UTR is not positioned to handle the hundreds of thousands of calls generated by some direct response marketing campaigns. Currently UTR has 30 in-house agents that handle about 12,000 calls per day providing services such as order taking, pager dispatch and message taking.

"We don't aspire to be the biggest. We have to be the best. It's about technology," says Shurman.

The modern Call Centre is providing thousands of companies with the marketing, sales and customer support necessary to stay ahead in the competitive 1990s. Processing inbound telephone inquiries and making outboard plain sales and customer service calls, Call Centres are used for sales order taking, appointment setting, lead generation, technical support for consumer products, computers and software, financial transactions such as telebanking and booking of theatre and airline tickets.

The "call traffic" into Call Centres is usually generated by toll free numbers appearing on television, on instruction manuals, in catalogues, on radio, newspapers and other print media and mailers.

Seven years ago Shurman became a partner in a five-person messaging service called The Receptionist. Working with partner Brenda Preston, the company now has 55 full- and part-time staff and has grown 600 percent. Before that, for 21 years, Shurman was president of Standard Broadcasting. That is where he learned the balancing act between technology and human resources.

With advertisements in *Direct Marketing News*, the *AT&T Yellow Pages* and a new web site, Shurman is counting on new business from the United States to increase the operation to 55 stations within the next year and increase sales by 35 percent. He's looking to get as close as possible to filling his capacity of monthly inbound call handling. The web site is visited by approximately 24 companies or individuals per day.

As with any growing business, the typical owner-operator must face challenges everyday. "It's a tough, tough business. I have sleepless nights," says Shurman. But he adds,"No risk. No reward."

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'Sex in Yiddish' to make debut

[Cont'd from page 31]

for many years. He performed in The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band's album, *Agada*, and on the Klezmatics' newest release.

Like today's Klezmer music, Wex views his writing as a progression in style and content of the old Ashkenazi traditions, which can now flourish, because "it's no longer an embarrassment to sound like our bubbies and zaydes, nor is it politically unsafe."

Don't get him wrong, though, Wex says that buying bagels and dancing in circles has nothing to do with the continuation of Jewish culture. What he does is just entertainment. "You want to preserve Jewish culture, go to shul, send your kids to Hebrew school," he says.

Wex established his reputation as a performer by doing adaptations of his novel *Shlepping the Exile* and stand up routines about Yiddish. *God In Paris*, his play about a loose-living Yiddish poet, which blatantly describes the horrors of fascism and anti-Semitism. has been well-received in Canada and Germany.

Construction firm one of many seeking to gain from free trade

TORONTO — A Canadian road construction company has been shortlisted by Israeli contractors to begin work on building the Cross Israel Highway, running north to south through Israel.

Mississauga, Ont.-based Canadian Highways International Corporation (CHIC) has bid on the deal to construct the first 70 kilometres, as part of an International consortium. Four other consortiums are in the running for the contract.

CHIC is one of many Canadian businesses identified at a recent UJA Federation forum sponsored by Baker & McKenzie and Bank Hapoalim the Israel-Canada Free Trade Agreement.

International Trade Minister Art Eggleton, Israeli Trade Commissioner and Economic Consul Yael Varasano-Barzilay and Lawrence Davis, vice-president Corporate Finance Group at Price Waterhouse highlighted sectors of opportunity in Israel for Canadian companies at the forum.

Other companies seeking to gain from the trade agreement include Bombardier Inc. and software company Icon.

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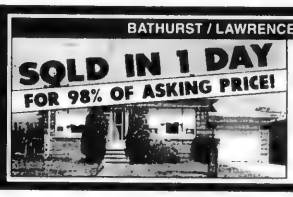

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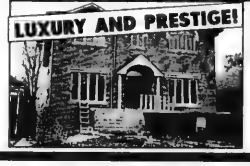

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• • •

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3 bdrms., 2-storey, 3 bths., huge liv. & din., up-to-date kit., w/out to deck, fin. bsmnt., 50'x165' lot, move-in cond., steps to all.

• • •

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON

3 bdrms., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., all good size rms., dble drive, gar.

• • •

BATHURST/WILSON - $129,900

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• • •

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

CASA LOMA ELEGANCE $949,000
Fabulous 5000 sq. ft. custom. Richard Pizale* 488-2875

1ST AD - LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR $859K
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NEW HOME IN HEART OF ROSEDALE
Roxborough east! Construction beginning. Janice Fox** 488-2875

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Bright & spacious 5 bdrm SOLD mp. R. Fitzerman*/I. Hemmerich* 226-1987

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CEDARVALE
4 bdrm., 3 bath, 41'x110', large prin. rms., nr. temple. Susan Smith* 488-2875

NEW LISTING – FABULOUS STARTER HOME!
3 + 1 bdrms., 3 baths, lge. kit. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

PRIME CEDARVALE-RENO, SPR DET.
4 bdrms., 3 baths, den,CAC. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS AREA $375,000 NEW LISTING
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WALK TO EGLINTON W. SUBWAY
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BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

5 BEDROOMS, DEN AND FAMILY ROOM
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160'X127' BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
3 bdrm. bung. & fam. rm., fin. lower needs TLC. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

6 PLEX ON FRASERWOOD AVE.
Good income. Rose Simon* 226-1987

FABULOUS LOT 67'X146' OFF BAYVIEW
Live in 4-bdrm. house or build. J. Uslaner* 226-1987

5 BDRM. COTTAGE IN BELLE EWART
Great lot close to lake & shul. Rose Simon* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

YOUNG FAMILY WANTED - WILTSHIRE!
4 bed. Location! Location! Marlene Olan* 226-1987

BATHURST VILLAGE - BACKSPLIT
Excellent for large family. Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

BEAUTIFUL 4+1 BDRM. - RICHMOND HILL
Loaded with upgrades on crescent. B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

BAYVIEW S. OF 16TH AVE. - $373,900
New price, 4 bdrm. fam. home, motivated vendor. R. Bass* 226-1987

ONE OF A KIND 3+1 BDRM. HOME $289K
Thornhill, all renov SOLD B. Stern-Westbrook* 226-1987

LARGE 4 BED. SEMI - YONGE/STEELES!
Great home, must SOLD Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

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– 460 Conley Street, 4 br., 3 wr., fin. bsmt. 2500 sq. ft. $349,900

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HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

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ONE BEDROOM AVAIL. MAY 1ST $800
THREE BEDROOM AVAIL. JUNE 15 $1100

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960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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A-1 choice of condos/resorts/villas/worldwide listings (referral service). 416-778-7600

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Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
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CALL (416) 630-3773

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Quality Providers Needed
- Training and support
- Agency supplies equipment, resource material and supplies
- Insurance coverage
- Reliable back up

Servicing the areas of Thornhill, Richmond Hill and Concord
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A Licensed Agency

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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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- No Fee to Employer
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- We have a 100% Approval rate!

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Cleaning lady avail. for houses, exper & refs.658-3962.

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

Cleaning lady for homes/offices, good rates, exper. 259-8654

Cleaning lady, babysitter with refs. 242-2604.

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Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, days only, refs. 242-3337.

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258 HEALTHCARE

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Looking for lady to take care of an elderly woman, live-in, light hskpng,exp, refs, 905-669-6409

Exper. HCA seeks employment to look after elderly. 747-8900.

Exper. lady seeks job working with elderly. Nursing home exper.,live-out,refs. avail. 658-1790

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1335** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

ENGAGEMENT!!! If *you'd* like to meet some special, **A NEW CHANCE** Jewish Dating Service is the right place. Photos/bios, personal service, **FREE** Consultation. 398-3991.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.**

Attr. lady, hardworking, immigrant from S. Africa, seeks a gentleman friend, 60-65, for a genuine & meaningful relationship. CJN Box 6912.

Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - late 30's. 633-1728.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I have a fine, considerate, reliable, indep. brother, 41, who has a slight learning disability & dreams of meeting a caring, sensitive woman for a long term relationship. 221-4714.

Wanted: Single Jewish Women, Melbourne, Australia.
We are an informal group of Melbourne-based single Jewish males, aged mid-30's to early-40's who have not yet met those special SJF's to share each of our lives. Despite each of us mixing actively in different circles, we have found the Melbourne & Sydney social scene to be 'stale' with a shortage of eligible SJF's.
The majority of remaining 30+ y/o SJF's are either divorced with children or carrying heavy emotional or other unacceptable baggage. Within the organized Jewish community, despite the noise from our 'leaders', there is no truly effective means of meeting potential partners. Essentially, any effort to do so must be our own. *So we have chosen to advertise overseas.*
We are each professionally qualified or self-employed. We are each healthy and 'normal' with no physical or intellectual disabilities. We are each well-travelled, genuine, positive & sensitive guys. Most of us are well-established. We are not necessarily tall, dark or especially handsome & none of us ride white horses,but each of us is 'a good catch'. None of us have been married. We are all committed to living in Melbourne, a clean, safe, green & very comfortable city of over 3 million people with an active Jewish community of some 45,000.
This is not a match-making service, but a logical means of making contact with eligible, intelligent, SJF's who would contemplate re-location to Australia. So if you are: 1) in your 30's to early 40's; 2) attractive; 3) intelligent; 4) without serious disability or baggage, and 5) prepared to re-locate, then please send comprehensive details, preferably including photo(s), phone & fax numbers in the first instance to:
Albert Sattler, P.O. Box 227, South Yarra,Victoria,3141, Australia, ph# 61-2-93278493 or fax: 61-2-93623320.
or e-mail: Maddison@connexus.apana.org.au.
Be assured of complete confidentiality. All correspondence will be promptly acknowledged.

Young man, 68, would like to meet a sincere, warm-hearted female friend who would enjoy dining out & spending time together. CJN Box 6913.

Attr., warm, easy-going lady, good sense of humour, with many interests; swimming, theatre, walking, travelling & more. Would like to meet a gentleman, 60-70, who has similar zest for life! Please incl. photo. CJN Box 6915.

Educated, ambitious SJM, 30, with no car, computer or money & currently upgrading skills, seeks SJF in 20's who maintains a healthy lifestyle & does not seek short-term extravagance. Please call 783-3069.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205,
North York, Ontario M3B 3K4

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Slim,charming,40ish JF seeks prof. man 35+ who enjoys dining in & playing outside for long term relationship.CJN Box 6911

Vienna born indep. widow, 62, 5'3", 110 lbs would like to meet an intelligent gentleman interested in cultural & other activities. 955-0904.

Lady would like to meet a friendly gentleman in his 70's. Please reply to CJN Box 6914.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205,
North York, Ontario M3B 3K4

279 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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- Introducing Anti-Snoring Guards
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1 WHITEHORSE RD., UNIT 23
Ground Floor
at ALLEN ROAD *and* SHEPPARD
(416) 398-7846

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Set of encyclopedia Judaica, in any condition. 633-7990.

330 OBITUARIES

330 OBITUARIES

LINDEN, Albert - on April 4, 1997, late of 640 Sheppard Ave. E., #905.
SELBY, Charlotte - on April 4, 1997, late of 80 Forman Ave.
EISENBERGER, Ben - on April 5, 1997, late of 3555 Bathurst St., #305.
LEVY, Esther - on April 5, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BECKERMAN, Ben - on April 6, 1997, late of 125 Shelborne Ave., #3.
HALPERN, Bessie - on April 8, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
KELENYI, Magda - on April 8, 1997, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #201.
VISENBERG, David - on April 8, 1997, late of 333 Clark Ave. W., #505.
STULBERG, Anne - on April 9, 1997, late of Casa Verde Health Centre.
GORDON, Molly - on April 10, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
MANDEL, Jack - on April 10, 1997, late of 61 Admiral Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ROSEN, Herschel - on April 7, 1997.
SAPOZNIK, Sylvia Rose - on April 9, 1997, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
SILVERMAN, Devorah Esther (Dora) - on April 10, 1997, late of 127 Bannockburn Ave.
SOLOMON, Reva - on April 10, 1997, late of 119 Invermay Ave.
TAUB, Fanny - on April 10, 1997, late of 601 Clark Ave. W.
WAGNER, Menachim - on April 11, 1997.
BLUMER, David - on April 12, 1997, late of 533 Douglas Ave.
FRIMERMAN, Pinchas - on April 12, 1997, late of 34 Barclay Rd.
COHEN, Hanania - on April 13, 1997, late of 601 Clark Ave. W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of Gloria and Stan Guttman

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ARON GRINBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 4th at 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workmen's Circle (Arbeitering Section)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEREL BLADY ז"ל
husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather & brother
will take place
Sunday, May 4th, 1997 at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Centre Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NORMAN SLACK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 4th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

338 SHIVA CATERING

Milk 'N Honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SAME DAY SERVICE
Tasteful Presentation
Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
789-7651
3457 BATHURST ST.

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for information on classified ad rates

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RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
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SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER
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Sports

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Rookie Nemirovksy makes Florida Panthers' lineup

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's amazing the difference a year can make.

Last season at this time, right winger David Nemirovsky was back in junior with the Sarnia Sting, tearing up the league after playing nine games during a half-season stint with the Florida Panthers.

This year, he's a regular contributor for the Cats, usually playing on a line with Tom Fitzgerald and Bill Lindsay.

At age 20, Nemirovsky is taking the next step along the path laid out for him by Panthers management, who selected him in the fifth round, 84th overall, in the1994 entry draft.

The personable and thoughtful winger believes he can develop into the kind of player the team's brain trust expects of him — a fast-skating, playmaking goal-scorer.

A rookie with the Panthers, Nemirovsky has progressed physically and mentally from last season, when he got his first exposure of NHL hockey.

"I'm a year older, a lot more mature and stronger," the six-foot-one, 192-pound winger said after a game-day practice at Maple Leaf Gardens. "The NHL is a big learning experience. You never stop learning all through your career."

Nemirovsky, who hails from Toronto, believes his positional play and his attention to defence have helped him stick in the league. Junior hockey, he says, is much more scrambly than the NHL, where more attention is paid to positioning and taking care of business in your own zone.

The Panthers, long known for their strong defence, expect you to "go out and work hard, take care of our own end, make sure the puck is out of our end and deep in their zone," he said.

In addition to signing on to the Cats' prescription for sound positional play, Nemirovsky has put on some muscle, allowing him to compete with rugged NHL defencemen. He's also a little faster and stronger on his skates than last year, making him better able to fend off checks while holding on to the puck.

So far this season, one of Nemirovsky's biggest thrills has been to line up against the best players in hockey. Playing against Mario Lemieux was especially memorable: "I'll be able to say I played against Lemieux. It was a big thrill to play against him.

"Playing at this level is very exciting. Every game I've played in is a big thrill," he said.

David Nemirovsky

So far this season, Nemirovsky's numbers are typical for a player his age just getting to know the league. In 38 games, he's scored seven goals and seven assists for 14 points, spent 32 minutes in the penalty box and is plus one. Last year, after being returned to the junior around Jan. 1, he scored 18 goals and 27 assists in 26 regular season games. In 10 OHL playoff games, he bulged the twine eight times and added eight assists before the Sting was eliminated.

Nemirovsky admits that with the season winding now, his mind is wandering to the playoffs ahead. He brushes aside concerns over the Panthers' late-season slump, saying the team went through something similar last season and surprised everybody to get to the final.

The playoffs are his top priority and he feels it's too early to start worrying about the Maccabiah Games in Israel. Both he and his brother, Mikhail, have been touted by Maccabi Canada organizers as key members of the team. Nemirovsky said he'll make his final decision whether to join the team after the season is over.

Mikhail, meanwhile, has had an up and down season in the minor pro leagues. He started with Fort Wayne of the IHL but was cut when a new coach came on board. After a stint with Fredericton in the AHL, he ended up with Flint Generals of the Colonial Hockey League, where he spent last season. Unfortunately, his season has been plagued with injuries and he now suffers from shin splints that are so serious he may require surgery, making him questionable for the Maccabiah Games, David said.

Ultimate Matzah Balls don't sink or float

By LESLEY PEARL
Jewish Bulletin of Northern Carolina

SAN FRANCISCO — You might expect to find Ultimate Matzah Balls on the cooking page, especially at this time of year. But not these. Neither sinkers nor floaters, they're not even edible. They're a team of Jewish men from across the country who take to the field once a year to play ultimate, a game that uses a frisbee and most closely resembling rugby in its rules and play.

Prior to the match they say a Shehechiyanu (a prayer of thanksgiving said for new beginnings) and toast l'chayim with a bottle of kosher wine. On the sideline is a cooler full of Hebrew: the Chosen Beer, Noah's bagels, shmears and gefilte fish. Klezmer blares from the boom box.

For some team members, "this is the one 'Jewish' thing they do," said David Barkan, Matzah Balls founder and an organizational consultant from Forest Knolls in Marin County. "It's almost spiritual — the Jewish shtick, the bonding of brothers."

Matzah Balls travelled from as far as New York, Seattle and Boston to converge on the campus of the U.C. Santa Cruz for the annual April Fool's ultimate tournament.

They placed fifth, which Barkan considers a good omen of sorts. "We figure a Jewish team wasn't supposed to win on Easter weekend," he joked.

In fact, the Matzah Balls — mostly professionals, including doctors and graphic artists — took first place in 1996 and 1995, the year the team was formed.

"Many of the best [ultimate] players I know are Jewish," Barkan said. "We're short and fast."

Three years ago, Barkan, a two-time player on the American all-star ultimate team, put out a call to Jewish players around the country. He asked them to join an all-Jewish team for the annual April Fool's Day tournament, then held at Stanford University.

More than 10 years old, the April Fool's Day tournament attracts ultimate teams, most of them from the west coast, for two days of competition.

Many of the teams, like Barkan's, are themed. Included in this year's roster of 20 male and 15 female teams was the Affirmative Action Ultimate Team, made up entirely of players of color.

Although the tournament is known for its playful spirit — the Matzah Balls do double duty as both players and cheerleaders — the game is nonetheless played with a vengeance. And by the rules.

Created in 1968 by a group of college students in New Jersey, ultimate involves seven players from each team passing a disk to score. Unlike football, ultimate requires that each player work every position.

"We were just a bunch of rag-tag Jewish boys horsing around when we formed. These were my rivals who I'd competed against in national competitions," Barkan said. "Every single one I called showed up with just over two weeks' notice. It really clicked."

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The Inside Back

Shattering Glass

Novel has a ring of authenticity

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Nancy-Gay Rotstein

TORONTO — Nancy-Gay Rotstein's background as a lawyer, children's rights advocate, director of arts and government agencies and working mother provide her first novel, *Shattering Glass*, with the ring of authenticity.

But it's as a writer that Rotstein, a Toronto-born author of three published books of poetry, identifies herself first and foremost.

With the recent release of her new book by McClelland & Stewart in Canada (it came out last year in the United States), chances are good her name will become known to a much larger audience here.

On one level, *Shattering Glass* is absorbing and meaty fiction, with three parallel stories that converge at the end of the 373-page book.

On a deeper level, it's a sometimes disturbing social commentary on issues facing many contemporary women. Balancing career and family is "the most pressing and unresolved issue facing families today," said Rotstein, 52, in a recent interview.

"For me the novel seemed the best vehicle for exploring real life situations in a way that would have the greatest emotional impact," she said. The book grew from "a need" to write about those issues after she entered law school at age 39 as a mother of three.

The characters, all of whom have a close mother-child bond and are required to draw on previously untapped inner strength, are "a little bit a part of me," said Rotstein.

One enters law school as a 30-something mother to overcome the grinding poverty that followed her divorce; the second – a Canadian, incidentally – is virtually a single mother, with a politician husband who spends most of his time in Ottawa while she holds the tony Rosedale fort; the third, a traditional housewife and mother, writes a successful novel as her insecure lawyer husband becomes increasingly abusive.

Unlike her fictional counterparts, Rotstein, who lives within commuting distance of Toronto, boasts a happy long-term marriage. "Keineinhora, it will be 30 years."

So why don't any of her characters end up in a happily-ever-after relationship?

"It's not that there's not a happy ending," said Rotstein. (There isn't, but the book's still a good read.) "It deals with realistic situations... This is about all the things we weren't warned would happen."

As women shatter glass ceilings, complications arise in their personal lives, she said. "Today we're measuring our success by our achievements outside the home, but like our mothers and grandmothers, we're continuing to believe we're failures when we have problems in our personal lives. This creates guilt. It robs us of self-confidence and limits our potential for happiness."

Women must learn to be kinder to themselves, she believes.

Rotstein's personal definition of success is "being content within yourself."

Of all her accomplishments, the 1989 U.K. publication of *China: Shockwaves*, a slim hardcover volume of poetry, represented a shattering of one of her personal glass ceilings, "a point beyond which you thought you might never go."

The book (U.K. edition only), unlike her novel, touched on Jewish themes in one or two poems. Nonetheless, Rotstein, whose background is traditional but not Orthodox, says she writes "as a Jewish writer. My sensibility is Jewish. My Jewish identity and writing are very closely interwoven."

Rotstein says she only writes a book when she feels one needs to be written. A disciplined writer, she works — in longhand — from the time she wakes up until late afternoon. It's "a very isolating life," but at the same time "very exhilarating.

"I have a passion for language and the craft of writing," she said. The novel she thought she would complete in six months took her seven years, thanks to intensive on-location research and major rewrites.

"Every word has to be the right word," she said.

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BEEF BRISKET WITH ORANGE LEMON MARMALADE

1 beef brisket (6-8 lbs.)
2 large onions, sliced
2 large lemons, peeled and thinly sliced
2 cups grape juice
1/2 cup brown sugar
4 cloves garlic, chopped
1-1/2 tsp. pepper

Place onion slices, lemon slices, and garlic in roasting pan. Lay brisket on top.

Mix together juice and brown sugar; stir until sugar dissolves; pour over brisket. Sprinkle brisket with pepper, and cover roasting pan tightly with foil. Bake at 300°F until tender (about 4 hours).

Uncover pan and return to oven. Raise temperature to 450°F and brown meat 20 minutes. Remove brisket from pan.

Skim fat from pan juices and put juices and vegetables into sauce pan. Broil, uncovered, stirring often. As mixture thickens, reduce heat to medium and stir constantly; cook until thick and shiny, and reduced to about 1-3/4 cups. Add salt to taste. To serve: slice, spoon marmalade over brisket. Garnish with lemon "bows" and chopped parsley.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I fell and fractured my hip. After surgery and four weeks of rehabilitation, I was sent home. At the time of discharge, I was told that it would be important for me to continue my physiotherapy and that it would be safer for me to have someone help with my bath.

I wanted to go home knowing that there were others who needed my bed. I hired a home care worker. Since I could not get an appointment for three months at the hospital for physio, I made arrangements to go to a private clinic.

Why should I have to pay GST in addition to the fees? I am saving the government money and they are taxing me. That seems very unfair to me.

MG

Dear MG,

I agree. There have been some efforts to push the governments to eliminate the tax on private health services. In fact, there should be benefits to those who buy private health care. Up to this point there has been little success.

Write a letter to your member of Parliament expressing your views. Perhaps, other will do the same. In fact, I am going to write a letter to my member of Parliament.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal*

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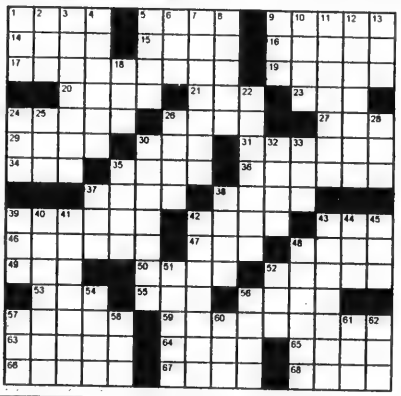
The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Mama __ Elliott
5. Source for Shofars?
9. Amulet
14. Imitated Chagall
15. "The Accident", Writer
16. First Israeli ambassador to USA
17. "Funny Girl" star
19. Orthodox minyan
20. Spar
21. Affirmative
23. Shluf (Eng)
24. Forty days for Noah
26. Jody Scheckter's need
27. Auditor
29. Hebrew letters
30. Admirer
31. Mashgiach approved
34. Eat (Yid)
35. Covenant with a babe
36. The Roman __
37. Shekel
38. Dershowitz bargain?
39. Joseph's prediction
42. Balaam's Moab mount
43. Censor
46. Joseph's brothers
47. Copeland on track
48. Ark
49. Daniel's test site
50. Mezuzah holder
52. Levi's sister
53. Pro
55. Used his tuches
56. Amy Alcott's game
57. Abraham once
59. __ for Chametz
63. Shalom
64. Ellis
65. Piece for Tucker
66. Singer Merman
67. Cholent
68. Occupied

Down

1. Platters by Bolton
2. Fiedler to friends
3. Homiletics
4. Breaks the second
5. Observe Shabbat
6. __ Carte
7. Teas of men
8. Tu B' Shevat meal?
9. Tsitsit site
10. Arkin or Funt
11. Prophet of the return
12. Arthur Murray
13. Expressions of ease
18. Belief: comb. form
22. Israeli city
24. Tel-Aviv to Hebron
25. It is, to Bialik
26. Abel's brother
28. Exist
30. Chavurah members
32. Tenth part of an ephah
33. Ein gedi
35. Roasted Seder item
37. 104
38. Sukkah decoration?
39. Satiated
40. Hebrew Alphabet
41. Candelabra
42. Abbie Hoffman specialty
43. Lit on Lag B'Omer
44. Travel club
45. Last degree
48. Dan's mom
51. Desert sweetspot
52. Nickname for Einstein
54. Maccabiah game?
56. Developed
57. Imitate
58. Radioman Allen
60. Shikker's choice?
61. Bubkes (Eng)
62. Zilpah's boy

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 32.)

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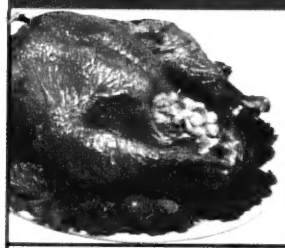

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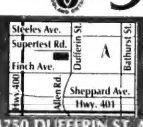

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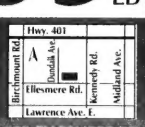

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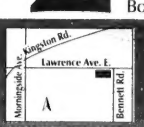

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